

**MINUTES OF THE EARL GREY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, February 23rd, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M. (MOUNTAIN TIME)
HELD AT EARL GREY SCHOOL, 845 Hillcrest Ave SW, Calgary AB, T2T 0Y9**

Member Attendees: Kaylen Christiansen, Sandi Metz

Director Attendees:

- Chair: Lynn Krasey
- Secretary: Kelsey Gallagher
- Treasurer: Ken Little
- Fun Lunch Coordinator: Kale Badura
- Fundraising Coordinator: Laura Hubbard

Virtual Attendees:

- Playground Coordinator: Katie Plintz
- Vice Chair: Lindsey Huston
- Key Communications: Rihanna Vanin

In person Guest Attendees:

- Earl Grey Teacher: Mrs. Fontanne

Apologies:

- Casino Coordinator: Britt Obuck
- Volunteer Coordinator: Audra Zannis

EARL GREY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING FEB 23rd, 2026

- 1. Call to order: 6:33pm by Lynn Krasey**
- 2. Acknowledgement of the Land: Andrew Sibbald School**
- 3. Review & Approve January Meeting Minutes:**
 - Approved January 20th, 2026 meeting minutes.
- 4. Update from David Dyck (CBE Education Director):**
 - David Dyck met with a working group on February 4th, 2026 comprised of the Directors of: Facility Projects, Risk, Safety and Security, Response Management and other Education Directors.
 - Purpose of working group: Seeks to address Earl Grey School Council's concerns regarding a lack of appropriate lockdown procedures that support an open concept building layout and feasibility of adding walls.
 - Outcome: More precise information will be shared later (See Appendix 2 for February 27th update).

5. Principal Update: Kaylen Christiansen & Mrs. Fontanne

- Elv8
 - This was a 2-day residency
 - The students enjoyed being introduced to lacrosse & expressed interest in repeating this residency.
 - This was a free residency thanks to Sandi Metz coordinating with a former Earl Grey parent associated with Elv8.
- Indoor Recess
 - The school is brainstorming different ways to hold indoor recess with the goal of balancing the amount of screen time students receive.
 - The school has trialed having “Just dance” in the gym during indoor recess. To manage numbers, they have been calling down groups by division.
 - The school intends to continue to trial different activities during this time.
 - Tracy Budd will be coming to Earl Grey this week to look at our current system. She will then provide us with feedback.
 - Current school schedule:
 - 11-11:20am Lunch
 - 11:20-11:50am Lunch recess
 - 1:15-1:30pm Teachers Recess
 - Note: Lunch supervisors are available during an indoor recess. Their ratio is 1 supervisor to 30/40 students. This means they can supervise 1 classroom at a time. If more teachers can supervise then this can support supervising a whole division during recess time versus one class at a time.
- Earl Grey Swag
 - The Principal has worked to create Earl Grey swag. It is ready to go.
 - About the swag:
 - Consists of T-shirts, baseball tops & hoodies
 - Student & adult options available
 - The school would earn \$5/item
 - Will be delivered right to the student’s home
 - This would be a small fundraiser that would contribute to school funds. It is not expected to generate huge revenue, but enough that it could help with waving school fees for field trips etc.
 - School Council Feedback:
 - Kale suggested that prices be increased to generate more income. Outcome: Prices will be kept as is this year and re-evaluated in future years.

- Lynn suggested that school council would be happy to take on a project of this nature. Outcome: Everything is ready to go for this year, but this can be re-evaluated in future.
 - Laura is wondering if at least one item can be affordable so that all children can have the opportunity to purchase swag? Outcome: All merchandise will remain in an affordable price range to promote inclusivity.
 - Outcome:
 - The Earl Grey Swag website will go live tomorrow (February 24th) until March 30th, 2026. It will be promoted through the Principals Weekly Updates.
- Quickdraw Animation Residency:
 - Mrs. Fontanne & Mrs. Bateman received the full grant amount. Thank you to both for their incredible efforts in applying for this grant!
 - Parent volunteers are needed to work with the animation crew. Forms will go out tomorrow (February 24th). The workshop will start Monday March 2nd.
 - Kindergarten and Grade 1's: x1 workshop
 - Grade 2: x2 workshops
 - Grade 3-6: x3 workshops
 - Result of residency:
 - There will be a school wide event that invites the community to participate in an on-the-land screening of all the animations.
 - Tentative screening scheduled for May 20th, from 6:00-8:00pm in the evening.
 - Additional events surrounding screening to be held to bring the community together: Hoop dancers? Food Truck? TBA
 - Total cost of project:
 - $\$650 + (17 \text{ sessions} \times \$600) = \$10,850 + \$1,000$ for the editing & postproduction needed for the screening.
 - Total: \$11,850
 - Note: The residency has indicated that these costs are “estimates” and that there may still be adjustments to the editing and post-production costs.

