

Battalion Park School Council Meeting
April 13, 2026 6:30PM
Battalion Park School

MINUTES

Present: Ateeque Patel, Chair Person
Co Chair Meela Gunawardena
Christina Tuttle, Principal
Lisa Wilson, Assistant Principal
Kristi McKinnon, SHSES Representative
Brian McKinnon, SHSES President
Tessa Lee
Marija Ivanovic
Michelle Atkins
Huyan Phan
Irsa

1. **Call to Order** - The regular meeting was called to order by Ateeque Patel at 6:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** –Ateeque Patel, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made. No parents online Land Acknowledgement by Ateeque
3. **Approval of the Agenda** – The agenda was approved as presented, or, as amended. 1st Brian McKinnon 2nd Maria Ivanovic

Looking for Co-chair, Co-vice chair and Secretary

Alberta Education Grant \$500.00 student learning at home, multi cultural or indigenous learning support, parent engagement. Last meeting we had some recommendations: see agenda

Recommended was an evening with Jamie Pope Psychologist in Calgary who talks about Helping kids and families. Looking for a volunteer to contact Jamie Pope. Tessa Lee will contact Jamie. Christina - is Jamie Pope available June 8 and if not another date.

4. **Approval of the Minutes** – The minutes of the meeting held on February 10, 2026 were approved as presented. Brian 1st and Tessa 2nd

5. Business Arising From Minutes

- 5.1 In follow-up to the request to provide the school office with contact information for school council members, to date, there are some members who have not provided this information.
- 5.2 The date for the upcoming concert, previously discussed, will be October 10, 2016.

6. New Business

- 6.1 CBE Specialist on School Development plan. Tara Xavier is a specialist they are working with. Self regulated Strategy Development (SRSD) Slow transition. Sentences and sentence expansion with students. Looking at the sprints that they do throughout the year with the students, teachers do work for 2 weeks with kids and look at it, do new planning and sprint again. They have been looking at enhancing a variety of sentences. They will look at the data again in May. Teachers are finding success with students. All the teachers are happy with it. Llsa - while it seems simple literacy is one of the hardest things to teach. Reading and writing is very complex and different brains process things differently. Building blocks help build the foundation of literacy skills. Tara is very engaging with the teachers.
- 6.2 Events - April calendar of events. Please see the agenda.
- 6.3 - Clarification on what EES is.
- 6.4 SHSES Update - Brian McKinnon - Next Casino Draw Date May 2027. Casino will be Oct, November, or December 2027. At the last casino we made over \$90,000.00. The payout the school gets is an average of the quarter. June 29, 2026 playground will officially be removed. It will take about 1 week to do. Volunteer build July 27-31, 2026. We are still not 100% there for the funding. No construction experience is necessary. Will save tens

of thousands of dollars to have parents doing this. With a volunteer build we can do a concrete border around the pour and play. Christina - how many volunteers and how much time do we need to have each person commit. Brian said Parks Calgary is coordinating the volunteer build. The playground manufacturer wants 60 volunteers and 8 hour shifts. Parks thinks 4 hour shifts would be better. We will have expertise helping us out. The bigger pieces we will defer to the playground manufacturer. Parks is experienced in volunteer builds. They will reach out to corporate volunteers to help out. Teams from companies can come out and help with community engagement. Had a Pave the Way campaign. We wanted \$25,000.00 and got \$5300.00. Will try and do an updated communication to see if we can get the rest. One of the "donations" they applied for gave us \$5000.00. With that funding is ~ 90% funded for the playground \$423,000 out of the \$478,000. There will be a new buddy bench and there will be 2 picnic tables one of which is going to be accessible. The accessible picnic table will need to be paved. Offered to the Chen family to have something meaningful to them on the benches. Ryan Chen is a former grade one student who passed from cancer. Parents created a foundation and every year they have an award for 2 grade 6 students. SHSES reached out to the family and asked for their input by next week. Some paving between the playground and the school still missing. Approved by CBE, but still need the funding. Landscaping rehabilitated going down the hill. We want all the gravel gone. Priority is to have all the paving done so it is accessible. This month is a big month for Grants. Kal Tire, Rick Hansen and Sandbox Insurance. Kristi is doing a great job promoting this all on Instagram. Pour and play needs to be ordered by the end of the month.

Bottle Drive April 16, 2026

Plant Fundraiser starts in April

Texas Donut Fundraiser June

Dance - looking at alternate dates as the Events Coordinator stepped down

Art Cards - Meela will follow up for what their 50% off fundraising costs look like.

Brian and Kristi looking at stepping down at the end of the calendar year

Secretary - Their kids are in grade 6

Treasurer - has been around for a while and would like to step down

Brian - President

Jessica Moran - VP her children have left 3 years ago.

Kristi - Director

Ruth -Secretary

Mike - Treasurer

All the grant financials need to be in by December 31, 2026. The playground is being done so not a lot to do right now. Casino will be the biggest thing coming up. The Core playground is looking at closer to \$700,000.00. Brian and Kristi have a plan to maybe replace parts, not the whole playground. Replace the Beehive and the Apollo. Could do this with the 2027 Casino funds and the rest could last for another 7 years.

Potential grand opening for the Mini playground September 26, 2026.

7. Executive Committee Update

7.1 Key communicator update - Marija - late meeting in January as there was a vote for new trustees. Patricia Bolger still out trustee. Willing to continue working with us and doing another visit. Updated what a trustee does. What a School Parent Council is. Education Matters spoke - They are a fundraising partner for the CBE. Grant for \$500.00 we are getting that again. New meeting April 22, 2026 and one more in June. Our June meeting is before their meeting. Ateeque would be able to get Patricia to come to the September meeting. September is the AGM. Should we look at a different date? Brian - If we bring her back could we follow up for her about parent support for playground builds. There is no support for parents to build this. Kristi has to contact 6 different schools to figure out how to do this. It is beyond a tall order for volunteers to raise almost half a million dollars and not have a manual. Kristi is you go on the Parks Foundation website there is at least 30 schools at a time building a playground. Christina - Education is Provincial and who might be responsible for this? Patricia follows up on Instagram and reposts everything. October meeting might be better. Marija will get in touch with her. Next meeting we will be sorting out dates for parent council meetings

7.2 Parent Engagement

7.3 Next meeting - possible date change - Monday May 11 instead of May 12.

7.4

7.5

8. **Next Meeting** - The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2026 at 6:30. The location will

be Battalion Park School

9. **Adjourned** – Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Notes prepared by Meela Gunawardena. (Signature)

Approved by S. Smith, Chair _____ (Signature)