

OLYMPIC HEIGHTS SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Agenda: January 15, 2026

Hybrid meeting - Join in person in the Olympic Heights Learning Commons or via Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82783721618?pwd=p0JI4bUdGLTd0y1O3OwVx4tn7y9vON.1>

Meeting ID: 827 8372 1618

Passcode: 962394

Attendees: Michelle McMullen-Freadrich, Candace Van Acker, Jane Radiff, Michelle Herbst, Jessica Wilsher, Kathryn Morgan, Alannah Turcott, Alison Doebele
Online: Tori Wright

6:30pm	Welcome (<i>Chair, Michelle McMullen</i>) 1. Introductions 2. Agenda Approval – approved by Michelle Herbst, second by Jane Radiff 3. Previous Meeting Minutes Approval - approved by Michelle Herbst, second by Jane Radiff Link: November 2025 Minutes	5 Min
6:35pm	School Business & Administration Report (<i>Principal Trevor Barkley, Assistant Principal Kaushik Tailor</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Grade 1 team presentation (Ms. Preuss, Ms. Yannitsos, Ms. Khuu) – tour of the grade 1 rooms. Participated in an activity involving loose parts and a connection to the land.2. School updates/report<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Staffing – Two Grade 2 teachers are on maternity leave (Ms. Cundall and Ms. Bremner). Their replacements are only a few days into the job but it is going well. The school has a new caretaker, Mark Congo, who is getting lots done. He is very responsive to requests by staff and students.b. Christmas feedback (concert, hampers, spirit week) – want council perspective on all activities leading up to the Winter break. Parents thought the registry was a good process for the hampers and made it easy to sign up. Some parents thought we could use more items on the registry as when they went to sign up the list was already full. For the concert – we need to replace the strands of lights since many of them are old and do not work.c. Kindergarten registration has begun. Asking parents to encourage neighbours and friends to register if they plan to so the school can begin to plan for next year (including Kidz Inc enrollment). If we need more space for full day grades 1 through 6 they could add an afternoon kindergarten to free up a room. Right now we have space to accommodate 3 AM Kindergarten classes so not a concern at the moment, but we have the option to change it to 2 AM classes and 1 or 2 PM classes if needed.	45 Min

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">d. Student voice is a very successful program. Kids are continually talking about care. Today, they brought up care of our washrooms as they noticed paper towels being left on the floor and toilets that weren't flushed. They discussed generally making sure our space is cared for. Some classes had vandalism with their books. Trevor will talk with the staff and see if everyone is doing class meetings regularly to discuss these topics. The kids requested a school dance. They also talked about social emotional teachings and the idea of transitions. Some students have a hard time transitioning. A story was shared on how they can change their own feelings to make it easier. They also discussed zones of regulation. This should be discussed in classes along with tools to help bring yourself into a different zone.e. Teacher workload and expectations – teachers appreciated parent support during the labour action (strike) however, teachers are still feeling the impact. Morale is strained and teachers are feeling not heard (by the government and not by parents). There is a struggle between how they feel about the situation and also wanting to give students their best. This means some teachers are struggling to be motivated to do extra things like clubs and intramurals. As a result, these activities might look different than they did in the past. Some parents might have increased communication expectations. The guidance is that the priority is teaching in the classroom. Some things are put into google classroom (if applicable) but it is not the same as learning in the classroom. Teachers' capacity to go above and beyond is lower than normal. Q: Can school council do anything to support and help with morale? Maybe an extra dinner for staff or something similar on a random day. A: Yes, this would be very much appreciated. Perhaps, a Friday lunch would be good as they have a staff meeting right after dismissal and eat a working lunch on this day.f. Opera Feb. 17 – in school performanceg. Roots of empathy is currently happening in Grade 6. Three babies are coming in and visiting with the Grade 6 students on a regular basis. The kids are fascinated with watching the growth over time and how helpless they are. This is a great way to teach about empathy. The students are loving it and it helps build social emotional development.h. Other Items: Science fair is going on right now. Teachers Pet was in the building with Grade 5 and 1 recently doing activities. Elder Hal is scheduled to be here later this month. There is a special event next Friday announcing Canada's Olympic Bobsled team at our school. Catriona Le May Doan will be leading it. Media will be present as well as other Olympians, a dance crew, and they are bringing in an old bobsled. The school will have a red and white day. They will select one student per Grade 1 to 6 who will be announcing a person on the Olympic Team. There will be invites | |
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	<p>for parents of kids who are presenting but we are not able to open it to the parent community as it will be busy and chaotic. Invitation only (although the school council is invited). The event starts at 10:30 a.m. Some Olympians will be able to do classroom visits afterwards.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Report cards and IPPS- coming out late February. Available online Feb 24. These are delayed this year in order to get enough assessment data due to labour action / strike in the fall. They will be a similar format as last year with a minimum of 4 strengths and 4 growths. 4. Lockdown – our first planned lock down was not able to happen in December due to the police being unavailable. It is tentatively rescheduled for Feb 17th afternoon subject to Calgary police availability on that day. 5. 2026-2027 CBE calendar – next year’s school calendar is available now. Kids will start back on August 31th next year. The full schedule is available online. 6. Funding requests (TBD) – 1. For the last 2 years, we did the Havana dance residency. It was decided not to do it again this year as they want to try something different. Ms Tran suggested Walter MacDonald White Bear, a National Art Centre artist who is a Cree singer and songwriter. He works across all of Canada for a rate of \$550 per day and has availability this year. We would want him to work with each classroom for at least 30 mins. Thinking we would like to use him 4 days a week Monday to Thursday to work with all the classes and need 2 weeks to get to all the classes. Total time needed would be 8 days = \$4,400. Can look into doing a showcase for parents, if this is something he is interested in doing. Discussed with staff that they need to start thinking about opportunities for next year’s residency. Motion to approve up to \$6,000. Approved by Jane Radiff, seconded by Alannah Turcott. 2. Boot mats for the hallways to place winter boots on. \$7 each, with an estimated total = \$280. Grade 4 desk dividers = \$156.54. 100 XL ziploc bags for library books to go home = \$60. Motion to approve up to \$600 for items listed above – approved by Michelle Herbst and seconded by Alannah Turcott. 3. Bussing for Hitman Be Brave hockey game for Grade 5’s. Up to \$3,000 - motion to approve by Jane Radiff, seconded by Alannah Turcott. 4. Loose parts for the whole school to use as requested by Grade 1 team - price TBD 7. Q&A 	
7:20pm	<p>OHSPA Updates - Committee Reports - (Team Leads / Representatives)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair Updates (Michelle McMullen) - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vacant roles: Vice Chair and Key Communicator. Kathryn Morgan and Jessica Wilsher will attend the COSC (Council of School Councils) meeting on our behalf. The meeting is coming up soon and will need to RSVP by next Tuesday. 2. Treasurer Update (Katrina Ducs) – Updated presented by Michelle McMullen Freadrich. CRA charity return was filed. AGLC return was filed. Still waiting on November casino funds to come in. Received refund from Paypal for fraudulent charges and opened a new account and transferred funds to prevent further issues. 	40 Min

