

The Waterfront School – School Council

Meeting Minutes #3

Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026

Time: 5:30–7:00 PM

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Principal: Charles

Translator: Jeannette

Student Council Member: Isabelle

School Council Members: Shahina (Co-Chair), Anett (Co-Chair), Hugo (Treasurer), Del (Secretary), Shaza (Ward Rep), Nadine, Samantha, Rosa, Jessica, Mary

Community Members: Kathleen, John, Michael T., Cheryl, Seema, Bryce, Megumi, Laura, Magdalena, Takahashi, Nero, Ayesha

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Presented by Shahina

- Council members introduced themselves.
- Shahina thanked returning and new members for their contributions.
- Land Acknowledgement was read.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Presented by Del

- Minutes were reviewed.
- Motion to approve: Passed.

3. Principal's Report

Presented by Charles

Assessment Practices

- The purpose of assessment is **descriptive feedback**, not grades.

- Assessment is **ongoing**; formal evaluation only required twice per year.
- Goal: shift away from labeling work with marks and toward feedback that improves learning.

Local Nutrition Program (LNPC)

- Currently volunteer-led; moving toward a **student-involved model**.
- Students (Grades 5–8) will help with menu planning, budgeting, shopping, and preparation.
- Target start: **March**.

Boomerang Lunch Program

- Encourages reusable containers and waste reduction.
- Helps families see what food is consumed.
- Planned rollout: **late February**, starting with older grades.

Discipline Approach

- Philosophy: **“Children belong in the classroom, not the office.”**
- Office referrals reserved for Bill 157 issues (e.g., assault requiring medical attention, threats, vandalism, weapons).
- Emphasis on:
 - Relationship-based responses
 - Teaching social/emotional skills
 - A three-tier restorative model
 - Whole-school conflict-resolution teaching

Arts Initiative

- Partnership with **Billy Bishop Airport** for a student art exhibition featuring destinations served by Porter Airlines.

Renovation Update

- Board and city discussions ongoing.
- Borehole drilling completed on Jan 27.
- Lease changes expected to be finalized by March.
- Renovation to proceed in **two phases**, with Phase 1 targeted for **late spring or late June**.

4. Student Council Update

Presented by Isabelle

- Main focus: **Grade 8 graduation trip**.
- Survey sent to families regarding interest and financial needs; only 12 responses so far.
- Valentine’s Day dance not pursued due to low student interest.

5. Treasurer’s Report

Presented by Hugo

November 2025

- Opening Balance: **\$6,818.42**
- Deposit (Cash Online): **\$701.00**
- **Closing Balance: \$7,519.42**

December 2025

- Opening Balance: **\$7,519.42**
- Withdrawal: **\$1,281.19**
- Deposit: **\$834.00**
- **Closing Balance: \$7,072.23**

January financials will be shared at the next meeting.

6. School Council Members & Roles

Presented by Anett

- Overview of council structure and responsibilities.
- Key roles include pizza program coordination, volunteer recruitment, communications, and committee participation.

7. Nutrition Program Update

Presented by Charles

- Goal: snacks available in classrooms by **9:00 AM**.
- Emphasis on student leadership and engagement.
- Transition to **LNPC (Local Nutrition Program Committee) model** required for sustainability.
- Samantha volunteered to support the program. Looking for other volunteers to help out.

8. Lunch Program Update

Presented by Jessica

- LunchBox pilot did not meet expectations.
- Exploring new vendors who can manage delivery reliably.
- Survey to be sent to families for input.
- Two potential vendors currently under review.

9. Upcoming School Events

a. Movie Night – Jan 29

Presented by Anett

- Very successful; approx. **150 attendees**.

b. AI Training – March 31

Presented by Shaza

· A decision was made to move the training to March as there were low number of responses to have the Training in February. Childcare will be provided and more information will be sent to the community closer to the date.

c. Dance-a-thon – March 26

Presented by Shahina

· A fun event and fundraiser for the school. New glow sticks will be handed out to all students. The event takes place during school hours, and the school council will send out information about how caregivers can volunteer.

10. Caring & Safe Schools Committee Update

Presented by Nadine & Jessica

- The committee continues to support safety initiatives and student well-being.

11. Creation of Sub-Committees

Presented by Del Proposed sub-committees:

- Local Nutrition Program Committee (LNPC)
- School Spirit Committee
- Bylaw Committee
- Grade 8 Graduation Committee

The school community expressed support for establishing sub-committees. Council will share additional details and invite the school community to take part.

12. Open Discussion

- Shahina informed the community that the FlipGive fundraiser is on going and thanked everyone for their support. A flyer with the QR code will be sent out to the school community for anyone who would like to join.
- **A community member asked if there will be a Yearbook:**
 - Yes, there will be a yearbook this year.
 - Higher-quality format planned.
 - Student-centered design led by Student Council with staff support.
 - Council has allocated funds.

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2026 — 5:30–7:00 PM