



Collingwood School Parent Council (CSC) Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: September 9, 2026 at 6:00pm, in person

Council Members in Attendance: Ardith M. (Chair), Amy W. (Key Communicator), Ashley M. (Volunteer Coordinator)

Council Member Regrets: Henry Y. (Vice Chair), Tashina E. (Naturalization Member), Sarah S. (Secretary), Anna S. (Social Media Coordinator), Tylor H. (Online Safety Subcommittee Lead),

Guests in Attendance: Sra. Eve Moreau (Principal), Sra. Adriana McCruden (Assistant Principal), Rachelle Y., Mercedes M., Amie K., Jason B., Chelsea D., Rylan D., Christian V., Lindsey R., Pauline S., Fairyna J., Naveed J., Jenn G., Jena E., Shaista F., Ashley S., Marley Y.

Land Acknowledgement and Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm by Ardith M. 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
Welcome, Meeting Guidelines, Introductions	Welcome by Ardith M.
Approval of Agenda for Meeting	Agenda approved as is, no new items. Motion by Ardith M., seconded by Ashley M.
Principal's Report	Update by Sra. Moreau & Sra. McCruden Highlights: • Focus on personalization of learning – picture a universal learning model, but this year we have a second-tier layer of support • Sensory calming in the office area, motor lab above the stage • Latin American heritage month coming up in October – celebrated through arts-integrated learning • Residency for Flamenco dance in November • Residency organized for Alien Inline skating in February • PE specialist this year – Sra. Abdulghani • Celebratory feeling at the start of this school year – welcome picnic on September 18
School Council Update	a) Key Communicator (Amy) – term in this position will be wrapping up in October, it's a wonderful and rewarding role – mainly involved with meeting



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	with CBE and other school councils. Update – in communication with other school councils, did a poll to find out answers to a few questions: • Best fundraisers: greeting cards, soup it up, dances, read a thon • Ways to increase engagement: parent social night, featuring a grade each meeting, slide show with a student coming to explain • How to handle unpaid field trip fees: subsidized from PA funds b) Social Media Coordinator (Anna) – no update, this position will also become open in October c) Volunteer Coordinator (Ashley) – reminder of how to get police clearance, need to sign up using legal name (so that she can check to make sure you're cleared) • Next week is the first fun lunch – openings still available • Picture day – filled • Upcoming opportunity once art storage credenzas are delivered d) Naturalization Member (Tashina V.) – continuing to chip away at things, working with another parent who has expertise. e) Online Safety Subcommittee (Tylor H.) – no update
Collingwood School Parent Association (CSPA) Update	Mercedes M. (Chair) – we raised over \$30,000 last year, we need lots of help to keep this going, as well as to plan events. We would love to have your involvement in whatever capacity you are able!
Previous Business	a) Do we need to renew IXL for next year? Already in conversation with school admin b) Residency planning for next school year? Already in conversation with school admin
New Business	a) What Matters Most? <i>An Interactive Community Priorities Session led by Amie K.</i> A summary is attached at the end of the minutes. Call to action – find just ONE way to act on any of these ideas Subscribe to the school calendar to auto-populate your calendar
Q & A	Q: the November meeting is planned during fall break, is that right? A: that won't work, Ardith will follow up with Eve to move it a week earlier – a week later would overlap with the SPB meeting.
Approval of Previous Minutes	Approval of May meeting minutes. Motion by Mercedes M. seconded by Ashley M.



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Adjournment	Next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday October 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm, both online and in-person Motion to adjourn the meeting by Ardith M. at 8:04 Seconded by Rachelle Y.
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Attachments:

Interactive planning session summary

What Matters Most? *An Interactive Community Priorities Session*

led by Amie Kiddle

Key Topics:

1. Collingwood's community is rich because of its **diversity**, and we should prioritize making sure everyone feels welcome.
2. The School Council should play a larger role in **advocating** for our kids, the school, and public education.
3. **Traffic** safety is a major concern at Collingwood. The community should find solutions to make pick-up and drop-off safer.
4. The School Council and the Parent Association should find ways to get more caregivers **engaged** and involved at Collingwood
5. The Collingwood **naturalization** area is a great asset to the school community, but it needs to be better maintained and used.

