

**MINUTES OF THE EARL GREY SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT SOCIETY MEETING
TUESDAY, January 20th, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M. (MOUNTAIN TIME)
HELD AT 845 HILLCREST AVE SW**

Member Attendees: Kaylen Christiansen, Sandi Metz

Director Attendees:

- Chair: Lynn Krasey
- Vice Chair: Lindsey Huston
- Secretary: Kelsey Gallagher
- Volunteer Coordinator: Audra Zannis
- Treasurer: Ken Little
- Fun Lunch Coordinator: Kale Badura
- Casino Coordinator: Britt Obuck

Virtual Attendees:

- Playground Coordinator: Katie Plintz
- Key Communications: Rihanna Vanin
- Adrian Brahasani
- Javad Paitakhti

In person Guest Attendees:

- David Dyck (CBE Education Director)
- Susan Vukadinovic (CBE School board trustee wards 8 & 9)

Apologies:

- Fundraising Coordinator: Laura Hubbard

EARL GREY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Call to order:** 6:32pm by Lynn Huston
2. **Acknowledgement of the Land:** Kaylen Christiansen
3. **Video viewed by council of events that took place at Earl Grey fall/winter 2025 & future projects:** Kaylen Christiansen
 - Courtyard:
 - Identified as a beautiful place in our school that is being underutilized.
 - Earl Grey's principal would like to talk more about how to better use this space in future meetings.
 - Playground:
 - Teachers started out the year getting to test out the new school playground. This was a great opportunity for teachers to celebrate and get to know the ins and outs of the playground.

- There was great community involvement for the Playground celebration. The school was thrilled that Elder Jackie was able to attend the playground opening.
- Digging into the Data:
 - Teachers spent a significant amount of time at the beginning of the school year looking at our school survey results and planning for the future of Earl Grey.
- School Events:
 - Halloween, Orange Shirt Day, Intervention Groups, Wet Felting, Gymnastics, Holiday Concert, Christmas Carol Event
- EG News:
 - Grade 5 & 6's has created a newscast of what is happening at the school.
 - This is being broadcast to all Earl Grey Students weekly.
 - This is fully student led.
- Clubs that are starting or have already started:
 - Leadership Club
 - STEM Club
 - Photography Club
- Car Traffic at Pick-up & Drop-off:
 - Last week 3 police officers and 2 bylaw officers came to help with the traffic during morning drop off. This went smoothly and has improved the number of cars following the rules at drop-off and pick-up time.
 - Earl Grey is now on a list to have the community traffic taskforce come to help with enforcement.

4. **Trustee Special Guest Q&A:** Susan Vukadinovic

- Job Description of Trustee:
 - Oversight to see if the school system is doing well:
 - The trustee looks at whether resources are being well managed.
 - Overall, the CBE has the lowest average funding per student and the highest academic outcomes as a province. This means that CBE students are outperforming other areas of the province on high school diploma scores.
 - The CBE is focused on strong student outcomes.
 - Advocacy:
 - Example 1: Working towards providing more school spaces to allow every student to be able to go to school within their own community.

- Currently the city has 15 capital requests, 11 of which are new school requests in the outer city “school donut”.
 - Example 2: Further increasing funding per student. This would allow CBE to hire more teachers, decrease class sizes etc.
 - Community outreach:
 - To better understand what parents have to say, so they can be better represented. Ex. Attending parent council meetings.
- Earl Grey School Council Members Question & Answer Period:
 - Question 1: Do you have any schools with structural requests?
 - Response: No. But the trustee recognizes that there are growing needs of the inner-city schools.
 - Question 2: For the past 4 years there has been a 17,000 influx of students. Has the trustee noticed higher numbers of students concentrated in the inner city?
 - Response: The “deep south” and “deep north east” are the areas in the city with the biggest influx of students. The goal of CBE is to ideally have 0 students that must overflow to other schools. Every student should be able to go to their neighborhood school.
 - Question 3: Is Susan Vukadinovic the person that advocates for more school space, more teachers etc.
 - Response: The trustee looks at board approved criteria based on the CBE’s capital plan. For more information about the capital plan see link provided: <https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/default.aspx>. There are no *capital* plans for wards 8 & 9 this year (Ex. Plans for new builds, major additions etc.). There is funding coming into these wards, but there are *modular* expenses (Ex. portables). Of note: School utilization is based on the school’s square footage versus the number of classrooms a school has.
 - Question 4: Is there a task force for modernization? How is need for modernization assessed? Ex. Is Earl Grey a candidate for modernization because we do not have floor to ceilings walls or enclosed classrooms?