6. Trustee Learnings from January 20th Meeting: Lynn Krasey

- What did Earl Grey School Council hear?
 - That the best way to advocate for more funding/student is to:
 - Write individual letters to your MLA, Minister of Education & Childcare & Premier.
 - Sign the “Alberta Funds Public Schools” <https://abfundspublicschools.ca/>.
 - That a working group has been established (See David Dyck update in point 4 above). Council is still wondering:
 - How can the council help to enable these working groups?
 - What will come from this working group, especially after the recent Tumbler Ridge shooting?
 - Principal input on school security post Tumbler Ridge: The school identifies that one of the best ways to ensure a safe school is to make sure nobody is let into the school that should not be there. This means that doors will lock right at 8am, parents need to be invited into the school, people must sign in at the door & the school will be more direct in asking people, “what is your purpose”?
 - Council identified that it is important to continue to have annual meetings with our school trustee.

7. Community of School Councils (COSC) Meeting Learnings: Rihanna Vanin

- How does it affect us?
 - COSC meeting was in January 21st 2026. They meet 3 times annually.
 - Topics discussed:
 - Education Matters
 - Alberta School Councils Association. There is a small amount of funding that every school gets from this membership. Once you join the membership then the money comes directly to us. ~\$500. Note: Earl Grey will apply for this next year. Despite these funds only being able to be used for specific things, our principal has ideas for how these funds can be used.
 - There is a ward 8/9 WhatsApp group
 - Safety
 - Compressed lunch break
 - State of infrastructure

- Councils struggling to know how to get their messages across to their respective student body.
- All of these sessions and breakout groups are recorded and available on the public domain: <https://cbe.ab.ca/get-involved/school-councils/pages/meetings.aspx>

8. Earl Grey Council's Purpose & Goals: Lynn Krasey

- Our purpose is to “advise the Principal on priorities, planning and culture”.
- Our goals are to be intentional about issues raised and to work collaboratively with the school.

9. Status of Issues Raised this School Year:

- Issue: Drop off safety slope on SE corner
 - Status: Investigated this but the slope is not on CBE land so we cannot fix it. Thank you to Kaylen for your efforts and time taken looking into this. If parents still feel passionate, they can contact the city and create their own working group.
- Issue: Purpose of doing lockdown drills in an open concept school
 - Status: David Dyck has created working group and will continue to update us (See Appendix 2 for February 27th update).
- Issue: To provide ample notice for parents when volunteers are needed Ex. 2-weeks' notice.
 - Status: The school hears this request and will continue to work on this.
- Issue: When there is an indoor recess ensuring that the gym is open for more than 1 class at a time
 - Status: → See above (point #5, subtitle “Indoor Recess”)

10. Adjourned 7:30pm

EARL GREY SCHOOL PARENT SOCIETY MEETING FEB 23rd, 2026

11. Call to Order: Lynn Krasey

- 7:30pm

12. Review Action Items: Lynn Krasey

- Creating an interest earning account for non casino- funds (Ken):
 - Status: No progress to date. Ken will investigate this.
- Bank Fees Waived (Kale):
 - Status: Kale could not get this fee waved.
- Walkie-Talkies purchase (Lynn, budget \$2,500):
 - Status: Lynn has found 3 different options. Parent society approved Option B:

- A. Walkie talkies from New Zealand. 10 walkie talkies ~\$5,000. They run on a private security channel but this needs to be a licensed private network. The school does not fund this.
- B. The walkie talkies Little Steps uses. This will provide 20 walkie talkies for \$720 and includes a charging dock for all 20 walkie talkies.
- C. Motorola which provides about 15 walkie talkies for ~\$750

13. Instagram Account Creation for Parent Society: Laura Hubbard

- Question:
 - How can we improve our communication with Earl Grey parents?
- Potential Solution:
 - Can we have a social media (Instagram) presence that parents can choose to opt into.
 - This account would not post private photos of students but would post about upcoming events and fundraisers. This account would be school related and parent society based.
- Outcome:
 - Laura will make an “Earl Grey School Parent Society” Instagram account and will initially be the point person.
 - This will be promoted through Parent Teacher Night where there will be a QR code linking to the Instagram account. Lynn will create this.

14. Casino Sign Up Creation:

- Sign up Genius has been made.
- The Casino will be held on June 2nd & 3rd, 2026.
- This will be promoted through:
 - Weekly Principal E-mail
 - Parent Teacher Night: A poster will be created with a QR code that links to the sign-up genius for casino night. Lynn will do this.
 - Potentially creating a draw for parent volunteers Ex. To win \$100 restaurant gift card.

