

**MINUTES OF THE EARL GREY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, March 16th, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M. (MOUNTAIN TIME)
HELD VIRTUALLY**

Member Attendees: Kaylen Christiansen, Sandi Metz

Director Attendees:

- Chair: Lynn Krasey
- Secretary: Kelsey Gallagher
- Treasurer: Ken Little
- Casino Coordinator: Britt Obuck
- Volunteer Coordinator: Audra Zannis

Virtual Attendees:

- Priyaanka Diwan
- Vice Chair: Lindsey Huston
- Fun Lunch Coordinator: Kale Badura

In person Guest Attendees: N/A

Apologies:

- Fundraising Coordinator: Laura Hubbard
- Playground Coordinator: Katie Plintz
- Key Communications: Rihanna Vanin

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Call to order: 6:38pm** by Lynn Krasey
2. **Acknowledgement of the Land**
3. **Review & Approve Meeting Minutes:**
 - Approved February 2026 meeting minutes.
4. **Update from David Superintendent on safety of Open Plan Schools:** Lynn Krasey
 - See Appendix 1
5. **Principal Update:** Kaylen Christiansen
 - 2026 School Planning:
 - School Planning CBE video shown:
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVpYiu6jPiM>)
 - Our school development plan:
 - Guides ongoing assessment, review of goals & actions.
 - Is the driver for closing learning gaps and informs:

- Instructional strategies
 - Professional learning
 - School structures & processes for learning
 - Resources to improve student learning
 - Data-informed decision making
- Earl Grey's School Development Plan School:
 - Goal:
 - To improve student literacy
 - Outcome:
 - How will explicit writing instruction and purposeful writing task design improve student writing proficiency & confidence?
 - Outcome Measures:
 - Report Card Data- EAL Writing Stem
 - CBE Student Survey-Literacy (writing)
 - Alberta Education Assurance Measures Results Reporting-Student Learning Engagement measure
 - Data for Monitoring Progress:
 - Writing samples throughout the school year
 - Formative Assessments
 - Report Card Data January-June
 - EAL Writing Proficiency levels-September-January-June
 - OurSCHOOL Fall & Spring Data
 - Teachers all meet every 6-weeks, for a total of 6-cycles/school year. Teachers assess effectiveness of teaching and alter teaching as needed.
 - Learning Excellence Actions:
 - Build, share & use writing exemplars to enrich student understanding of &/or concrete success criteria for writing outcomes across grade levels.
 - Utilize high-impact strategies to explicitly teach & support planning, idea development, organization & edits. Such as structured literacy, explicit phonics instruction, academic vocabulary development.
 - Students will receive feedback that aligns with the learning intentions & success criteria in writing for next steps improvement.
 - Wellbeing Actions:
 - Honour student voice & choice (e.g. choice in how to demonstrate learning).
 - Provide actionable feedback that moves learners forward.
 - Provide repeated opportunities for learners to practice & consolidate literacy skills & knowledge.

- Use technologies intentionally & purposefully that support literacy practices and represent learning.
- Reconciliation, Diversity & Inclusion Action:
 - Design student & staff learning tasks that intentionally activate the spirit, heart, body & mind (Ex. Quickdraw Animation Studio Residency, Staff book study “Ensouling our Schools”).
 - Provide students with opportunities to interactively and collaboratively construct text(s).
 - Consider relevancy & representation when selecting texts.
- How do we do this all:
 - Professional Learning
 - Structures & Processes
 - Resources
- Optional 2nd Earl Grey School Development Plan:
 - Goal:
 - To strengthen student belonging & connection through culturally responsive practices.
 - Outcome Measures:
 - CBE Student Survey- Culture & Belonging
 - OurSCHOOL Student Survey- Culture & Belonging
 - Alberta Education Assurance Measures
 - Results Reporting
 - Data Monitoring Process:
 - Curriculum Audit: Regulatory audit of the curriculum to ensure it includes diverse perspectives and materials that reflect various cultures & histories
 - CBE Student Survey
 - Alberta Education Assurance Measures
 - OurSCHOOL Fall & Spring Data
 - Student & Staff Feedback
 - Regular tracking of resources reflect and support diversity and inclusion and are accessible, culturally responsive, and promote multiple backgrounds, identities and experiences of students.
 - Learning Excellence Actions:
 - Embed culturally responsive teaching practices across subject areas through intentional planning & responsive assessments.
 - Design learning experiences that reflect diverse identities, histories, and perspectives, particularly indigenous ways of knowing.

- Well-Being Actions:
 - Host cultural awareness events, celebrations &/or projects where students can honor various cultures.
 - Culturally responsive teaching: Equip teachers with tools to create classrooms that reflect & respect the diversity of the student body, tailoring lessons to different learning styles & cultural backgrounds.
 - Truth & Reconciliation, Diversity & Inclusion Actions:
 - Use & offer access to inclusive, linguistically & culturally diverse texts.
 - Cultural storytelling: Create opportunities for students & teachers to share their personal or family stories, focusing on diverse cultural traditions, holidays or values.
 - Engage in whole school professional learning.
 - Additional Discussion: The staff want students' voices to be heard Ex. They are encouraging students to come together to organize a "Culture Day" this year that will celebrate all cultures. Staff will meet with the students in April and likely hold Culture Day in May 2026.
- Questions from Parent Council about School Development Plans:
 - Question 1: It sounds lapriike creating this plan is very procedure heavy, is it effective?
 - Response 1: The Principal/Vice principal feels the 6-week cycles are a great timeline for implementation & then reflection on effectiveness of learning.
 - Response 2: Teaching has become one of the loneliest professions. Having teachers meet every 6-weeks is a time to connect and collaborate. Collaborative response and fireside chats are the biggest things that teachers want to keep. This is the first year that the school has really dug into this.
 - Question 2: Has the way children learn really changed that much over the years?
 - Response 1: The Vice Principal reflected on a structured literacy course she completed in recent years. From this she learnt that there is very good quality research on literacy that dates to the 60s. Since then, there have been a lot of influences from various businesses in literacy. Over the past 7-8 years Earl Grey has tried to get back to core literacy research instead of letting companies influence how literacy is taught in the school.

