



Belfast Parent Council  
November 18, 2025, 6:30pm  
Belfast School

# MEETING MINUTES

## In Attendance

- Meagan Lundgren, Belfast Principal
- Clancy Evans, Belfast Vice Principal
- David Tran, Council President
- Kristina Prins, Council Treasurer
- Lois Mafrica, Council Secretary
- Kim Buchanan
- Robin Pommier
- Au Pham
- Claire Kain
- Eleese Llewellyn
- Ryan Llewellyn
- Regrets: Amanda Priolo, Chelsea Patrick and Fauzia Nasery

## Call to Order

- Belfast Parent Council meeting called to order at **6:32pm**.

## Welcome and Introductions

- A contact sheet was circulated.

## Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: David moved to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Kim. CARRIED.

## Approval of the Minutes from the Last Meeting

MOTION: Kim moved to approve the September 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes, seconded by Robin. CARRIED.

## Review of Email Motions to be Added to Minutes

- None.

## Reports

### School Update – Megan:

- Acknowledgement of the land
- Celebrations and Thank You's
  - Megan acknowledged the parent community for their support before, during and after the strike.
  - Teachers appreciated the coffees for World Teachers upon return after strike.
  - Friend's pizza also provided lunch for all of the Teachers on the first day back from strike.
  - The strike lasted much longer than expected (nearly a month) and was very hard on families, especially working parents, bringing back COVID-era challenges
  - Strong sense of appreciation for the impact and for stories of communities coming together to support one another
  - Significant impact on teachers: no income during the strike and no strike pay

- Teachers returned to a contract that had been voted down twice and will shape the next four years
- Immense pride in teachers despite mixed emotions across classrooms
- Teachers emphasized that relationships come first, with a strong focus on reconnecting with students
- Post-strike impacts are being felt differently across schools; some teachers are reluctant to take on extra activities
- Expectation that programs or activities started before the strike should continue
- Impact was less noticeable at the elementary level compared to junior and senior high due to club time being built into teacher hours
- Exceptional support from staff (lunch supervisors, EAs, EAL staff) who voluntarily helped with cleaning, laminating, cutting, and organizing
- Updates
  - Dr. Linitia Matthew will come in this Friday to talk about grief and trauma. Grief can encompass loss in death, loss of 2 parents living together, friend moving away etc. As Dr. Matthew is a CBE employee there will be no cost for this session. .
  - Leadership Club has chosen Parachute for Pets to support with 7/11 Pizza Day fundraiser proceeds. They support Calgary's most vulnerable populations by providing emergency veterinary care, medication, and pet food hampers.
  - There are 48 students in the Leadership club this year.
- Staffing
  - There is a second Lead Class. Laura Dumas is filling in for Charis West, who was in a car accident prior to school. She will be off until Christmas break.
- SDP
  - Year 2 of 3 in the Student Development Plan, focused on continuous improvement and advancing student learning
  - Goals informed by multiple data sources (student, staff, parent surveys)
  - Key focus areas: literacy and sense of belonging
  - Reading outcomes stronger than writing; professional learning focused on improving writing instruction and engagement
  - Sense of belonging improved across all measured areas; strong parent survey response for a small school
  - Student engagement in learning, particularly writing, remains low and requires focus on task design, joy, and relevance
  - Goal to reduce students requiring additional supports (LeNS, CC3), acknowledging ongoing but slower progress
  - Access to system supports and services identified as limited by staff
  - Math, previously a focus, has declined and will need renewed attention
  - Increase in behavioural and complex needs last year, requiring significant focus on safety and behaviour management
  - Decline in parent ratings regarding student safety; some students transitioned to schools with specialized supports
  - Additional 1:1 supports were required last year, funded through emergency funding, causing staff frustration
  - Emphasis on high-quality, engaging writing tasks
  - Review of clubs to ensure they align with student interests and needs
  - School-wide events and strong community partnerships support family engagement
  - Amazing sensory space from IODE was established through grant funding to support student regulation

- Budget
  - \$500 has been allotted for Kindergarten toys to replace and diversify. Nusrat, the previous Kindergarten teacher, had loaned the school her personal items.
  - Tennis residency right now.
  - The budget is being spent on upcoming residencies.
  - Indigenous Ed – missed a visit with Saa during the strike but will be coming for spring solstice.
  - Overspent in Technology as the price of carts has increased.
  - Hoodies for teachers were purchased before the strike. Meagan did not feel right about asking the teachers to pay following the strike.

MOTION: Kim motioned to split 50/50 with school to purchase teacher's sweatshirts if funds available. Seconded by Claire. CARRIED

- All remaining chips, glow sticks etc were sold at the impromptu Halloween Dance.
- Events & Key Dates
  - Rescheduling blanket exercise for February.
- Parent Support Requests
  - In need of Giving Tree Gift Cards for Belfast families (22 currently on the list) in need. Some of these cards can be given for Christmas and some at the end of the year.
  - Discussion ensued regarding what the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant funds should be spent on. Last year's funds were used to purchase the movie license which was successful.

MOTION: Lois moved to use the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant to purchase a movie license as in previous years to engage parents to council meetings/volunteer on councils. Kim seconded. CARRIED.

ACTION: Megan to purchase a movie license with the funds from the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant.

- Discussions
  - Video surveillance will be installed at Belfast, with priority on outdoor areas.
  - Cameras will be visible, video-only (no audio), not placed in classrooms or bathrooms. Priority locations: Belfast Care/Tree Garden, Gaga Pit, and Park.
  - Cameras are highly durable with a 10-year vandalism replacement guarantee.
  - Cameras are not monitored in real time; footage can be requested with a 30-day backup. Footage accessible to administrators and stored centrally by a security company; can be shared with police if needed.

Chair Report, David:

- Nothing to report.

Kindergarten Report (Vacant):

- Megan to follow-up with the kindergarten teacher.

Key Communicator - Kim:

- Nothing to report.

**New Business**

- None.

**Next Meeting Date**

- Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 6:30pm, Online.

**Adjournment**

- Belfast Council Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.