

École Sir William Osler

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: 18 November 2025

Meeting Location: ÉSWO Room 10

Meeting Chair: Carmen Baldes

Minutes Taken By: Katie Schriver

(21 Participants)

Chair Greeting & Land Acknowledgement (Carmen)

Adoption of Minutes

- Adoption of minutes from October - Moved by Carmen, First by Alisha, seconded by Jennifer, approved

Treasurer Report (Amy)

- Expenditures
 - \$2/month paper statement fee, not yet removed
 - Composting fee
 - \$3192.00 cheque ready to go for the Drop Shot purchase (\$1200 installation fee to be paid in spring)
- Revenue
 - Total \$3155.50
 - Peak of the Market \$1520.00 was deposited
 - Tips (\$148.50) donated by Deeks Dog House from the Meet & Greet have been deposited
 - Manitoba Government Grant of \$1487.00 was also deposited, this was the final instalment as green space is completed

Principal Report (Mme Unrau)

- **General:**

- **Fire, Evacuation & Lockdown Drills**
 - 3 fire drills, 1 evacuation drill completed, 1 lockdown drill/hold & secure drill completed successfully. Another unplanned Fire Drill went well and students were unphased.
- **Fun Lunches** - Subway fun lunch profited \$125.00, Wayback Burgers is coming up in December
- **Report Cards** - Have gone out this week. Tri-conferences (child/parent/teacher) for grades 1-6 and parent/teacher for Nursery and Kindergarten to begin tomorrow and run through Friday.
- **Book Fair** - Set up and ready to go in the Library
- **Play Structure** - is open!! Friday was the first day, Grades 1-2 had access at first break, 3-4 mid break and 5-6 last break to limit chaos and ensure safety. Moving forward there is a set schedule based on the school calendar. If a group misses a day due to a PA day etc they will be allowed to join the group scheduled for the next school day
- **Koats for Kids** - Lots of donations coming in, donations are being accepted to the end of November
- **Grades 4-6 Intramurals** - Option of Dance or Ultimate Football
- **Remembrance Day Ceremony** - Well done, students were respectful
- **Clubs** - Music, Crochet and Board Game club starting up soon
- **Winter Break** - Last day of classes 19 December, Return 5 January 2026. Lost of activities planned for the last week.
- **Bazaar** - It has been decided to be held every 2 years, no bazaar this year
- **Shelmardines** - Fundraiser is underway
- **Construction** - No change to schedule, occupancy to be spring break time. Ribbon Ceremony is planned for occupancy and will include the playground. The drop off loop was always the final phase and will include drop off for Prairie Roots. TBC if it is drop and go only or if short term parking for daycare drop off will be allowed as the bus will also use the loop

Teacher Representative (Mme Anelise)

- Nothing to report, Mme Anelise will be running the music club starting with grades 3-6. No Christmas concert this year, we will have a spring concert, hopefully in the new gym.

OLD BUSINESS

Playground (Carmen)

- Playground is OPEN!!! There is a schedule for grades to have allocated times on the structure for the time being. This is to ensure safety (not having too many children on the structure) and equity (to ensure younger children are not too intimidated by older children or not included)
- Drop Shot has been ordered and will be installed in Spring
- Recess Equipment - we still have approximately \$350 to spend on winter equipment
- Landscaping - There was a slight hiccup with the plants being planted in their plastic pots, this is being rectified
- Enchanted Forest will be done again this year. Volunteers will be needed. PAC will also need to pay the disposal fee of the trees in spring which is estimated at \$400-\$500 using the wood chipper that was used last year, it has gone up in cost from \$350.
- Ice Gems - These were a huge hit last year. Parents have offered to make them (shaped ice cubes with food colouring). Feel free to make some and spread them though the yard for the children to search for

Fundraisers (Carmen)

- Shelmerdines - Well underway although we are unable to see live progress/success updates through their program
- Peak of the Market - Funds have been deposited
- Wine Raffle - not being done this year
- New suggestions - The coffee (Harrison's) and donut (Krispy Kreme) fundraiser last spring was popular and has a high profit margin (40% virtually unheard of), Purdy's for Valentines day?