- Response: There are 2 buckets. The first are things that need provincial approval. These are *capital* expenses. The second are things that we can do with our own CBE funding.
- Question 5: How can we as a council advocate for funding for Earl Grey for an expense such as floor to ceiling walls? This is something that council has been advocating for the past several years and has not received an adequate response to. Council feels that this funding should be a priority given safety concerns for students with an open concept school in the event of a lockdown.
 - Response: These types of issues are raised annually by Susan Vukadinovic with the Chief Superintendents. Getting funding for this is based on a points system. Currently, there are schools that are higher than Earl Grey on the list. Over 70% of our schools in CBE are over 50 years old. The funding envelope does not meet industry standards when compared to the private school sector. Given that this concern has been raised for multiple years by the Earl Grey school council, David Dyck will take our concerns about floor to ceiling walls and enclosed rooms and see if Earl Grey is on the list and if so where we are on the list. See *Appendix 1 for e-mail sent after council meeting.*
- Question 6: We looked at council providing funding for these walls in previous years, but we were not allowed to fund this at the time. Is this still the case?
 - Response: Currently councils are not allowed to do this. This is similar to how councils are not allowed to hire a teacher. CBE is re-asking the question whether this could be changed in the future.
- Question 7: Has our funding always been the lowest per student in the country?
 - Response: No, but to change it, it will require government advocacy. The best thing that we can do as parents is to write individual letters to your MLA, Minister of Education & Childcare & Premier. There is also currently an “Alberta Funds Public Schools” petition that parents can sign if they want <https://abfundspublicschools.ca/>. The

province is doing well at meeting the needs of students that require additional supports as well as the students that are achieving highly academically, but it is missing “middle students” needs.

5. COSC Meeting on January 21st:

- Rihanna will be attending this meeting.

6. Meeting Adjourned– 7:54pm

EARL GREY SCHOOL PARENT SOCIETY MEETING

1. Call to Order: Lynn Krasey

- 7:55pm

2. Review & Approve Dec & Jan 6th minutes:

- Approved

3. Success of Bake Sale & 50/50:

- The bake sale was a success.
- Kale Badura won the 50/50. He has donated all his earnings into the non-casino school council account. Council is very appreciative of this.

4. Instagram Account for Parent Society:

- Will move to next month given that Laura Hubbard is not here today.

5. Savings Plan, interest account for non-casino funds:

- Discussion about getting the non-casino council funds in a money market to help grow these funds.
- Action item:
 - i. Ken to investigate an interest earning account.
 - ii. Kale to make a call to see if he can get bank fees waved

6. Fun lunch: how are donated meals going:

- Donated lunch:
 - i. 14 people are donating lunches, but this is more meals than we currently need donated, so the remaining are extras. Extras are eaten by students but are not for specific students.
 - ii. Kale called in to see who needed lunches for next fun lunch. At this time, they will likely require 6 donated lunches.
 - iii. Should we cut this? Should we ask people not to donate for a month? Could you ask who needs lunches at the beginning of the year and then ask for donations based on this?
 1. Resolution: Keep as is for right now as all food is being eaten by students.

7. **Reminders of Events: Blaze Jan 29th, In line skating party Jan 29th, 6-8pm:**
 - Thursday Blaze pizza & in line skating party next week.
 - This will be in the weekly update next week. It is not a drop off event.
8. **Plan remaining council meetings:**
 - February: review of purchases from the past 2 years, brainstorm future items to be purchased, casino signups June 2026.
 - March: Principal update
 - April: Plan Dad's breakfast, spring concert
 - May: AGM elect 2026-2027 board
 - June: Present 2026-2027 budget and vote to approve
 - Moving meetings to Monday Ex. Next meeting is February 23rd.
9. **Reimbursement to Ken:**
 - Talk about it after the meeting.
10. **Meeting Adjourned– 8:18pm**

Signed By: *L Krasey*
Lynn Krasey - Chair

K Gallagher
Kelsey Gallagher – Secretary

Appendix 1: Response from David Dyck sent to Council by Principal on January 21st, 2026:

“Hello there,

Below you will find a response from Education Director David Dyke. He asked me to forward this to everyone at the council last night (in person and online). If I missed anyone, my apologies, please pass the message.

Sincerely,

Kaylen Christiansen

Good afternoon, Lynn,

As a follow up to the Council meeting and your question regarding the request for walls/doors and a review of the Lockdown procedures for a building layout such as Earl Grey, I wanted to let you know that I had a meeting this afternoon with School Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Turner and shared the questions and concerns brought forward last evening.

As a result of that meeting, I will be convening a working group comprised of the Directors of: Facility Projects, Risk, Safety and Security, Response Management, other Education Directors who support schools with the open-area concept layout.

Once that work is done, I will be sharing back with you the responses to questions related to: 'Where is Earl Grey on list? And, 'What is the plan for lockdown in these types of schools?'

Thank you for raising these questions and concerns.

My appreciation to you, and all parents at Earl Grey, for the many ways you support your child, and the students and staff at Earl Grey.

Warm regards,

David Dyck
Pronouns: he, him, his
Education Director, Area 7 | Well-Being
Calgary Board of Education | cbe.ab.ca
t | 403-777-8750 ext. 0”