

John G. Diefenbaker School Council Meeting Minutes November 18, 2025

Meeting called to order at: 6:00pm

Welcome & Introductions

Attendance:

Executive: Maïke Horn, Amber Abbott, Brooklyn Shill, Kara Payne, Jennifer Razzo

Administration/Faculty: Jason Arrell

Members: Michelle Wood, Shelagh McConnell, Anna Mazur

Students: Winnie, Safiya, Kylan

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Motion to approve agenda – Amber

Approved – Jennifer

Motion to approve previous Meeting Minutes – Over email September 26, 2025

Chair Report

Maïke Horn

- Meeting dates revisited (due to conflict with neighbouring SJAM. Will continue to meet 6:00 - 7:30pm.
 - **January 13**
 - **March 31 (AGM)**
 - **April 14**
 - **June 16**
- Parent Engagement Grant
 - \$1000 this year
 - Ideas: host another Post Secondary Application/Scholarships evening
 - Maïke to reach out to see possible dates

Casino Fundraiser

Jennifer Razzo

- Casino (Ace Casino Airport) this coming Friday and Saturday (Nov 21/22)
 - Meals/snacks provided to volunteers
- Volunteers needed for various positions and times
 - Banker: Saturday 11am-7:30pm
 - General Manager: Saturday 7:15pm - 3:45am
 - Few back up shifts also available

Treasurer's Balance

Brooklyn Shill

- Current Casino Balance = \$63,738.13
- General Fund Balance = \$2,534.35
- Funding requests will be reviewed in the Parent Association meeting

Student Council Report (STUCCO)

Winnie, Safiya, Kylan

- Past Events:
 - Remembrance Day Ceremony
 - Video shown in TA
 - Choir and cadets contributed
 - Terry Fox Day
 - Two teachers shaved their head in support of cancer
 - BBQ after the run
- Upcoming Events:
 - Winter Pep Rally
 - Highlight winter sports teams
 - Student Santa will be handing out some gifts
 - Games
 - Santa's Workshop
 - Gingerbread house
 - Cookie decorating
 - Ride of the Chiefs (ROTC) date confirmed: **April 17, 2026**

Administration Report (Jason Arrell)

Jason Arrell (Principal)

- June Diploma results not yet released (by the Government)
- Term 1 report cards viewable starting Dec 3
- Graduation: **June 5, 2026**
 - Ceremony: Centre Street Event Centre
 - 3 tickets guaranteed; may have overflow seats and will also be live streamed
 - Walk the stage criteria
 - 100 credits (all required courses); by end of summer
 - In good standing (behaviour)
 - Grad list posted after Term 1 marks are submitted
 - Reception: Winsport 2:30-5pm
 - Unlimited guest
 - Approved cost \$60-&65
- School Development Plan
 - Goal 1: Student academic achievement will improve to further enhance the 3 year High School Completion**
 - High School Completion Rate:

3 year rate increased to 87.6% from 82.5% (Provincial average 81%)

5 year rate 90.2% (Provincial average 87.1%)

○ Strategies:

- Focus on our -2 and -3 learners
- Reassessment, flexible dates, attendance expectations/enforcement
- Credit recovery
- Student Learning Centre

Goal 2: Students experience of feeling safe and welcome at school will increase

- 91% of students believe their teachers want them to be successful
- 91% of students believe their teachers have high expectations for their learning
- 85% of students believe learning and extracurricular activities are safe and accessible to all students
- 86% of students believe their teachers care about them
- 69% of students feel safe at school**
- Decrease in the number of students who feel they belong
 - Develop student focus groups to identify why students are feeling this way
- Required Alberta Education Assurance Measures Survey- Overall Summary
 - Survey sent to parents to get their perspectives on various measures such student learning engagement, citizenship, parent involvement etc.
 - Diefenbaker numbers were lower than a lot of Provincial averages, but despite this we have higher High School completion rates

Questions from Parents:

- Grad Photos- usually in January
- Year Books- look in Power school (optional fees) to order them

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm

Upcoming Meetings

January 13

March 31 - AGM (need 21 day notice)

April 14

June 16

Minutes approved over email December 7, 2025 - Motion By Jennifer, Second by Amber