15. Parent Society Funds & Future Spends:

- Reviewed all purchases over the past 2 years to help brainstorm future spending needs/wants (See Appendix 1).
- Parent Society Questions:
 - What are our future goals?
 - What are we saving for?
 - What are we fundraising for?
- Future Spending Requests & Brainstorming:

- Principal's funding request is for residencies for the 2026/27 school year.
 - Society Response: Let's be intentional with when they are, why we want them and how much they cost. Discussed possibly having repetitive residencies for students in the areas of "gym", "fine arts" & "STEM"
 - Outcome: Residencies range from \$0-\$10,000k/residency. In the past we have funded 1-2/year. In future meetings let's decide on a dollar value or percentage of budget that we want to spend annually on residencies.
- Atrium revitalization.
- Upgrading spaces Ex. Our library tech would love to get some soft seating for students.
- Enhancing education for our students Ex. Ms. Gordana, paying for professional development for teachers etc.
 - Current spending in this area: Athletics, Reading Eggs, robotics, tools and books for the school.
- Sponsor another school's residency
- Invest in School Mission & Vision to increase school spirit and provide guiding principles for students to learn and to live by.
 - Principal Response: This is something that the school is currently working on and hoping to roll out next year.
- We only have 3 years to spend money from our Casino account, however our non-Casino account does not need to be spent in a specific amount of time.
 - Outcome: Let's use our non-Casino account to primarily save for future big ticket legacy items.

16. Fundraising: Laura Hubbard

- Purdy's Chocolate:
 - Should we hold this fundraiser in the spring?
 - Parent Society Vote: No
- What additional fundraisers should we plan for? Brainstorming included: 50/50, silent auction or bake sale for spring concert (May 7th) &/OR holding a parent night

17. Staff appreciation:

- Should we be doing more than the Parent Teacher night meals & coffee pods for staff?
- Discussion:

- Teacher appreciation is on May 7th. Earl Grey has a total of 20 staff members. We could consider showing our appreciation by:
 - Having parents doing supervision on May 7th
 - Providing Teacher appreciation gifts Ex. Purchasing Earl Grey Swag for them or giving a gift card
 - Providing a Coffee/Pop trolley that parents bring around to teachers.

18. Moving meetings to Monday going forward?

- March 16th, April 20th, May 11th & June 15th

19. Individual Action items:

- Laura to make Instagram account
- Ken to investigate getting an interest earning account for school funds
- Lynn to create a poster for Casino night and new Instagram account
- Principal/ Vice Principal to look into getting teachers shirt sizes so Earl Grey swag can be ordered for them.

20. Meeting Adjourned– 8:50pm

Signed By: *LKrasey*
Lynn Krasey - Chair

KGallagher
Kelsey Gallagher – Secretary

Appendix 1: Parent Society Purchases

Appendix

Year purchased / arrived	Items	Cost	# of times used in 2025-2026 school year	Used by which classes / teacher, (list all please)	Rating (1-5)
2024-2025 / Oct	Ozobots	\$2,670			
2024-2025 / ?	Div 1 coding robotics Edison	\$2,500			
2024-2025 / Oct	Dash coding robotics	\$1,772			
2024-2025 / Sept	4 Intermediate & \$ junior Playground Kits	\$1,508			
2024-2025 / Sept	9 square in the air	\$1,475			
2024-2025 / Sept	Pearson Bug Club Morphology (kit A, B)	\$1,000			
2024-2025 / Sept	Omnikin Ball + inflator	\$903			
2024-2025 / Oct	Projector	\$577			
2023-2024	Decodable readers L&L, K3	\$4,862			
2023-2024	Radio & battery	\$2,052			
2023-2024	Spin bike work desk	\$1,879			
2023-2024	Magnetic Lettersets	\$1,134			
2023-2024	6 rooker chair	\$1,001			
2023-2024	IPEVO document camera	\$583			
* Note this does not include Sensory Room, Mathletics, Reading Eggs or Printer Paper					

Appendix 2: February 27th E-mail Update from David Dyck

“Hi Lynn,

Thank you for your continued advocacy on safety at Earl Grey. I appreciate the thoughtful follow-up from Council and your patience as I reached out to various colleagues to gather the information below together.

Safety drill reports – “whose desk?”

Drill reports are reviewed through our Risk, Safety & Security and Response Management processes and land on the desk of the Director for Risk, Safety & Security. Principals complete a report after each lockdown drill, which contains the comments/feedback from Calgary Police Services as they conduct and debrief each lockdown drill. The Risk, Safety & Security team reviews each report and identifies any required follow-up with schools, and consolidates findings for leadership as needed. This ensures issues are addressed and trends inform our system practices.

Working group – timing

After the Council meeting in January, I spoke with Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Turner, who provided direction to hold a meeting with a working group with the Directors of Facilities, Risk, Safety & Security, Response Management, and Education Directors who support open-area schools. The group has met and the subsequent action was that all Education Directors were asked to submit schools with open area concepts, along with any questions or issues that have arisen.

Please see further updates below:

Facilities context (open-concept and Capital Plan prioritization)

Facilities advises that while we are evaluating how open-concept layouts may factor into the prioritization process for inclusion on the Three-Year School Capital Plan, the current criteria focuses on overall building condition, accessibility, energy efficiency, and project complexity.

Presently, having an open-concept layout alone is **not** a “trump card” as “we have over 30 schools system-wide with at least some degree of an open concept layout.” At present, Earl Grey is far enough back that unless the number of annual provincial approvals increase substantially (or the prioritization criteria change significantly), we are not likely to see it come up anytime soon. That said, priorities can fluctuate year to year and depending on the outcome of the above-mentioned evaluation, this could change.

I will keep Principal Christiansen and the Council informed as other updates become available.

Best Regards,
David”