Interactive Survey Results, ranked from highest to lowest indicating a score out of 5:

1. Diversity, 4.04
2. Advocacy, 3.92
3. Traffic, 3.69
4. Engagement, 3.60
5. Naturalization, 2.84

Solution Brainstorming:

1. Collingwood's community is rich because of its diversity, and we should prioritize making sure everyone feels welcome.

- Cultural | Neurodivergent | Inclusion | Diversity
- SPL supports
- Specialist in nonverbal communication
- Ensure kids needs are being met
- While discussing what diversity meant to us, we went on a tangent about neurodiversity and supports that teachers needed to help students with social and emotional development (not just academic) — these areas help children with social inclusion / understanding, empathy, emotional regulation, and prosocial behaviours that help everyone feel welcome.

- (Adriana was at our table.) It seems like the school could use more speech language therapy (help children express themselves), education assistant (support small group and individual learning in the classroom), and specialists (nonverbal communication) support.
 - This lead us to discuss how to advocate for these supports. But, time was cut off before we were able to discuss this further.

2. The School Council should play a larger role in advocating for our kids, the school, and public education.

- What can be improved to help Collingwood teachers support their classrooms' various needs?
- Class sizes
- Mental health – teachers and kids
- Support for teachers to manage frustration tolerance and executive functioning
- Neurodiversity supports
- CBE – enable parents to support their kids' needs – robust centralized referral system
- Maximize outdoor learning
- Practical learning:
 - Critical thinking
 - Problem solving
 - Apply game learning
 - “inside education”
 - A+ education
- Minimizing digital tool use
 - Ask Vivian
 - Pro-executive functioning and critical thinking
- Is there an opportunity to have Vivian speak about how digital tools affect kid's development? Is there space for a 10 min parent expert moment ever? Or maybe if Tylor has more planned for digital safety we could add Vivian on to that. She has practical and research experience in education and psychology. Just an idea. Maybe "parent experts" are an avenue to more involvement.

3. Traffic safety is a major concern at Collingwood. The community should find solutions to make pick-up and drop-off safer.

- Issues:
 - Jaywalking
 - U-turns
 - Daycare bus parking location
 - Visibility
- Ideas:
 - Paint lines to the front door – multiple cross walks
 - Dedicated hours for parking
 - Crossing guards and school patrols in two spots:
 - across Northmount and across Collingwood Drive
 - across Collingwood Drive and across Carmangay Cres
 - Speed bumps
 - Adjust the usage of the “drop off loop” parking lot

4. The School Council and the Parent Association should find ways to get more caregivers engaged and involved at Collingwood

- In person vs online vs both
 - in person only might limit people’s attendance
 - switch between online and in person?
- Formal vs. Informal meetings – school council / parent association
- How do parents get informed about the fun “spirit” events?
- More notice from the school and PA for school and spirit events – maybe 3 weeks +?
- Subscribe to the Collingwood School Calendar – this is possibly a solution that we mostly didn’t know about
- Parent socials?! Grade specific events – especially for the younger grades where families are meeting for the first time and making connections.

5. The Collingwood naturalization area is a great asset to the school community, but it needs to be better maintained and used.

- Increase communication and awareness (educating parents and teachers)
- Advocating for teacher use:
 - Provide example opportunities
 - Drawings over the seasons
 - Counting things for math
 - Science-based learning
 - Journaling with all your senses (what do you see? Hear? Feel?)
 - Kindergarten story time
 - Buddy time
 - Using it year round
- Maintenance – can be used as a way to engage all caregivers? retired grandparents with an interest in gardening? Aunts/uncles?
- Two different ways:
 - A big weekend event like a “fall cleanup” where we invite lots of people to come out and help
 - A signup to help with specific tasks (would not need volunteer clearance)