

# John G. Diefenbaker School Council Meeting Minutes

## April 14, 2026

Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm

### Welcome & Introductions

#### Attendance:

Executive: Maiké Horn, Brooklyn Shill, Kara Payne, Jennifer Razzo

Administration/Faculty: Jason Arrell, Cat Turner, Michelle Hornby (SJAM Admin)

Members: Hope Lewis, Shelagh McConnell, Michelle Wood

Special Guest: Laura Hack

### Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Motion to approve agenda Jennifer, Second by Michelle

*Minutes approved over email April 20, 2026*

### Administration Report (Jason Arrell)

#### **Jason Arrell (Principal)**

- 2026-27 School Year
  - Projected 1460 students
  - Funding may be affected based on:
    - Temporary Residents- 43 students
    - Community Adjustment- 40 students
  - Funding finalized September 30, 2026
- Grad Update
  - Parent Meeting tomorrow night (April 15 @6pm)
  - 4 tickets per student for the ceremony (cost covered from grad fee)
  - Reception tickets \$65/ticket

### Chair Report

Maiké Horn

- Collingwood School Council seeking support from other School Councils for an Advocacy resolution to promote manageable class size & composition in Alberta classrooms so that our students get the time and attention they deserve at school.
  - **Goal: advocating for clear, enforceable class capacity caps and a learner complexity weighting scale to appropriately account for learner's needs**
  - Will be presented at the Alberta School Council Association AGM on April 25th, 2026.  
Motion to support Michelle, Second Brooklyn, Approved by all
- ROTC having 50/50 Raffle

## Treasurer's Balance

### Brooklyn Shill

- General Account Balance- March 31, 2026: \$2,984.35
  - Available balance (minus approved expenses from last meeting): \$1336.25
- Casino Account Balance-March 31, 2026: \$135,162.33
  - Total approved expenses: \$31,100.00

## School Trustee Laura Hack

### Questions

How are you supporting teachers since the Teachers strike?

- They are not employed for/by teaches; they are elected and number one job is to advocate for students, but students cannot succeed without teachers
- Ensuring focus is on equity, student results, staff and student wellness
  - Trying to focus on staff wellness; survey coming
  - Teaching is important (shaping the future) so we need to take care of them

How will Bill 25 (An Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms and Amend the Education Act, ) affect the School Boards/Trustees? [Bill 25 fact sheet](#)

- Roles that will now fall to the Government instead of Trustees:
  - Education plan
  - Naming of schools
  - Hiring of chief superintendent for school division (will require approval from Minister of Education)
- New Code of Conduct for Trustees

What can parents do to support the students and teachers?

- Vote!
- Show up for the kids; ask them about the learning conditions in their school
- Support the school- find out what's going on in the school
- More parent involvement
- Write letters to your MLA (good and bad)

What does the budget look like for the next school year?

- Budget from Government is expected April 16
- CBE educates 1 in 6 students in the province of Alberta
- Funding received per student \$10,342 (less that other school boards)

What is being done about school capacity issues?

- Capital project fall under Government, not the school boards/divisions
- Average High School capacity at 108% (Provincially)
- CBE requested 27 projects (new schools (21), additions (1), replacement school (2)),

- modernization (2), solutions projects for aging elementary schools (2).
- Requesting a large number of modular classrooms for short term space solutions.
  - Every space is being used in schools like music rooms, learning commons etc which results in less programming flexibility.

Other

- Additional information was presented on handouts regarding per student budgeting, capital planning, class size and complexity, and how we can contact our elected officials to advocate for education.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm

Upcoming Meetings

June 16