- Response 2: The Principal & Vice Principal reflected on how previously only K-Grade 2 teachers needed to have proficiency in teaching students how to read, but that now with English as a Second Language, students with special needs etc. the school recognizes the need for teachers from K-Grade 6 to all know how to teach students how to read.
- School Budget:
 - Our School received \$2,054,443 in 2025-26.
 - 97% of the budget was put towards staffing. The remaining portion covers instructional & operational supplies.
 - Note: In March all CBE schools were given the month to purchase food related items. In response to this our school has purchased hydroponics for the classes.
- Our 2025-26 School Fees:
 - We will consult with families by outlining proposed activities for the upcoming year that may require a fee for cost recovery.
 - This year these fees were applied to Eco School, Rocks & Rings, Residencies, Field Trips, In School Field Trips (Ex. Wet felting) & Outdoor School. There is also a \$10 CBE Noon Activity Supply Fee, emergency lunches, cutlery & inclement weather activities, bandaids etc.
- Getting Your Feedback: School Development Plan Survey for Parent Council:
 - Do you agree that your child's learning can benefit from the goal(s), outcomes, actions and resources in the School Development Plan?
 - Council Feedback: It seems like a very time-consuming task to put together. It would be great to take out some of the jargon out to make it more direct.
 - A QR code was provided for attendees of this meeting to provide feedback on the School Development Plan.
- Note: The School Development plan slides presented at Parent Council today will be posted on the school website in May 2026.
- Residences Review 2025/26:
 - What did we like/dislike about each one?
 - In-line skating: Kids & teachers liked this residency. They also liked that there was a nighttime event.
 - Flames: Kids and teachers liked this residency
 - Rock & Rings: Kids and teachers liked this residency
 - Animation: Felt that the kindergarteners, grade 1 and 2's abilities were underestimated. Overall felt that the people running it could have been better organized to help allow the students to better accomplish the animation tasks. The presenters do not have a background talking to kids. Overall,

there was a question of whether this was good value for the cost of it.

- Elevate: Kids & teachers liked this residency.
- Earth Rangers: this was not a residency, but the principal loved it.
- Kananaskis: was not done this year, but is a residency that has been liked in the past.

EARL GREY PARENT SOCIETY MEETING

6. Call to Order: 7:46pm Lynn Krasey

7. Review Action Items: Ken Little

- An Interest Account has been created for non-casino funds.
- This will earn 1.7% interest annually.
- Ken will put \$20,000 of the \$24,000 into this interest earning account. The goal of this account is to grow funds set aside for future projects. \$4,000 will be kept out of this account at this time. This will serve as a buffer for more immediate projects.

8. Review of Successes:

- Instagram Account Creation for Parent Society (Thank you Laura!)
- Casino sign up is now live (Thank you Britt!). Casino flyers were also shared at parent-teacher night (Thank you Laura!)
- Walkie Talkies have arrived & were given to teachers (Thank you Lynn!)
- Earl Grey Swag website is up and running. Parent Society has decided to sponsor teachers getting a swag item of their choosing as part of Teacher Appreciation. These will arrive in May 2026. Council will wrap these for the teachers. Students may present them to the teachers in an assembly or they may be given at a different time.

9. How are casino signups looking for volunteers? Britt Obuck

- We have a long way to go with recruitment and need more volunteers.
- We will push for more volunteers at spring concert on May 7th.
- Kaylen will advertise this in the weekly message and the Earl Grey website.
- Discussion of creating a contest for a winning class with the most people that have signed up may be done to further promote the event.

10. Residency Funding: Lynn Krasey

- Issue:
 - There is currently \$32,000 in our Casino Account, but of the things that we have already approved this will leave us with \$12,000 at the end of this school year (2025/26).
 - Our non-casino account has \$24,000 in it, but council is choosing to save \$20,000 of these funds for future projects.

- The budget for next year will be discussed in June 2026. We will not know what amount of funds were generated from this year's Casino until August 2026.
- Lynn would like to wait on planning residences for 2026/2027 school year until we know how much money we will get from the Casino.
- Proposed solution:
 - In the interim the Parent Society will make 2 budgets "the need budget" and "the want budget".
 - The Principal will make a list of "need to do residencies" (Ex. Quest, soccer, in line etc.). Extra residencies can be funded by council or by fees that parents pay for.

11. Meeting Adjourned– 7:58pm

Signed By: *L Krasey*
Lynn Krasey - Chair

K Gallagher
Kelsey Gallagher – Secretary

Appendix 1: 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”