



Collingwood School Parent Council (CSC) January 28, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: January 28, 2026 at 18:00 in person and via Microsoft Teams

Council Members in Attendance: Ardith M. (Chair), Sarah S. (Secretary), Amy W. (Key Communicator), Anna S. (Social Media Coordinator), Ashley M. (Volunteer Coordinator)

Council Members Online: Henry Y. (Vice Chair),

Council Members Regrets: Jessalynn (DEI Subcommittee)

Guests In Attendance: Rick P. (Interim Principal), Marianna H., Mercedes M., Jena E.,

Guests Online: Atiya A., Constanza A., Dina R., Chelsea D., Yulenda E., Tylor H., Michelle S., Rebecca K., Matthew M., Simran J.,

Land Acknowledgement and Call to Order	<p>Meeting called to order at 18:32 by Ardith M. seconded by Sarah S.</p> <p>We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut’ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation region 3, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta</p>
Welcome, Meeting Guidelines, Introductions	<p>Welcome by Ardith M.</p> <p>Welcomed Sr. Petrowitsch to his first meeting.</p>
Approval of Agenda for Meeting	<p>Ardith M. motion to approve agenda. Seconded by Ashley M.</p>
Principal’s Report	<p>See report attached below for detailed update by Sr. Petrowitsch (Sra. McCrudden absent)</p> <p><i>Highlights:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lots of sickness going around staff. -Sr. Petrowitsch has been warmly welcomed by all. -May 15, 2026 is the end of Sr. Petrowitsch contract. The posting for a permanent principal will go out after the May long weekend. -School is currently operating in a deficit. In a <i>needs not wants</i> budget. Example provided that the school may not be able to afford paper. -Sr. Petrowitsch and CSPA to meet and discuss possible re-allocation of funds. -Sr. Petrowitsch to look into cost estimates for water bottle filling stations at the school.



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<p align="center">School Council Update</p>	<p>a) Key Communicator (Amy W.) -Amy attended COSC meeting and the following were suggested: -Invite Laura Hack (trustee) to our meeting. -Potential to have only online CSC meetings as it is believed attendance increases if all involved are online. -Create QR postcards. -On the first day of school, CSC should have a table set up to provide info and welcome all to the new school year. May help to increase involvement in CSC. -"One & Done for Education" Campaign, if interested, click link below for advocacy letter template and send a letter to all stakeholders in Education. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e9o_PBfM69gJWDnOJrzNDpjDDvjduMBwPg_BoYo8ELU/edit?pli=1&tab=t.0#heading=h.fm8tstlcxxl -Submitted ASCA policy with 2 key factors: 1) Change to class caps, graduated in over a few years - change from current cap which follows fire code. 2) Classroom complexities, class size/cap to change based on student codes.</p> <p>b) Social Media Coordinator (Anna S.) -Able to engage on all platforms except Facebook. Updates have been posted.</p> <p>c) Volunteer Coordinator (Ashley M.) -Two (2) current sign ups on SignUp Genius - 1) Movie Night Jan 29, 2026 2) Fun Lunch Feb 19, 2026. -Volunteers to ensure they provide the name they used on their security clearance when signing up.</p> <p>d) Naturalization Member (Tash E.) -voted in Tash E. - see previous business.</p> <p>e) DEI Subcommittee (Jessalynn K.) – Absent</p>
<p align="center">Collingwood School Parent Association (CSPA) Update</p>	<p>-Mercedes M. is settling into the new role as Chair. -Happy to report did well on Apples & Poinsettia fundraisers. -Upcoming fundraisers include: Soups (Feb), Read-a-thon (Mar) -Finalizing details of school clothing for sale and will be live soon. CSPA will earn 10% of all sales. -Creating an open school Play-Date once a month on Thursday evenings - Ardith M. to communicate to CSPA date planned for Feb 26, 2026. -Ardith M. to request CSPA mtg after CSC mtg Feb 11, 2026.</p>



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<p>Previous Business</p>	<p>a) Open Positions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Naturalization Member - voted in Tash E. - all in favour -DEI Subcommittee Co-Lead - will bring forward until someone joins Jessalynn K. Ardith to ask Jessalynn if help is needed with DEI. <p>b) Allocation of \$500 grant from ASCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -main option discussed: Parent Resource Workshop - internet safety session - Ardith M. to collect information on options discussed and will review at next meeting. Select schools that we might like to collaborate with - maybe the other two NW Spanish schools or neighbouring schools. Ardith M. to let Sr. Petrowitsch know if we'd like to reach out to those principals. <p>c) Regular CSC meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Next meeting is set for Wednesday February 11, 2026. Ardith M. to inform Atiya of upcoming meeting dates.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Q & A</p>	<p>Q: GAGA Ball pit floor is buckling - is this covered under warranty? A: Sr. Petrowitsch to follow-up as it should be a warranty issue.</p> <p>Q: Concerns regarding how icy school grounds have been. Have seen recent work being done to rectify. What led to this? A: Sr. Petrowitsch informed that 30+ Safety Reports were submitted in relation to the icy conditions. Two (2) major incidents, one involving a parent needing treatment and a student with concussion. Sr. Petrowitsch brought the concerns forward to CBE Grounds Dept. Sarah S. & Sr. Petrowitsch to schedule walk-through re: lighting near kindergarten entrance/GAGA Ball pit.</p> <p>Q: What can be done to support the school in terms of funding, for example: paper shortage? A: If interested, donations can be made to the school thru Education Matters and donors can specify where to allocate funds. Led to broader discussion of informing parents of the current financial situation. More to come at the next meeting.</p> <p>Q: Since operating under a deficit, SCPA would like details and specifics of what is needed. Also wondering if it would be helpful to send an email to parents.</p>



