



MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance

- Meagan Lundgren, Belfast Principal
- Clancy Evans, Belfast Vice Principal
- David Tran, Council President
- Kristina Prins, Council Treasurer
- Lois Mafrika, Council Secretary
- Amanda Priolo
- Chelsea Patrick
- Claire Kain
- Eleese Llewellyn
- Emily Keenan
- Hedi Syme
- Hussein, wife and child (no last name given, attended council meeting only)
- Kim Buchanan
- Ryan Llewellyn
- Regrets: Au Pham, Brandy Bradford-Morin, Fauzia Nasery, Robin Pommier

Call to Order

- Belfast Parent Council meeting called to order at 6:35pm.

Welcome and Introductions

- Contact sheet was circulated.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: David moved to approve the April 21, 2026, agenda as presented, seconded by Claire, all in favour, CARRIED.

Approval of the Minutes from the Last Meeting

MOTION: David to approve the February 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes, seconded by Amanda, all in favour, CARRIED.

Review of Email Motions to be Added to Minutes

- None.

Reports

School Update – Megan/Clancy:

- Acknowledgement of the Land
- Teacher presentation
 - Fine Arts & PEW Report
 - Residencies help enrich student experiences at the school.
 - Fine Arts provides outlets of creativity, new adventures, experiences and builds communities.
 - Megan recognized that the school couldn't run Fine Arts and PEW Programs without Parent Council/Fundraising Societies report.

- Thank you to Parent Council/Fundraising Society for help with the purchasing of the EXM Sound system which is indoor/outdoor and portable.
 - Residencies – Auskick, sound creations,
 - Offsite PEW - swimming last week was awesome. K-3 attended and everyone was in the water. Lots of parents volunteered and watched swimming.
- Celebration & Thank Yous
 - Volunteers for field trips
 - Couldn't run them without parents.
 - School goal was to have 2 field trips a month, but the strike delayed everything, will seem like all of the field trips are in the next couple months.
 - School has been mindful about communicating Field Trips and need for volunteers ahead of time.
 - Thank you Parent Council/Fundraising Society for dinner during Teacher Conferences.
- Updates
 - PEW trips a huge success – thank you to the Ed Matters grant and Kelsey!
 - Elder Shirley Hill is unfortunately sick and will try to attend this week if not will be rescheduled to next week.
 - Projections for next year 2026/2027
 - Projecting 170-175 students, which would be students in the school as of September 30th, but new students can attend all year.
 - A couple of grades have dropped in numbers.
 - In line with CBE projections or higher.
 - Expecting 10 LEAD students to return and expecting 20 more throughout the year.
- Staffing
 - Complexity teams
 - We were very surprised to receive a budget for a Complexity Team.
 - Budget is for 2, 30-hour EA and 1 teacher.
 - What it looks like this year vs. next year (Dana/Gopika; Rebecca/Shahen).
 - Complexity is not always behaviours; Belfast has a high number of EAL Students not only in LEAD.
 - Will focus on early learning grades with a heavy focus on literacy, number of students diagnosed with autism all impacted our funding.
 - Literacy, EAL and supporting students with autism diagnosis/
 - Every school that have been identified gets a full time teacher and 2 full time EA's for free (doesn't impact schools budget). No enough teachers to fill these gaps right not.
 - Complexity role is an experienced teacher and new grad teachers.
 - Mrs. Powell is the complexity expert.
 - Ms. Pika has taken over Mrs. Powell's ½ class with very little disruption.
 - For next year the hope is more people are hired.
 - Can increase current EA's time to 20 to 30 hours.
 - Mrs. Powell will support K-3 for literacy. Support in the classroom and out. May lead the lesson, co-teach.
 - Rebecca is the new EA that started this week, she is lovely and we are happy to have her.

- Resource Allocation Method (RAM) budget comes out April 23; this tells us what staffing looks like. Complexity teams are not included in this budget.
- Ongoing shortage of ATA and support staff.
- Awaiting placement of student teachers (Gopika and Monica).
- Kindergarten will return to 2 classes next year (AM/PM) for the first time in years
- Currently 26 projected Kindergarten students, with 4–6 additional registrations expected over summer.
- Kindergarten classroom will move to the former 1st Lead classroom; this will allow students to go through the front door and keep coats and bags in the classroom and not be disrupted by classes attending the library.
- Many incoming Kindergarten students are coming from a preschool in Inglewood through parent word-of-mouth
- This is the first time a large group didn't come from Ms. Jenn at Crossroads Preschool due to declining enrollment there.
- Kindergarten funding is only half of Grade 1/2 funding but will have 2 classes for better learning.
- Annual “fireside” staff meetings happen each February to review successes, challenges, and goals
- Anticipated staffing changes next year, including teacher and support staff movement, we are reviewing class configurations and team structures and will present next meeting.
- Internal job applications open at the beginning of June.
- Staff movement and changes are expected throughout June; movement is important for bringing in new ideas and growth.
- School Development Plan (SDP)
 - See our Instagram and documentation bulletin boards in the hallways around the school - moving learning forward in assessment. Will share more next meeting.
 - Cultural Day and parade of nations was a huge hit. Wanted students to reflect on their culture and all students came together to sing O Canada.
- Parent Support Requests
 - Watermelon and freezie donations/purchases for Summerfest (\$200 limit) there is a donation request letter.
- Budget
 - CBE Funds for Parent Community Enrichment
 - Decision still needs to be made regarding the \$500 in council funding toward initiatives that benefit the broader parent community provided by the CBE.
 - In the past this amount was spent on the movie license which has increased to \$675.
 - Other schools have brought in an artist to teach how to paint Pysanky eggs and had an art night, jewelry making night or have returned the funds to be used next year (budget would increase to \$1,000 next year).

