

Caledonia Park School Council Meeting

Agenda – April 27, 2026

Attendees: Hannah Radford, Erin McIntyre, Niki Bergsma, Kyla Olson, Kale Whitehead, Donavin Simmons, Terri Beer, Sarah Coenen

Apologies: Kelly Patterson, Sharon MacDonald, Shantel Bauer, Andrea Santa, Jody Dowle

Call meeting to order at: 6:27 pm

Approval of Agenda by *Kyla Olson* seconded by *Niki Bergsma*.

Approval of previous minutes by *Niki Bergsma* seconded by *Erin McIntyre*.

Trustees Report:

Principal's Report/Teachers (Donavin):

1. Provincial Update: Bill 25 Overview

On March 31, 2026, the provincial government introduced Bill 25: An Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms. This legislation proposes several significant amendments to the Education Act that focus on neutrality, provincial oversight, and a shift in how school environments are defined. Key changes include:

Changes to School Environment Language: The Bill replaces existing requirements for "welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe" environments with new language focusing on "safe and caring environments that maintain respectful and responsible behaviours." This includes a mandate for student codes of conduct to explicitly prohibit violence and define the student's role in prevention.

Neutrality and Oversight: The Bill introduces new provincial regulations regarding the display of flags, the playing of the national anthem, and the naming of school buildings. It also requires that any educational programming not already authorized by the Education Act must be fair, impartial, and free of personal bias. Additionally, school boards will be restricted from issuing statements on political or social matters that are not directly relevant to their legal obligations.

Academic and Administrative Mandates: The legislation moves toward provincial strategic priorities, including the digital administration of all provincial assessments and new requirements for intervention supports based on literacy and numeracy screening results. It also grants the Minister new authorities regarding the transfer of closed or vacant school buildings and unused land to the Crown.

2. Safety & Preparedness: Understanding Hour Zero Protocols

We have recently activated several Hour Zero protocols. While these can cause concern, it is important to remember that these responses are designed to keep our students and staff safe in specific scenarios. To clear up any confusion, here is a breakdown of the four distinct protocols we utilize:

Lockdown: Used when there is a human threat inside the building. All interior doors are locked,

lights are turned off, and everyone stays out of sight.

Hold and Secure: Used when there is a human threat outside the building (e.g., police activity in the neighborhood). Business continues as usual inside, but all exterior doors are locked, and no one enters or leaves.

Shelter in Place: Used for non-human incidents, such as extreme weather or a medical emergency in a common area. This keeps hallways clear and students safe where they are.

Evacuation: Used when it is safer outside than inside, such as during a fire or gas leak.

3. Leadership, Staffing, and the "Whirlwind" Week

Last week was exceptionally busy for the administration team. Sharon and I attended ULead (an international leadership conference in Banff), conducted our 2026-27 Staffing Meetings, and participated in the BGSD Admin Summit.

4. Staffing for Next Year

The staffing process is a complex puzzle. Accurate enrollment projections are paramount, as they dictate our funding for teachers, support staff, and grade configurations. Given the trend of declining enrollment across the division, we must also plan for the movement of staff between schools. Because these decisions affect people's careers and livelihoods, details remain confidential until all affected individuals are notified. We will update the school community as soon as we are able.

5. Complexity and the LIFT Cohort

At the Admin Summit, a major theme was the increasing complexity of the modern classroom. Data from ULead suggests that 94% of Alberta teachers have seen an increase in complexity since 2021, yet funding has not kept pace. In response, we are encouraged by the success of our LIFT cohort classroom. By providing students who need 1:1 attention a specific cohort environment in the afternoons, we have seen:

- Decreased student anxiety.
- Increased motivation to attend school.
- Noticeable growth in learning outcomes as reported by both parents and teachers.
- Professional PD: The State of Hope in Education

6. The ULead conference provided sobering but vital data regarding the teaching profession in Alberta.

The Challenge: 74% of teachers and 88% of school leaders report a lack of overall hope in the profession, citing issues like curriculum changes, increased standardized testing, and the polarization of community dynamics.

The "Why": Factors include expanded priorities without funding and an increase in aggression from students and parents (gossip, distrust, or phone calls) that erodes the sense of shared ownership.

The Silver Lining: Despite these hurdles, 77% of educators find moments of hope every single day through student success and colleague collaboration. Hope is future-oriented; it is something we must actively strive for together.

7. Grade 7 Farewell

On Friday, our Grade 7 teachers met to go over our Grade 7 farewell assembly and celebration. It was also talked about at our Student Council meeting. The Grade 7 students are looking for something simple, although they voted, and want to make it a formal attire event. Therefore, we will do an afternoon assembly at the school, much like they did last year. They will have some speeches, a slideshow, certificates etc. We have booked Friday, June 19th, in the afternoon.

8. Conflict vs. Bullying

To conclude, I would like to move into a brief presentation regarding the differences between social conflict and bullying. It is vital that we use the same language when addressing student behavior so we can respond effectively and supportively.

(Transition to Slideshow)

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

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: *June 8th at 6:00 pm*

Meeting adjourned: *7:15 pm*