

Sunnyside School Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 11, 2025 from 6pm

Present: Harman, Sean, Malcolm, Christie, Natascia, Natalie, Shannon

1. Call to order, welcome, and introductions
2. Approval of agenda (approved)
3. Approval of minutes from last meeting (approved)
4. Business arising from minutes (none)
5. School updates
 - a. Shannon's update
 - i. Laptop cart came in, holds 32 devices and coiled cords are safer
 - ii. Carrels haven't been removed yet because it involves electrical; when they are, it will provide more space
 - iii. School has 52 ChromeBooks and a set of iPads, so all three carts are needed
 - iv. Bookfair volunteers are still needed Tuesday Dec 16
 - v. Library carousels being removed in two phases
 - vi. Books will be ordered over the break for shipping in January, mostly from Scholastic as this results in credits. We can also look at Pages Kensington for the 25% teacher discount
 - vii. Bottle drive today
 - viii. Swimming Jan 19-23, condensed over five days. Kindergarten can't be accommodated this year, something else will be arranged for that class.
 - ix. New plans for grade 3/4, thinking about April/May Telus Spark, CPAWS (Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society), continuing place/land based learning at Riley Park
 - x. Events coming up
 - Scholastic book fair Dec 15-19, caroling 3:10-3:30 with families invited, spirit days dress festive!
 - Bottle drive for grades 3, 4 on January 8
 - Kindergarten reg opens Jan 12
 - b. Grade teacher's update (Ms. Richard)
 - i. Yellow steps residency: Lots of walking around the neighbourhood, visual journaling. Well-connected to the Stampede School event coming up in March for gr 1 & 2

- ii. Hydroponics being introduced to the whole school, garden tower in room 9. Students are learning how to manage nutrients, moisture, etc. Growing fruits, vegetables, natural Indigenous medicines that can be transplanted into naturalized areas

6. New business

- a. Foothills nordic ski club can come to school for \$30/student, will bring equipment and will track set the school field. They have a cancellation Jan 6-8: \$5500 total, approx. Might be challenging to find enough volunteers to strap all the kids into skis. We will stay tuned for future cancellations or plan for next year.
- b. Sensory room: school is working on ordering some stationary bikes for smaller and larger kids. For sensory room, expanding on ordering additional fidget equipment/tactile supplies. Parent volunteers interested in building sensory kits for each classroom, there is some school budget left to fund these. Balance boards are also on the wishlist for each room. Having equipment in the classroom requires less supervision, more scalable.
- c. Learning commons update: how to make it a more comfortable room? Once the carrels are out, furniture can be distributed more and additional furniture potentially acquired.
- d. Natascia will reach out to ACME about potential dates and discounts for a teacher holiday meal, 10-15 people. Al Forno or Pulcinella are other options.

7. Fundraising updates

- a. Bottle fundraising from building downtown, piloting with one company so far (\$50-60/week). Only trouble is with the depot, they can't commit to a time/day. Once the process is smooth, we will expand to other companies in the same building.
- b. Talked to the bank about setting up an account that allows e-transfer; requires full Society signing. Might be possible to set up during a transition of Treasurer. Sean and x may be interested in joining Society.
- c. Other ideas: cheque writing campaigns, donations via Education Matters, benevity

8. Support for families during the strike

- a. Natascia will check Sunnyside Natural Foods to see if all gift certs were used
- b. Last year we allocated \$1000 of gift cards to families over the holidays
- c. There are fewer people on the Fair Entry list this year; people who ask for fun lunch waivers or teacher knowledge can also be used to identify needy families
- d. Malcolm moved to allocate \$1000 to gift cards, Natasha seconded, approved

9. Adjournment at 7:11pm

Next meeting: Thursday, January 8, 2026

- Could ask Trustee Patricia Bolger to attend, and poll parents for discussion topics
- Looking at speaker from Mount Royal University on children's rights, Malcolm will look into it
- Ask a speaker to come to talk about using AI with integrity, Christie will ask Leeanne Morrow
- Planning friendship/kindness dance, for Feb 26 with candy cups?
- May need to move February meeting to Feb 5 so it doesn't conflict with the teacher's convention