

ROPS School Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2026

6:30 PM Start

In Person Attendance

1. Jessica Houle
2. Gemma Shugg
3. Brenda Cohen
4. T. Melanie Shackleton
5. Marcelle Robinson
6. Amanda Toal
7. Rachel Cameron
8. Christine Ballard

Online Attendance

9. Ayesha Abbas
10. Ayisha Irfan
11. Andrea Mendrinos
12. Fatima Bharuchi
13. Sandeep N. Das
14. Sara Rashid
15. Panmuhil Ravichandran
16. Zehra Kaynak Tan

Land Acknowledgment/ Welcome from the Principal

The land acknowledgement was read by School Principal, Jessica Houle.

Last meeting Recap, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Houle provided a revision of the last meeting. The minutes were approved by the council.

Principles Report

- A drumming workshop was held with Baba Williams (Drums at All) for Grades 4–8, focusing on anti-bullying, inclusion, and community building. Students responded very positively.

- A follow-up workshop is scheduled in March for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students.
- The school band will be attending MusicFest in Niagara in February.
- Production Club has begun preparations for the school musical, with possible future calls for parent volunteers.
- New clubs have launched, including Coding Clubs, Karaoke Club, Ukulele Club, Debate Club, and Math (Gauss Math) Club.
- Sports tournaments are underway, including volleyball, badminton, and basketball.

Code of Conduct

The Principal reviewed the school's Code of Conduct with the Council.

EQAO Results Overview

EQAO results were shared with School Council for informational purposes, comparing school performance with board and provincial data.

Grade 3:

- Mathematics, Reading, and Writing results were generally aligned with board and provincial averages.

Grade 6:

- Mathematics continues to be an area of challenge, reflecting a long-term provincial trend.
- Reading and Writing results were stronger, though slightly below board averages in some areas.

It was noted that EQAO represents one data point and does not fully reflect classroom-based assessment, which includes observations, conversations, and student work. The board and province are increasing focus and support in mathematics.

Treasurer's Report

- Approximately \$18,000 has been spent to date.
- Approximately \$9,000 remains available, with funds reserved for the upcoming Fun Fair.
- The goal is to spend allocated funds within the school year, with flexibility to roll over Parent Engagement (PIC) funds if needed.

No changes to the financial report since the previous meeting.

New Businesses

Parent Involvement Conference

Christine Ballard presented her experiences and suggestions on the PIC grant. The council discussed options for parent engagement activities using the PIC grant.

Proposed Initiatives:

1. Executive Functioning Parent Engagement Night

- Focus on skills such as organization, self-regulation, planning, and problem-solving
- Interactive format with presentations, hands-on activities, and discussion
- Inclusion of food to encourage family participation

2. Parent–Child Paint Night

- Facilitated by a local artist
- Community-building activity with multiple possible sessions

Alternative ideas (e.g., movie night) were discussed; however, preference was expressed for activities that promote interaction and conversation.

Votes:

- Executive Functioning Night: Approved
- Paint Night: Approved

Next Steps / Action Items

- Administration to confirm dates and presenters
- Google Forms to be created for attendance confirmation
- Communication to families via newsletter and school channels

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30. Next Meeting will be on March 2, at 6:30pm.