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	<p>A: Sr. Petrowitsch/school admin to provide more information at the next meeting. Will also confirm with higher ups what is allowed to be communicated to the school community.</p> <p>Q: Tylor H. brought forward concerns regarding on-line games (OMEGA) and AI advancements (PoliAI, PolyBuzz). Wondering what is being done to educate parents and kids, as well as what guards/safety measures are being put in place to ensure students don't have access to this at school.</p> <p>A: Lengthy discussion which led to a motion to create an Online Safety Subcommittee - all in favour - motion passed. Next, motion to have Tylor H. Chair the Online Safety Subcommittee - all in favour - motion passed. Ardith M. to follow-up with Tylor H. with respect to the new subcommittee. Plan to host a roundtable in conjunction with group playdate Feb 26, 2026.</p> <p>Q: Have all the outstanding field trip fees been paid.</p> <p>A: No. Sr. Petrowitsch will work with Atiya on how to gently remind those with outstanding fees.</p>
<p>Approval of Previous Minutes</p>	<p>Approval of 2025 AGM Meeting Minutes.</p> <p>Motion by Mercedes M., seconded by Ashley M.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The next meeting date will be February 11, 2026 both online and in-person. In-person location will be in the Staff Room.</p> <p>Motion to adjourn the meeting by Ardith M. at 19:40. Seconded by Sarah S.</p>

Principal's Report – see attached

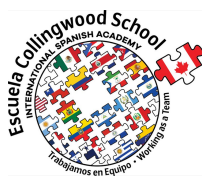


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Principal's Report - January 28th, 2026

Sra. McCrudden sends her apologies as she is away ill.

- Thank you for the warm welcome to Collingwood School. It has been a big transition in the middle of the school year. I enjoyed getting to know the amazing staff and well as going around to all the classes to introduce myself. It will take a bit of time to get to know the names of the students.
- Since my retirement in June of 2022 from Tom Baines Middle School, I have been the interim Principal in 8 different schools all the way from High School to Elementary school with most of my stops in Junior High/Middle Schools. My last school was French Immersion at Banff Trail Elementary school. I really enjoy the variety of schools and levels. Presently I have a contract at Collingwood School until May 15th. The plan is to advertise for a new Principal in the Spring and have them start as early as May 19th, just after the May long weekend. Until then, you have me as the Interim Principal.
- This is such a busy school with so many amazing opportunities for students. We had a very successful Open House, two weeks of gymnastics followed by Mission Impossible, Grade 3 Field trips to Science Centre, and Teachers' Pet-in-school Field trip with kindergarten and grade 2. Next week we are starting with our Visual Art Residency. I am looking forward to seeing what the students think and produce.
- The teachers have been incredibly busy since they returned from Winter Break. The kindergarten to grade 3 teachers have been busy completing the K-3 Alberta Early Years Assessments, finalizing report cards and completing IPP's. It has been a very busy month. On Friday, January 30th we will gather at Crescent Heights High School for the Languages Symposium. This is a day full of professional learning for all the CBE language teachers across Calgary. Teachers have signed up for sessions that are of interest to them. It should be a great day.
- We have been very fortunate to have 7 visiting students from Mexico. This is an initiative that Dan worked on for several years. The students arrived on January 19th and are finishing with us tomorrow. The students have been sharing about their culture as they learn more English and share their home language of Spanish. From all accounts it has been a wonderful time for the students from Mexico and our students as well. They have been here for two weeks with their moms and their personal guide who happens to be a retired Principal from Mexico.
- That was all the good news. Here comes some bad news. I don't mean to disrespect Dan as he had an excellent plan in place for the school's decentralized budget. Unfortunately, his plan when we put it to paper did not work to its full potential. We thought we would be in a hiring position, however when I worked with our CBE Financial Specialist and my Area Director, the result is that we are in a deficit position. We have a "Needs not Wants" budget. We are fortunate to have some financial resources in our in school generated account as well as some generous donations to the Education Matters. I have reviewed the amazing amount of money that the Parent Association has raised for the school. I have examined the Priority List that Dan left for me. Some money has already been spent according to the list. We were wondering if we could have permission to reallocate some of the funds that have not already been spent or



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encumbered. We would not change any of the Residencies that we have already agreed to. Any changes in funding on the priority list would be reported back to this group. We would only do this in order to meet the needs of teachers and students. One area where we have been informed that may be impacted would be the purchase of paper and photocopying. I will let the Parent Association discuss this request and let us know their decision.

- The last item that I was asked to bring forward was the Gaga Ball pit that was purchased earlier this year. My information was that the Parent Association was prepared to pay \$10,000.00 for this item. The school last year was in a surplus situation, so the school went ahead and paid for this item. The question is, if there is money available in your fundraising account would you be able to reimburse the school through us invoicing the Parent Association for that amount. Again, just a question. We are sorry to ask but desperate times require desperate requests.

Thank you. Any Questions?