

Caledonia Park School Council Meeting

Agenda – March 16, 2026

Attendees: Sarah Coenen, Donavin Simmons, Andrea Santa, Sharon MacDonald, Kyla Olson, Niki Bergsma, Erin McIntyre, Jody Dowle, Kelly Patterson

Apologies: Hannah Radford, Kale Whitehead, Terri Beer

Call meeting to order at: 6:34 pm

Approval of Agenda by *Andrea Santa* seconded by *Donavin Simmons*.

Approval of previous minutes by *Andrea Santa* seconded by *Donavin Simmons*.

Trustees Report:

1. Andrea to provide full trustee report if wanting further details.

Notes: School visits, newly elected executive, looking to recognize parent volunteers and volunteers from school – how would we like to do this.

Principal's Report/Teachers (Donavin):

1. I'm pleased to share that schools throughout the province have successfully secured a Federal Nutrition Grant, which will serve as a vital supplement to our existing provincial funding for our snack, breakfast, and lunch programs. While this federal support was technically available to Alberta previously, its recent implementation comes at a critical juncture as we all navigate the sustained impact of inflation and the astronomical rise in the cost of living. In this economic climate, maximizing every available resource has become an absolute necessity to ensure our students remain well-nourished and ready to learn. This additional grant provides a crucial bridge, allowing us to maintain and even enhance our meal offerings as we adapt to the shifting landscape and the growing needs of our school family. We were also able to purchase a sliding cooler and freezer for the parent association with these funds as well.
2. We are looking forward to hosting Student-Led Conferences on March 26th. These conferences represent a shift from the traditional parent-teacher model, placing your child in the "driver's seat" of their own educational journey. By having students present their work and reflect on their progress, they develop essential skills in self-advocacy, accountability, and communication. This process not only reinforces their understanding of the curriculum but also empowers them to take pride in their achievements and set meaningful goals for the remainder of the school year. We believe this collaborative approach strengthens the connection between home and school, ensuring we are all working together to support your child's unique path to success.
3. Looking ahead to the next school year, we are thrilled to announce the introduction of Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) option classes for our Grade 5 through 7 students. Scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, these sessions will provide a dynamic space for students to explore a wide variety of pathways tailored to their unique passions and interests. By showcasing diverse careers and hands-on skills, the CTF program encourages students to make meaningful connections between their classroom learning and the world beyond the school walls. This initiative is designed to spark curiosity, build practical confidence, and help our young learners begin identifying the

potential career paths and hobbies that excite them most.

4. We want to address a trend we've noticed regarding the "school-yard version of telephone" that can occasionally occur within our community conversations. While we value open communication, we have seen instances where a minor incident at school undergoes multiple retellings, evolving into something far more serious than the reality of the situation. For example, a misguided game of "kneeing a friend in the bum", while certainly a disciplinary matter we handle, can, after several conversations, be mischaracterized as a predatory touching concern. These escalations can cause unnecessary alarm and distress for families. We kindly ask that if you hear a concerning report, you reach out to the school directly for clarification.
5. It is great to see some of our enrollment initiatives gaining momentum as we focus on growing our school community. The LHA Hockey Program is a fantastic example of how we are drawing students from a wide variety of schools to CPS, with over 40 interested athletes already showing how a specialized program can do this. Similarly, we have seen a positive response to our Kindy Care offering, which has provided a much-needed boost to our early childhood numbers by supporting busy families. However, it is important to note that our overall Kindergarten enrollment remains significantly lower than in previous years. This isn't unique to our halls; it is a division-wide trend we are monitoring closely as demographic shifts affect schools across the region.
6. On Friday, March 13th, I was one of BGSD's representatives to go to Kings University to do mock interviews with student teachers nearing graduation and speak at their career fair. This was an excellent opportunity to see future educators and get a pulse on the caliber of new teacher recruits.
7. Earlier this month, I was able to meet with BGSD's new Communications Officer. She is an award-winning media relations person, whom we are very lucky to have on staff. We spoke on things like geofencing, proper social media use for schools, and digital citizenship.

Chair Report (Andrea)(ASCA Updates, BGSD Updates & New Business):

1. ASCE Grant - tabling the idea of the course until we can get a bit more engagement, open to ideas on a literacy night etc.

Parent Q&A

1. Anything not answered off the hop can be answered at the next meeting or discussed and emailed to parents

Date of Next Meeting: *April 27th at 6:00 pm*

Meeting adjourned: *7:21 pm*