	<p>3. Special Events Update / Apparel Updates (Laura Osadetz, Alannah Turcott)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Parent Engagement Event – idea –Could Elder Hal lead an event for the larger parent community. Trevor will check with him about interest and availability. Another idea is using Walter MacDonald White Bear to present for families after the in school residency b. School dance / movie night – school dance - DJ and photo booth still have a deposit paid from when we had to cancel in the fall. Could possibly do a May dance with a Cinco de Mayo theme, but the location is TBD. Issue it that there is no caretaker to lock up at the end of the evening. If we rent the gym from CBE, then we have a higher cost but it comes with a caretaker to lock up at the end. Trevor will check into it. May 7 is the tentative date. <p>4. Fundraising and Casino (Jane Radiff)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Casino – waiting on the funds to be deposited. Should be received soon. <p>5. Playground Fundraising Updates (Michelle McMullen)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grant applications – We currently have 2 approved grants - \$5K from Western Financial and \$50K from Parks Foundation Calgary. For the grants we were denied, KJ street will do 1 free re-write, so we will wait 6 months and apply again. We will require approx. \$300K for the re-surfacing only. b. CBE playground assessment – the assessment was completed in December. They are recommending that a large portion of the playground structure should be replaced before the rubber is installed. The whole purple section needs to be replaced but the ropes part can stay. The spinning rope thing must go – it is at the end of its life. Swings are okay but they wont replace tire swings as they are phasing them out. We are looking to bring in some more inclusive pieces to the playground. Playground is currently 18 years old. We are waiting on a couple different quotes to come in. c. Next steps – want to start a committee of 3-4 parents. A few parents expressed interest to join the sub-committee. <p>6. Kiss & Drop (Michelle Herbst) – no update</p> <p>7. Fun Lunch (Michelle Herbst) – 7 events done to date and 12 still to go. We have made over \$2,000. This is lower than other years, but this was intentional to make the cost lower and accessible to more families. We are adding 7-9 kids to the brown bag program and added an option for \$5 to \$10 donations if parents want to help donate to fund lunches for kids who can't afford it.</p> <p>8. Communications (Leah Makin, Susan McInnis) – no update</p>	
8:00pm	<p>Adjourn - Next meeting Thur. February 19 @ 6:30PM Meeting adjourned 8:39pm.</p>	