

OLYMPIC HEIGHTS SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Agenda: February 19, 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: 3 people online, Alannah Turcott, Leah Makin, Jessica Wilsher, Audrey Newcombe, Kathryn Morgan, Krista Leonty, Michelle Herbst, Jennifer Chow, Kristina Jumaquio, Ab Bullahi, Michelle McMullen-Freadrich

6:30pm	Welcome (<i>Chair, Michelle McMullen</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introductions2. Agenda Approval – Approved by Michelle Herbst, second by Katrina Ducs3. Previous Meeting Minutes Approval – Approved by Michelle Herbst, second by Audrey Newcombe Link: January 2026 Minutes	5 Min
6:35pm	School Business & Administration Report (<i>Principal Trevor Barkley, Assistant Principal Kaushik Tailor, Ms. McNeil, Mrs. Million</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none">Grade 6 team presentation – Discussed Open Minds which is a week long experience each class attended. It is hands-on learning out in the real world. Room 25 & 26 went to “An Urban Experience” at former Central High School. They looked at how Calgary has changed over time, walked through the beltline area, looked at some local art, went to High Park, Connaught Open Street, the former Nexen building, Princess Island Park, Bank & Baron (repurposed old buildings), Devonian gardens, Central Library and more. Met some interesting people, including Trustee Bolger, Chief Superintendent Jo Pittman, and Councilor Jon Pantazopoulos. Ms Perkins class in Room 27 went to City Hall School and attended a public hearing at the Council Chambers. They also did community walks, saw murals, walked through Princess Island Park, saw flood mitigation construction work, discussed infrastructure and bridges, saw Stephens Ave historic buildings. Then they had a bridge engineer (who is an OHS alumni) do a presentation and the kids got to design their own bridge. There was lots of sketching and lots of fun on both trips. The Grade 6 rooms are also doing “Roots of Empathy”, a social emotional learning program. Each class has their own baby that a parent brings in regularly. It helps the students recognize feelings of self and others, empathy, etc. Cute to see the kids interacting and connecting with the babies. May 25 to 28 are the tentative dates for camp Chief Hector. June 23 - Grade 6 Grad.School Planning and Engagement Presentation/SDP Update – School Goal for this year: Improve Student Achievement in written communication. \$3.15M budget for 2025-26 school year. 75% or more of this is used for staffing = 30.7 FTE’s. \$73K for supplies and other, and the rest is for staff.	60 Min

Student enrollment is currently 479 students. Q: Can we add Science to the IXL program and can we use Raz kids (liked it better than Epic which we are using now)?

3. School updates/report

- a. Projections – spring projections for next year are 477 (slightly lower than this year). Last year we projected 493 students and landed at 479. Next school year projections by grade are: 57 - Kindergarten, 53 - Grade 1, 63 – Grade 2, 69 - Grade 3, 71 – Grade 5, 94 – Grade 5 and 70 - Grade 6 for a total of 477. That will be an 84% utilization rate if all the projected kids show up. The Province wants to see us at 85% utilization. This is as of right now and could change. Currently, we are a bit over extended in terms of staffing. We have 4 education assistants and 1 EAL support – these are not all manageable go forward. Hoping next year to have small classes, but may get less support staff. The alternative is to keep the support staff and have larger classes. Mr Taylor will have to teach Kindergarten again next year given these projected numbers. These numbers include overflow projections from West Springs School. In the May Parent Council meeting, they will discuss this more after we receive RAM # and will provide more details. There is always an option to bring some temporary relief staff as needed.
- b. Staffing – expect reduction next year based on projected enrollment. Ms Perkins is on medical leave right now and Mr Quinn is covering for her. She is expected to return March 9.
- c. Pink Shirt Day – February 25
- d. Student voice – Topic: what makes you feel welcome? Kindness, modelling positive behaviour, standing up to people who say rude comments, how to make problems smaller rather than bigger, how to make others feel more comfortable, how to welcome new kids that may not have friends. Ongoing concerns – washrooms (kids responsibility to keep clean – can report issues or address themselves if they feel comfortable). Students are excited about the school dance, new rubber surface on the playground, and are wondering if we can do food trucks again? Did social/emotional learning by playing Simon Says. Instead of reacting, we need to stop, pause, think, then react.
- e. Olympian visit – was awesome. The kids are eager to watch the Olympics now as it sparked interest. One of the Olympians reached out and wants to meet the student who introduced them. Olympians were impressed with the school. Parent feedback that this was well done and an amazing opportunity for the students.
- f. Other (PD, Elder Hal, residencies) – Elder Hal has had some personal challenges so has missed many sessions. He may be able

