

Sunnylea Junior School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Voting Member Attendees: Alex Smith, Melissa McCreedy, Jenni Sirenko, Samantha Wilson, Hajni Bowers, Erin Trout, Diana Alviani, Danielle Nichol, Christine Howe, Joanna Downs

Non-Voting Attendees: None

Voting Members Absent: Loriann Halliday, Sophie Connor, Raveen Kalra, Kate Mathany, Leisha Vanderkooy, Darren Berger, Misia Machnowski, Julie Boeckmann-Milton, Anna Maxfield, Nirre Pinto, Somayeh Sadat,

Staff Attendees: Bev Tratnik, Val Fordyce, Christina Alviani

Meeting Start Time: 6:31 pm

Meeting End Time: 8:00 pm

Minutes:

Land Acknowledgment & Approval of Minutes/Agenda

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit peoples.

- Motion to Approve April 2026 minutes Diana Alviani - 1st, Danielle Nichol - 2nd. All vote to approve.
- Motion to Approve May 2026 agenda Alex Smith - 1st, Christine Howe - 2nd. All vote to approve.

Staff Updates

- Discussion regarding sports tryouts and team selection processes. Council and staff discussed the importance of fair access to sports tryouts, as well as the need for greater transparency around tryout timelines, eligibility, and team selection criteria. Suggestions included communicating upcoming tryouts through the school newsletter and clarifying whether teams are selected based on skill, grade level, or other factors.
- Staff shared that next year they plan to begin tracking participation in sports teams and clubs to better understand student interest and identify opportunities for additional extracurricular activities.
- Nutrition Program survey results were reviewed:
 - 61.9% indicated the program is not needed
 - 20.6% were unsure
 - 17.5% supported implementation

- Staff are continuing discussions with the Board regarding implementation details and potential grant funding. If approved, the program would likely begin in Fall 2026, with an opt-out option for families.
- The AED has been received and will be installed outside the office. Staff training and monthly maintenance checks are in place.
- Sprout Circus was reviewed positively, with strong student engagement reported. Staff will explore the possibility of a fall harvest celebration and community event next school year.

Upcoming Events & Council Engagement

- Volunteer Appreciation event scheduled for May 27.
- Council discussed ways to increase parent engagement, including:
 - Offering childcare during meetings
 - Exploring hybrid or virtual meeting options
 - Continuing outreach during Kindergarten Open House
 - Improving communication for new families
 - Considering a communications/community relations role on council
 - Providing paper communications at the start of the school year

School Funding Requests

Administration shared concerns regarding increasing budget pressures related to supply coverage for professional development, sports obligations, Ministry-mandated training requirements, and technology needs.

The following funding requests were presented and approved:

- Soil for planters – \$355.95
- Roots of Empathy – \$250.00
- Welcome to Kindergarten Bags – \$675.00
- Office Budget (printing) – \$133.61
- Bus: Grade 3 Harbourfront trip – \$348.83
- Bus: Grade 4 Albion “Release the Salmon” trip – \$533.93
- Syllasense decodable texts – \$810.00
- iPad – \$464.24
- iPad cases – \$144.00
- Overhead projector – \$499.00
- Laptop – \$497.00
- Bus: Track & Field – \$308.70

Total Approved Requests: \$5,020.26

Motion to approve expenses carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Bank balance as of April 30: approximately \$53,000, reflecting an increase of roughly \$8,000.
- Approximately \$13,000 in fundraising revenue offset by approximately \$5,000 in expenses, including AED purchase, pizza lunches, and transportation costs.
- Available funds reported at approximately \$55,100 as of May, pending outstanding deposits and commitments.

Fundraising Updates

- Danceathon fundraising total: approximately \$23,788 including sponsorships.
- Parent Social raised approximately \$2,500.
- Bake Sale raised approximately \$1,500.
- Spirit Wear campaign currently underway.
- Silent Auction preparations ongoing, with over 40 donated items secured from local businesses and families. Auction planned for the first week of June.
- Council discussed sending appreciation letters or recognition to sponsors.

Freezie Fridays

- Council approved Freezie Fridays for May 29 and selected Fridays in June.
- Council approved a budget of up to \$250 to cover costs.

New Business

- Council discussed creating a formal process for parents to propose council-funded school programs or workshops.
- Potential future enrichment ideas included sewing classes and a drumming workshop.

Executive Positions for 2026–27

- Sam expressed interest in the Secretary role.
- Alex expressed interest in assuming Treasurer responsibilities related to bank deposits.

Additional Reminders

- Council reminded families that nut products should not be brought onto school property, including during bake sales held outside.

Next Meeting

June 10, 2026 – In Person