King George School Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024 7:00-8:30 PM

Attendance

Chair: Steven R.

Co-Vice Chair: Andrew C. Co-Vice Chair: Whitney P. Co-Treasurer: Barry R. Co-Treasurer: Janine M. Secretary: Kelsey S.

Key Communicator: Andrew C.

Fundraising Coordinator: Jenny M. (absent)
Volunteer Coordinator: Jenny M. (absent)
Naturalization Coordinator: Sarah A.
Transportation Coordinator: Sarah A.

Casino Coordinator: Barry R.

GP Vanier Liaisons: Sarah A. & Barry R.

Principal: Allison Hull

Assistant Principal: Renee Samson

KGS Staff: Mme Melanie Mme Joanne Mme Caron Mme Shannah

Tasha

Katherine L-J

Azmina D-S

Erik S.

Kikue N.

Darren M.

CW Pam

Safia K.

Lacassagne

Shannon M.

7:02 PM Item 1 Call to Order	Steven R.	Meeting Called to Order
7:02 PM Item 2 Acknowledgement of the Land	Renee S.	Mme Renee shared this evening's Land Acknowledgement. Thank you Mme Renee. King George School shared their TRC Call to Action with the school community on June 21, 2024. KGS staff will be working to weave indigenous ways throughout the curriculum on a daily basis, emphasizing learning from the land.

7:04 PM Item 3 Welcome and Introductions	Steven R.	 Welcome! Welcome and thank you for joining the meeting. Those attending online are invited to join in through the meeting chat or by raising their digital hand. This is a safe and respectful space. We are all members of the KGS community. We respect each other's ideas and opinions. We request that you ask respectful and thoughtful questions and respect those of others. 	
7:07 PM Item 4 Approval of Meeting Agenda	Steven R.	Move to approve meeting agenda: Sarah Second: Andrew Motion carried unanimously.	
7:08 PM Item 5 Approval of June 2024 Meeting Minutes	Steven R.	Move to approve June 2024 meeting minutes: Sarah Second: Whitney Motion carried unanimously.	
7:10 PM Item 6 Teacher's Report	Allison H.	A few teachers will be joining each meeting to give an update of the learning happening in their classroom/grade level. Thank you, teachers, for taking the time to provide this update! Grade 1: Mme Joanne There are six grade 1 classes this year. All classes are currently working on routines, using classroom materials, lining up, building class community and establishing student connections. Focusing on basic concepts including the French alphabet, letter sounds, number concepts from 1-20, and vocabulary (colours, basic phrases, classroom objects). Lots of songs, games, centres, and stories to create a fun and engaging atmosphere where kids are excited to be learning the french language. The Mind-Up program is being used school-wide this year. Students are practicing self-regulation, helping students focus and prepare for learning. Practicing strategies first thing in the morning, after lunch, and after recess. Grade 5: Mme Melonie There are four grade 5 classes this year. Currently working on building a classroom community. Incorporating Mind-Up into daily routines. Starting the year focusing on argumentative writing (English), mapping skills, collecting & analyzing data, weather science, and cooperative games. Students have been incorporating math concepts into weather science and school events such as the Terry Fox run. Resource Teacher & Learning Leader: Mme Shannah Working with King George teachers to continue building teacher capacity, focusing on social-emotional learning and leading the Mind-Up program. Each grade level has a weekly Mind-Up session with either Mme Renee, Mme Allison, Mme Shannah, Mme Rosie, or Mme Claire.	

Grade 2: Mme Caron Focusing on reading. The goal for the end of grade 2 is for students to know all of their sounds in French and various reading strategies. Will be focusing on reading with decodable books. 7:28 PM Allison H. Thank you teachers for joining us this evening! Item 7 Renee S. Principal's Report School Start Up September is about students and teachers getting to know each other, and building classroom communities. This year is off to a great start! **Grade 3 Classes** The five planned grade 3 classes had to be reorganized into four classes, as there ended up being 22 fewer students in grade 3 than expected. • The budget in the fall is based on the number of students enrolled in the school on Sept. 27. CBE provides projections going into each school year and projected KGS to have 710 students. School admin always staff conservatively as it is better to hire a teacher in the fall if the numbers allow, than collapse a class and let a teacher go. If a school is going to surplus a teacher it has to be done by Sept. 6. At that date KGS did not have enough students to afford an entire teacher. • Communication was sent out to grade 3 families as soon as possible to explain the situation and create the fewest disruptions to learning. Each of the four grade 3 classes are at 27-28 students, which is slightly below average for CBE class size, and KGS has not had to go to multi-grade classes. **Additional Staffing Updates** KGS has additional supports (Mme Renee, Mme Allison, Mme Shannah) as well as a 0.5 FTE teacher available to work with students requiring intervention. • KGS has hired a third EA this year (French EA) who will be able to support students at higher levels in French. KGS has a new library assistant (20 hrs/week). She has been doing a fantastic job of setting up and organizing the learning commons. Students will start signing out books in October. **Coffee and Conversations with Administration** This event will offer opportunities for one on one conversations with members of the school community who wish to bring ideas to the school's attention. Coffee and Conversations will be held monthly, usually the morning after school council meetings. First Coffee and Conversations date/time: Friday, September 20th, 8:00-8:40 AM. Safety Week: September 16-20, 2024 A lockdown drill was held on Thursday afternoon, with support from Calgary Police Service, and a very successful fire drill took place on Wednesday. The entire school is able to be out of the building in under 2 minutes! Teachers have been working with students on safety both inside and outside of the building.