MOTION: David moved to send the \$500 back to CBE for Parent Community enrichment to be used next year. Seconded by Chelsea, all in favour. CARRIED

- Reviewed Council Budget Categories 2025-2026 and reallocation of funds.
 - Classroom Enrichment - asked teachers to spend funds by Jan 31st
 - Curricular enhancements – budget mainly went to speaker.
 - Library – almost spent
 - Fine Arts Residency – Elder Shirley, missed 1.5 days, might miss tomorrow. \$750 left in category, would like to move into Physed to replace equipment

- Residencies have \$1,800 left as we received a grant. Proposed to move this amount to Tech to help cover deficit.
- Indigenous – Elder was supposed to come in Oct and rescheduled to last week but was unfortunately sick. Has been booked for next year. Proposed to also move this amount to Tech to help cover deficit.
- 5/6 and Leads students will be going to philharmonic. Tickets were given as gifts, and the budget is for the cost of bus only.
- Technology has a deficit, there was accidental damage to a Chromebook that had to be replaced, and the cost of items has increased.
- Misc. category some will be used for Alien Inline skating.
- Formal approval for the reallocation of Budget funds to different categories to be completed in Fundraising meeting.
- Farewell
 - Budget needs to be increased for next year. There are 45 graduating (25 in regular program 20 in the LEAD classes).
 - If possible \$200 more is needed for this year.
 - Courtney Fellows is the Committee Chair with a student representative committee and parent committee.
 - Westen theme, afternoon in the gym, walk across the stage and collect a certificate, no speeches from teachers but a nice note on certificate. Very reflective of what students want.
 - Decorations will include a Balloon Arch (Fauzia is making one), for outside and eat food.
 - Each grade 6 gets a Texas donut and guests get ice cream treats. Grade 5s to serve and host the grade 6s.
 - Committee has done a great job of staying on budget.
 - Students have requested a take-home keepsake in the form of a flowerpot that they can paint, have everyone sign and use for the plant they have been growing at school.
- Summerfest – hoping for donations
- Welcome back BBQ funds have all been spent.
- Ed Matters
 - We received \$1,457.15
 - Paid \$1,066.80 for kid's t-shirts this year.
 - ~\$400 left, can decide what to do spend it on or roll it over.
- Wishlist for next casino funds
 - School spotlight as one is rented every year for both productions.
 - Lego coding sets
 - Next year will be a big year for replacing technology.
- Funds for council:
 - Pie-in-the-face (half to council/ to Parachutes Pets) – very popular.
 - Slurpee Day (half to council/to Parachutes for Pets)
- For spring production
 - Recommended \$5 donation for families.
 - A CBE school had a flood in the basement where costumes and props were stored. These have been professionally restored and are now stored at Belfast.
 - The basement is being overhauled, and Mr. U's mom has been inventorying all costumes.

- We should not need money to buy costumes, but costs still include scripts and music cost (~\$600) with soundtrack, director's notes, backstage notes.
 - Kristina suggested a new budget category for Productions and Art supplies to be added which can come from the Casino funds as it benefits the whole school.
- Meagan acknowledged the amazing very engaged Leadership Club.
- Pizza party has been sponsored by IODE (International Order of Daughters of the Empire) who also gave us funding for the sensory room.
- **Events and Key Date**
 - Volunteer Breakfast - May 14th
 - Leadership pizza party – May 21st sponsored by
 - Kindergarten orientation – May 21st
 - Spring production – May 28th
 - Lunch with a Loved One – June 10th
 - NIPD with Tootoosis family – June 17th
 - Summerfest – June 19th
 - Grade 6 Farewell – June 25th
 - Last Day of School – June 26th

Chair Report - David:

- Nothing to report.

Kindergarten Report (Vacant):

- No report.

Key Communicator - Kim:

- Next meeting is April 22nd. Can't attend but will read the minutes and report back.

New Business

- Tee-shirt strategy (Clancy/Chelsea)
 - Positive discussion with Grades 5/6 students about school T-shirts
 - General feeling is that students do not need a new shirt every year.
 - Cost is ~ \$1,000 every year.
 - T-shirts were tied to the school logo redesign and school spirit initiatives
 - Potential future fundraisers connected to mascots, athletics, or expanded apparel options. Old 1970's albums were found and may inspire design.
 - School store option discussed, though minimum order requirements make it difficult right now.
 - Existing inventory of shirts will likely be sold at Meet the Teacher in September until quantities are gone, funds from sales would return to the school account
 - Will encourage families with multiple Belfast students to reuse shirts.

MOTION: David moved to not buy new Belfast shirts. to hold-off buying shirts, seconded by Claire, all in favour, CARRIED.

Next Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, May 19th, 7:30pm, Online.
- Tuesday, June 16th, 7:30pm AGM, In Person.

Adjournment

- Belfast Council Meeting adjourned at **7:43pm**.