West Dalhousie School Council Meeting
Wednesday October 7, 2026 @ 7 p.m.
Learning Commons @ West Dalhousie School

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Council Chair, Ben Hall.

In Attendance: Rhonda W (Principal) Keri G. (Assistant Principal), Cyndie S. (Treasurer), Ben H. (Chair), Carla S. (Vice Chair), Hayli S. (Secretary), Shellie S. (Parent/Guardian), Leila M. (Parent/Guardian), Kim V. (Parent/Guardian), Asiah Z. (Parent/Guardian), Marian F. (Parent/Guardian)

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of agenda and previous minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the September 9th, 2026 School Council meeting.
- **Moved by:** Carla S.
- **Seconded by:** Shellie S.
- **Result:** Carried

Message from School (Rhonda)

1. **Circle Days**
   - Had first circle day, led by grade 3 and 4. Kids enjoyed and made portraits of themselves. Next one will be lead by Grade 5
2. **IPPs**
   - Coming out soon, will need to be signed by families.
3. **Fire Drill & Lockdown Practices**
   - Two Lockdowns each year. First one will be Dec 2nd in the morning
   - 6 Fire drills each year. Done two already.
4. **Grade 6 Immunizations**
   - Happened on Monday. The kids did great.
5. **Caught You Caring Initiative**
   - Everyone in the school can nominate students, and they are recognized for their kindness.
6. **Flames Residency**
   - Coming up later this month. Will be doing ball hockey.
   - Adapted bikes program is coming for EES in November.
7. **Classroom Complexity Teams**
   - Complexity teams funded by the Alberta government to provide added support to schools.
   - Working on targeting different groups of students for 6 weeks at a time. Collecting data to track pre- and post- intervention results.
   - There are about 100 students in the school with English as an additional language. Currently working with LP1s and LP2s Working on language development.
   - The EAS are working with kids with sensory needs.

New Business:

1. **Event | Math and Literacy Night for Families** (will take place January or February)
   - School goals include working on math fluency and written language.
   - Event will allow parents to see what students are working on and to learn the strategies that are being taught, noting that math curriculum has likely changed since parents were in school. Activities will be shared that families can do at home to support student learning.
   - Considering some math take-away things for families (e.g., 10 sided dice). Will think about this and possible funds to support.

2. **Event | 50th Anniversary at WDS** (expected in the spring)
    - Rhonda connecting with Area staff and other principals to discuss what has been done at previous schools, and access archives for photos etc.
    - Will need to have Facilities staff involved to open the wall with the time capsule; Media Relations and CBE communications.
    - Brainstorming ideas for the even (e.g., open house style, theme week, vintage swag, etc).
    - Will try to coordinate additional volunteers to support this initiative.

3. **Event | Halloween Dance** (October 29)
    - Volunteers to set up at 5:30, Doors to open at 6:15, Dance at 630-8:00.
    - Sign-up genius to solicit and organize volunteers.
    - Discussion about materials to be borrowed and/or purchased for the dance (e.g., lamps, extension cords, concession items)
    - Healthy Hunger will be set up for families to order pizza. Pizza delivered at 6 pm.
    - Flyer to be made, printed outside of school, to be distributed in student agendas.
    - Zeffy discussed as a platform to presell tickets, and allow option to use a credit card at the door. Cash will also be accepted.
        - **Motion:** For Council to fund $400 for the dance supplies.
        - **Moved by:** Carla S.
        - **Seconded by**: Shellie S.
        - **Result**: Carried

4. **School Council Promotion at Events**
    - Discussion about purchasing branded items to be distributed at events increase visibility of School Counsil (e.g., Pencils, Table Banners, Signs, Magnets)
    - Will engage some others to develop a proposal to discuss at next meeting and to bring forward cost options).
5. **Fundraising**
    - Healthy Hunger. Set up and ongoing.
    - Discussion about possible Cobbs fundraising. Learned they don't have the same programs as previous. Offered Healthy Hunger of Loaf-a-month (giving leftover loaves to schools). Neither of these seem feasible at this time.
    - Skip-the-Depot. Ongoing, no current updates.
    - Davidson's Orchard Apple Fundraiser. Just closed and we met the minimum order (83 orders placed).
        - Apples will arrive for distribution on Friday October 23rd. Will be distributed by Marian. She will send email reminders for pickups..
        - Not sure if it is feasible to do this fundraiser next year, as we just barely made the minimum order.

Financial Update

- School council current balance $16409.42

Other Updates:

- Community of school councils program. Ben has signed up for this upcoming meeting on October 22nd. Will bring back any take-aways learned at our next council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 by Ben H.

West Dalhousie Parents Association Meeting
October 7, 2026

Meeting called to order at 8:19 p.m.
In Attendance: Rhonda W (Principal) Keri G. (Assistant Principal), Cyndie S. (Treasurer), Ben H. (Chair), Carla S. (Vice Chair), Hayli S. (Secretary), Shellie S. (Parent/Guardian), Leila M. (Parent/Guardian), Kim V. (Parent/Guardian), Asiah Z. (Parent/Guardian), Marian F. (Parent/Guardian)

Motion: To approve the minutes from the September 9th, 2026 Parent Association meeting.

- **Moved by:** Beh H.
- **Seconded by**: Carla S.
- **Result**: Carried

Casino Update

- No updates to report

Financial Updates

- No changes since last meeting. Current balance: $81,481.04

School requests for funding:

1) **French Canadian cultural event** (half day between the 4th to 15th of February)
    - Les Bucherons. Shellie S. has been gathering some quotes from companies. Currently estimated around $1800 plus $3 per child. This would include a show for the entire school. Taffy for everyone. Can tie into French as a second language for the older group of kids.
    - Will continue to solicit more quotes to bring back in November.
    - Motion to approve Parent Association funding for this event up to $3500
        - **Motion Moved by Ben H.**
        - **Seconded by Leila M.**
        - **No opposition.**
        - **Result: Carried.**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 Motioned by Ben H.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4th online via Microsoft Teams.