Family Movie Night (Carmen)

- Going well, we have over 100 attendees confirmed with approximately 75% requesting food
- Food (Pizza and Fruit/veggies) will be by suggested donation (per person or per family TBC)
- Popcorn to be free
- Candy for purchase as well
- Board games to be set up for anyone not interested in the movie

Traffic Safety (Carmen)

- Letter to John Orlikow has been drafted, similar letter to go to Mike Moroz as well
- We will also draft a form letter for parents to fill in and send themselves to bring greater attention to the concerns and specifically requesting speed monitors for our school as are in place already for JB Mitchell and Montrose
- New Apartment block planning for the North west corner of Brock and Grant will have limited parking and only increase traffic and parking concerns for our school. There is a hearing on November 24th regarding the re-zoning of the properties which concerned citizens are encouraged to attend

NEW BUSINESS

South District Advisory Committee (Andrew)

- First meeting of the year was held on 23 October. Main discussion points:
 - New Regulations on how meetings are run: very few changes were accepted.
 - There will be no formal meeting minutes, a meeting summary is posted to the website however they are clear these summaries are not be read as minutes and do not include full details.
 - Meeting times are a hard limit and will not go over
 - Motions need to be approved by a school PAC in advance of the meeting before the school representative can bring it forward. This creates logistical challenges for the reps to have motions passed due to excessive back and forth between the PAC, rep and SDAC meetings
 - The Quorum requirement is challenging if not enough reps attend
 - Budget planning
 - Family budget survey's to be sent out soon
 - main concerns are surrounding childcare, kindergarten and transportation
 - division is exploring options noting some divisions are moving to full day kindergarten
 - No massive changes are expected
 - Lunch program
 - Many schools are experiencing significant challenges with the lunch programs, this is not a major concern with our school

- Some schools have surplus funding remaining (we do not) and are continuing to supplement their lunch programs with those funds
 - At ESWO as of Mme Unrau's arrival each of our classes has an adult supervising the room while students are eating. The staffing is sustainable and consists of EA's and support staff. The staff who are assisting are happy to do so and do not feel overwhelmed by this. Our teachers are getting their entitled breaks.
 - Concerns raised over the serious incident that occurred during the lunch break on 3 November. Parents want answers and confidence that appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the safety and well being of all students. It was stated that the PAC meeting was not the appropriate forum for this discussion as not all students were affected and many parents were not aware of the details. Sensitivity to the family involved is a priority. Further information to come for those directly impacted.
- Balanced school days have been implemented by some schools with great success. A balanced school day model has longer instructional blocks and 2 longer nutrition breaks vs 3 shorter breaks and allows for more outside time and less time being eaten up by getting children dressed and undressed for the elements. Balanced school days must be approved on a case by case/school by school basis by the division
- Catchment areas and enforcement. This is not a concern with our school as we don't even know what our new catchment will be. Other schools are receiving mixed experiences with out of catchment approvals and many inconsistencies.

Care Package

- PAC would like to put together a care package for Mme Ostermann and have the children make cards and drawings to be added to the package.
- ★MOTION: to allocate \$200 towards the care package - Moved by Carmen, 1st Kaitlyn, 2nd Alisha, all parents in attendance in favour, APPROVED

Bazaar

- Cancelled for this year as it is logistically challenging due to lack of space for storage, sorting and set up due to the construction
- Discussion on other options to have a family inclusive holiday event that the PAC will take on. Perhaps a table for each class with baked goods or little crafts which each class would have a parent volunteer taking care of
- Mme Unrau to get staff feedback on what would be feasible if PAC were to take the initiative on this

National Child Day

- November 20th - PAC would like to put tables with magazines for students to create collages and have a little lollipop treat for them.
- ★MOTION: to allocate \$50 towards supplies - Moved by Kaitlyn, 1st Jennifer, 2nd Katie, all parents in attendance in favour, APPROVED

Parent Volunteer Program

- Many parents have expressed concerns about not feeling welcome and having requests to volunteer denied. They would like to assist with classroom activities, field trips, assist with recess monitoring etc.
- There is a specific process to be followed to volunteer which needs to be made clear to parents
- Mme Unrau to reach out to the teachers to see how they can use parent volunteers and reach out to parents to find out what they are willing to help with, availability and skill sets are
- Parents may be able to run lunch hour clubs

Snacks

- The snack cart has been moved from the hallway into Mme Sabrina's office. Students are still welcome to take what they need and do not need to ask permission. It was felt that items were being taken when they were not necessarily needed at times outside breaks ie bathroom breaks. Any child who needs food can have it and students seem unphased by the new location

Meeting Adjourned (Carmen)

- Next Meeting January 21st 2026
- Motioned by Carmen, 1st Chantal, 2nd Alisha, Meeting adjourned.