	<p>to attend a session in the Spring. Parent suggestion - can the school offer anything in terms of support? Walter Whitebear had a major medical event so may no longer available for Parent Engagement event as was discussed last month. June 23 will be the Grade 6 farewell in the morning. Classroom complexity – lots of information in the news and social media about provincial funding for this. The goal is to increase support to schools. OHS is not on the initial list of schools to get funding. CBE has the highest complexity in the school system. OHS: 26% English as second language and 11.3% require special education support. These are lower than CBE averages so OHS is not considered a high priority. The board is aware that all students are given the same weight regardless of level of complexity. This list is subject to change. Nothing we can do as a school to advocate to get us on the list, however they don't think our school will qualify. Another issue is we are unable to get substitutes on a regular basis so the Phys Ed teacher and Mr Taylor are getting pulled into substituting regularly. Concern is where are the extra resources the province is providing coming from as this will likely impact our substitute pool further. Implementation of this announcement will take time to do it well and hire people. Q: Are the IPP's accurately reflected as it is surprising that many of the surrounding schools including West Springs, Roberta Bondar, Battalion Park are on the list to get support, but OHS is not and we are the same demographic.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Report cards and IPPS – available on power school Feb 24. All IPPs were reviewed and sent home. Feedback based process – can discuss with classroom teacher, if needed. IPPs due back Feb 24. 5. Student-led conferences (March) – March 19 – 20. Will also have a book fair during the conferences. 6. Funding requests (TBD). Requests by grade 6 team. 1- Patrol Year End Celebration – up to \$400. 2- Exam bank – PAT prep – \$250 for 1500 logins (likely will last for 2 years). Motion to approve both by Katrina Ducs, seconded by Michelle Herbst. Library up to \$5000 spending – previously approved. Scholastics book fair will earn money to buy some items from Scholastics but they still want to buy a few other items – amount not provided at this time. Grade 1 – loose parts as discussed at last meeting – request to spend up to \$2,000. Approved by Jessica Wilsher, second by Audrey Newcombe. Grant writing funds for playground fundraising – up to \$2,000 additional approved by Alannah Turcott, seconded by Michelle Herbst. \$120 for coffee cards for Kiss and Drop volunteer “Thank You’s” – approved by Katrina Ducs, seconded by Krista Leonty. 7. Q&A: concerns about safety before and after school during pick up and drop off. Lots of unsafe behaviour and jay walking. Could request Calgary Police to come out. The school will also send another email reminder about this. 	
7:35pm	<p>OHSPA Updates - Committee Reports - (Team Leads / Representatives)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair Updates (Michelle McMullen) – Thank you for attending tonight. Appreciate the support and seeing new people. 2 new members will be joining the Council. Key communicator – Kathryn Morgan and Vice Chair – Jessica Wilsher. Motion to approve Leah Makin, seconded by Alannah 	40 Min

Turcott. Some parents attended a presentation about the new middle school coming to Aspen. Don't know who will be designated to that new school yet. It is planned to open for the 2029-2030 school year. Had a chat with our trustee and she offered to attend one of our council meetings if there is a desire.

2. **Treasurer Update** (Katrina Ducs) – provided update. Received casino payment of \$89K. Currently have \$149K in casino fund. Total cash = \$207K. Casino money needs to be spent 3 years after the funds are received.
3. **Key Communicator Update** (Kathryn Morgan, Jessica Wilsher)
 - a. COSC Meeting Outcomes – great meeting. Learned a lot. High opinion of Jo Pittman. Have a list of ideas on what to spend the Engagement grant on. Battalion park got the \$125K playground grant we applied for. On their website they have some learning about their playground process. We can use it as a resource. Education matters – talked a lot about this. An organization that has awards and supports for schools. They just announced a huge grant for technology so something to keep an eye on. Lots of discussion about Kindergarten assessments even though Kindergarten isn't mandatory, this is being addressed at the minister level. There is a big focus on hiring!
4. **Special Events Update / Apparel Updates** (Laura Osadetz, Alannah Turcott)
 - a. Parent Engagement Event - \$500 grant – made a connection with an Olympian that was here (Bianca Ribí). She was a great speaker and would love to invite her back to speak to our school. She is a firefighter in Calgary. Maybe we could look at having her come speak to the students as well as do a Parent Engagement event.
 - b. School dance - May 7, 2026 – booked the gym through the city (\$750), required insurance (\$300). Have DJ and selfie station booked again. Cinco de Mayo theme.
5. **Fundraising and Casino** (Jane Radiff)
 - a. Casino – no updates
6. **Playground Fundraising Updates** (Michelle McMullen)
 - a. Grant writing funding request for upcoming grant applications – great conversation with Parks Calgary Foundation. Expressed concern about spending the money before the given timeline. They extended the end date so it is not an issue. They will provide ideas on how to raise the money as we expect the project to cost approx \$600K. Started the process on 3 new grant submissions. One of them is no longer running this year, so that is off the list. If we use PlayQuest to do the project they will cover the costs of applying for grants and they are approved by CBE, but still waiting for their quote. Don't want this to be the only factor in selecting a vendor. Spent \$2,500 to write the grants so far. Would like the project to start in June 2027 with completion of fall 2027. Fundraising idea – colour run was very successful at Coventry Hills school.
 - b. Playground updated quotes

	<p>c. Next steps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Kiss & Drop (Michelle Herbst) - 8. Fun Lunch (Michelle Herbst) – profit \$3,200 year to date. On break right now for Ramadan. Added an option for donating to help support other kids who can't afford fun lunch and raised \$150 already. 9. Communications (Leah Makin, Susan McInnis) – Planning on sharing information on how to log volunteer hours in Benevity as some employers will give credit for volunteer hours. Olympic Heights Parent Council is also an approved charity set up under Benevity. 	
8:15pm	<p>Adjourn - Next meeting Thur. April 16 @ 6:30PM. Adjourned 8:44PM</p>	