Belfast Fundraising Society
June 16, 2026, 7:30pm
Belfast School

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance
- Shafina Dharamsi, Belfast Principal
- Jennifer Macdonald, Belfast Vice Principal
- David Tran, Council President
- Kristina Prins, Council Treasurer
- Lois Mafrica, Council Secretary
- Amanda Priolo
- Chelsea Patrick
- Deidra Heintzman
- Eleese Llewellyn
- Emily Keenan
- Kim Buchanan
- Robin Pommier
- Ryan Llewellyn

Call to Order
- Belfast Fundraising Society Meeting called to order at 7:35pm.

Welcome and Introductions
- Same attendees as the School Council Meeting.

Approval of the Agenda
MOTION: David moved to approve September 15, 2026, agenda as presented, seconded by Emily, all in favour, CARRIED.

Approval of the Minutes from the Last Meeting
MOTION: David moved to approve June 16, 2026, Meeting Minutes, seconded by Kristina, all in favour, CARRIED.

Review of Email Motions to be Added to Minutes
- None.

Reports
Chair Report, David:
- Going well, excited to hear about the amount

Treasurer Report (Kristina):
- General Account:
  - Balance is ~$1,682.02
  - Receipts from Grade 6 Farewell and Welcome Back Coffee
  - Haven't done a lot of traditional Fundraisers for purchasing items.
  - Funds are made with movie nights, donations at concerts, concessions at dances.
- Ed Matters Account:
  - Previous fundraising included a major T-shirt campaign and the Welcome Back BBQ.

    - Concerns were raised about transparency, as donations and grant funding are pooled into one account, making it difficult to track how funds are designated.
    - QR code donations have periodically been cashed out separately from grant funds, but the allocation of donations remains unclear.
    - Shafina will contact the relevant representative to confirm donation totals from the day of the concert(s) and the following day.
    - Council had previously understood that a society could direct donations to specific purposes. However, donations made through EducationMatters go to the school, with spending decisions at the principal's discretion based on school needs. The Fundraising Society does not control how those funds are allocated.
- Casino Account:
    - ~ balance of $89,350.71
    - Need to budget funds for a year and a half.

Casino Coordinator Report (Robin):

- Nothing more to report than it all done and we have our money.
- The next Casino will be in October 2027.

New Business

- Reiterated that same people serve on both the Parent Council and Fundraising Society.
- Administration is welcome to stay and attend the meeting.
- Budget approval to be tabled to the next meeting. Administration needs to sit with categories, getting a wish list from staff.
- The technology budget is large as a number of items are at the end of life (i.e.: chrome books, smart boards etc.)
- Shafina mentioned that the tech may be funded.
- Shafina requested a water filtration system for the staff room – the school would pay the monthly maintenance fee.
- Society members asked whether the school's water fountains are suitable for students and whether teachers use the water fountains with bottle-filling stations.

MOTION: Kim moved to approve the purchase of a Bottleless Water Cooler and installation up to $3,000, Amanda seconded the motion, all in favour. CARRIED

MOTION: Robin moved to move $3,000 from the Tech bucket to the Misc. bucket, which can be used for the water filtration system, seconded by David, all in favour. CARRIED.

ACTION: Shafina to ask Cassanda to request the water fountains to be serviced.

- Insurance:
    - Robin will complete the application, research insurance policies, and circulate an email motion.
    - Shafina will check with the previous School Council to confirm their insurance provider.
- Healthy Hunger:
    - Alicia confirmed that nothing has been booked yet.

MOTION: Kim motioned to not do Healthy Hunger this year, seconded by Amanda, all in favour. CARRIED.

- Fundraising:
    - Upcoming opportunities include candy grams for Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter. Council members will coordinate sales rather than relying on the Student Leadership group.
    - School Events: Movie nights and dances are popular fundraising opportunities. Ideas include donated pizza, pizza-by-the-slice sales, bake sales, concessions, and ticket sales.
- Dance Planning:
    - Halloween and Spring Dances will be added to the calendar, with specific dates and responsibilities assigned.
    - Halloween Dance - council to coordinate music, setup, decorations, pizza, and concessions. Teachers will supervise students, with Shafina potentially overseeing student-made decorations.
- Student Clubs:
    - Teachers must maintain 30 minutes of uninterrupted instructional time, and clubs rely on volunteer time. Jenn and Shafina are leading Student Leadership, so clubs may look different from previous years.
- Volunteer Calendar:
    - A calendar is needed outlining each event, required volunteer numbers, responsibilities, and event leads.

ACTION: Robin/Kim volunteered to draft an event-planning document identifying known dates, required roles, an event lead for each activity, and volunteer needs. Committee members will take ownership of individual events and recruit volunteers.

- Childcare for Meetings:
    - Baby sitting was offered in the past by the leadership club. Each babysitter was paid $5. The Past Administration arranged babysitting courses and the students could do it at lunch time.
- The possibility of hybrid meetings was raised. Can the school support this? Is there a microphone?

Next Meeting Dates

- Proposed Meeting – following parent council meetings.
    - Oct 20, in person
    - Nov 17, online
    - Jan 19, in person
    - Feb – TBC 16th, online
    - Apr 2, in person
    - May 18, online
    - June 15 - AGM

Adjournment

- Belfast Fundraising Society Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.