

Sunnylea Junior School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Voting Member Attendees: Loriann Halliday, Alex Smith, Joanna Downs, Anna Maxfield, Melissa McCready, Jenni Sirenko, Darren Berger, Christine Howe, Diana Alviani, Samantha Wilson, Nafis Kamaree, Hajni Bowers, Kate Mathany

Non-Voting Attendees: None

Voting Members Absent: Julie Boeckmann-Milton, Erin Trout, Somayeh Sadat, Leisha Vanderkooy, Nirre Pinto, Sophie Connor, Danielle Nichol, Raveen Kalra, Misia Machnowski

Staff Attendees: Bev Tratnik, Val Fordyce, Christina Alviani

Meeting Start Time: 6:34 pm

Meeting End Time: 7:32 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 September 2025 minutes Darren Berger - 1st, Joanna Downs - 2nd. All vote to approve.
- Motion to Approve October 2025 agenda Christine Howe - 1st, Jenni Sirenko - 2nd. All vote to approve.

1. 2025/26 School Council Formation & Executive Elections

- Voting Members: 22 members confirmed; all accepted (no vote required).
- Co-Chair: Ted Mercer is moving; Jenni Sirenko unanimously accepted to fill the remaining one-year term.
- Fundraising Leads: Jenni Sirenko (continuing), Erin Trout and Misia supporting.
- Spring Fair Chair: Open (Misia stepping down).
- Treasurer Role: Christine and Joanna plan to step down by year-end.
 - Sam expressed potential interest in stepping in.
 - Christine and Joanna to share role summary with Loriann and help recruit.
- Secretary: Alex Smith continuing.
- No run-offs; all appointments approved by acclamation.

2. Staff Update – Bev Tratnik, Val Fordyce, Christina Alviani

School Improvement Planning

- Board now using a unified template to align priorities system-wide.
- Core focus areas remain: Mental Health & Wellness, Math & Literacy, Community & Belonging.
- Updates to be shared at next meeting following committee (school staff) session.

Science of Reading Workshop

- New approach to reading instruction following the Right to Read report.
- Emphasis on decodable books (K–Gr. 2) vs. old leveled systems.
- Workshop planned for Wednesday, November 5, with possible virtual options.

Upcoming & Ongoing Initiatives

- Holiday Hampers: Returning this year (6 hampers, 2 classes each). Volunteers needed.
- Gr. 5 Grad Sweatshirts: Vendor visit in November to allow early ordering.
- Art in Action: Confirmed for Jan–Mar (Wednesdays after school). 30 spots at \$185 each; council may sponsor families needing assistance.
- Support Staff Update: Added 0.5 SNA position; Jessica currently filling role part-time until maternity leave. Bev to inquire about possible replacement.
- Student Wellbeing: Staff focusing on reducing gossip and promoting empathy; families encouraged to reinforce this at home.

Key School Events

Oct 17 – Friendly soccer games vs. Castlebar (Girls 9:30, Boys 10:30)

Oct 18 – Blue Jay Day; Diwali presentation by Tanbir, Sienna & Nyla

Oct 21 – Soccer tournaments (Girls @ Sunnylea, Boys @ North York)

Oct 23 – Cross Country West Finals

Oct 24 – Grade 3 CCAT screening begins

Oct 29 – Cross Country City Finals

Oct 30 – Photo retakes & sibling photos

Nov 11 – Progress Reports home

Nov 13–14 – Parent/Teacher Interviews (PA Day)

Early Dec – Scholastic Book Fair (Sophie is the chair, will need volunteers)

3. Treasurer's Report – Joanna Downs

Overview

- Fiscal Year: Aug 1 – July 31.
- Closing Balance (Aug 31): \$36,140.84
- Available Funds: \$15,896.83 (some June-approved expenses pending).
- Pizza Lunch funds not yet reflected.

Programs & Enrichment

- Positive feedback on Junglesport (minor setup issue due to ceiling height).
- Moozoom → SchoolBeat (includes anti-gossip module). Has renewed, not yet billed.
- Upcoming: Rocks & Rings (Dec), Sprout Circus
- Other suggestions from Councilmembers: Variety Village and a Drumming Workshop.
- Bev to assess tech/equipment needs before next meeting.

4. Fundraising Update – Jenni

Recent/Current Initiatives

- Costume & Pumpkin Sale: \$1,364 profit.
- Pizza Lunch: \$26,832 raised (final payments pending).
- Fresh from the Farm: \$491 profit to date. Closes Friday.
- Spirit Wear: \$200 profit (no cheque received; Jenni to follow up with Entripy). Site usability feedback shared. Considering custom designs throughout the year (i.e. Fun Fair, Holidays, Orange Shirt Day, etc).

Upcoming

- Winter fundraiser ideas: gingerbread houses, wreaths, or Kernels popcorn.
- Purdy's Chocolates to return later in the year (Easter).
- Parent Social: November 12 at Bramble.

Other Notes

- Donated partial costume inventory; kept full sets.
- Staff to confirm if a holiday concert will return; caroling will proceed regardless.

5. Closing

- Next meeting Wednesday, November 19 (in person).
- No December meeting.