

Sunnylea Junior School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Voting Member Attendees: Loriann Halliday, Alex Smith, Joanna Downs, Anna Maxfield, Julie Boeckmann-Milton, Erin Trout, Melissa McCready, Jenni Sirenko, Darren Berger, Christine Howe, Danielle Nichol, Raveen Kalra, Leisha Vanderkooy Somayeh Sadat

Non-Voting Attendees: Nirre Pinto

Staff Attendees: Bev Tratnik, Val Fordyce, Christina Alviani

Meeting Start Time: 6:36

Meeting End Time: 7:33 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 June 2025 minutes Joanna Downs - 1st, Jenni Sirenko - 2nd. All vote to approve.
- Motion to Approve September 2025 agenda Julie Bockmann-Milton - 1st, Christine Howe - 2nd. All vote to approve.

1. Executive Updates

- Co-Chair: Ted Mercer will be stepping down. A new Co-Chair will be sought.
- Co-Treasurer: Looking for a shadow to support the role.
- Fundraising Lead: Transitioning to Jenni, with Erin Trout providing support. Additional volunteers will be needed.
- Term Lengths: Executives typically serve a two-year term.
Back-to-School Night: Council will host an information spot. Loriann will be present.

2. Class Movements / Reorganization

- Context: The school board is down 3,000 students overall. While no classes are closing, reorganization is required due to Ministry-mandated class size caps.
- Key Caps:
 - Kindergarten – unaffected.
 - Primary – hard cap of 20 students.
 - Grades 4+ – maximum cap of 29 students.
- Impacts:
 - Evans' class was over by 1; Breau's by 2.

- Exemptions were requested but denied; only 10% of classes across the board are allowed exemptions.
 - Copeland's 3/4 split must now be 17 Grade 3s and 6 Grade 4s. This required moving 3 Grade 4 students, raising the Grade 4 classes to 26 each.
- Rationale: Adjustments are necessary to avoid Ministry fines.
 - Timeline: Final deadline is September 29, but administration is acting early to minimize disruption.
 - Overall Impact: 70% of schools in the board were required to reorganize after "count day" last Thursday.

3. Staff Updates (Bev Tratnik & Val Fordyce)

- Kindergarten Yard Enhancements:
 - Options include art wall, music wall, A-frame climbing structure, beams, portable soccer nets, and other equipment.
 - Price examples:
 - Portable net: \$1,188
 - A-frame climber: \$8,853
 - Fallen log climber: \$10,417
 - Installation included in costs.
 - Bev will confirm life expectancy of structures. Teachers to suggest portable equipment ideas.

A-frame structure identified as the most practical option.

4. Technology Use

- Chromebooks:
 - 1:1 program paused due to budget constraints.
 - Sufficient devices for Grades 2–5, but no take-home use.
- Indoor Lunch Policy:
 - Chromebooks not permitted. Students will use board games, drawing, and card games instead. Staff also prefer this approach.
- Go Guardian Monitoring:
 - Teachers can track student web use.
 - Training nearly complete; Ms. Alviani will finish with the remaining staff.

5. Extracurricular Activities & Events

- Cross Country:
 - Grades 1–5; 67 permission forms received.
 - Sign-up deadline Friday; practices begin next week.
 - Meet scheduled for Friday, October 3rd.
 - No practice on September PA Day.

- Soccer:
 - Grade 4/5 girls – hosting tryouts.
 - Grade 4/5 boys – practices Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch.
- Field Trips:
 - Grade 1 – Evergreen Brick Works (“Living in the City”).
 - Grade 2 – Evergreen Brick Works (“Water”).
- Junglesport: Runs next week (Mon–Thurs), all classes K–5, with at least two sessions each.
- Curriculum Night: 5:30–6:15 p.m.
- Terry Fox Walk: September 29; school fundraising goal \$3,000.

6. Treasurer’s Report

- Fiscal Year: Ends July 2025.
- Current Funds: \$36,140.84 available.
- Approved Spending: Nearly \$20,000 already allocated this year, leaving \$15,177.74 before new fundraising. This excludes pizza lunches, fun fair, etc.
- Classroom Budget: Increased from \$150 to \$175 for three resource teachers. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Fundraising & Ongoing Initiatives

- Fresh from the Farm: Launching Friday.
- Parent Social: Misia still planning to organize the fall event independently.
- Spirit Wear: Ongoing.
- Pizza Program: Ongoing.
- Costume Boutique: October 7–8.
- Enrichment Activities: Exploring options for lunchtime/after-school activities with potential for subsidized support (e.g., Arts in Action).