- Students have been practicing crosswalk safety: "Point, Pause, Proceed"
- In the interest of keeping all students safe on their way to and from school,
 KGS encourages families to park further away and walk a few blocks to move traffic away from the school.

School Fees

• KGS has agreed upon no more than \$100/child for 2024/25 school fees.

2024/25 Field Trips

- Admin discussed parent feedback regarding field trips with teachers.
- KGS is being proactive about field trips this year and will be able to share dates in the upcoming weeks. Families will be able to mark field trip dates in their calendars well in advance and fees will be posted.

Government Assessments for Grade 1, 2, 3 Students

- These assessments are used to inform teaching practices.
- KGS received funding for each teacher to have a sub for a day to allow for time to complete one-on-one assessments with students.
- Government assessments will be completed by grade 1, 2, and 3 teachers across the province in September and January. Kindergarten teachers will complete assessments in January as well.

Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting Upgrade

• This work will take place between 2:30-4:30 AM so it doesn't disrupt learning. Do not be alarmed if you see work happening at the school during the night!

Spending Update (School Council Supported Funds)

- Noise-canceling headphones: \$430
- Flexible furniture (floor rockers, wiggle stool, stand up desks): \$7830.64
- Decodable books: \$6282.72
- Math resources: \$5064.31
- 2 Smartboards: \$11 184.72
 - Not all teachers have a Smartboard in their classroom hoping that every teacher will have one by the end of the school year.
- Wishlist for 2024/25:
 - Field trip bussing: bussing for one field trip/class, approximately 28 classes, approximately \$300 per bus
 - Gaga ball pit (As per CBE regulations, no wooden structures are allowed on school grounds. The current gaga ball pit will be removed.)
 - Calm corner furnishings and self-regulation tools (i.e. carpets, regulation tools, flexible seating)
 - Grades 3-5 English decodable books

8:01 PM Item 8 Chair's Report

Steven R.

Chair's Update

- Thank you teachers and administration for joining us this evening and for the amazing role out of the 2024/25 school year.
- Thank you volunteers for helping with the pancake breakfast!
- School Council AGM will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. Elections will be held for all 11 positions (all roles are outlined on the school website).

		You can contact the school council at kgschoolcouncil@gmail.com or visit the school council website at https://linktr.ee/kgschoolcouncil (links can be accessed on the King George School website).
8:11 PM Item 9 Key Communicator's Report	Andrew C.	 Looking forward to the next Community of School Councils (COSC) meeting as the main focus will be the premier's announcement regarding funding. COSC is a platform for school councils to gather, share, and raise concerns. CBE Trustees are present at COSC meetings. Consideration: Other school councils often have someone working on grants as one of the key council roles (to maximize funds for the school). We may want to consider adding this role to our school council.
8:17 PM Item 10 Naturalization & Garden Update	Sarah A.	 Garden Update Over the summer, the garden did not receive a lot of care due to water restrictions. The compost that the grade 4s made last year is ready to spread in the garden. There are new signs for the garden gate outlining guidelines for how to be in the garden. Garden fencing will be replaced soon.
8:20 PM Item 11 Transportation & Active Routes Update	Sarah A.	Transportation & Active Routes Update School Streets Project The engagement surveys for the school streets project are ongoing (survey links opened in June). Current parent survey results: 64% in favour, 23% against, 12% maybe Current community survey results: 30-40% in favour, 30% against, 30% maybe The goal of this project is to close 9th street between 20th & 21st avenue. This will allow students to cross 9th street safely, as no traffic will be permitted on this portion of the street. This project is an effort to increase safety for pedestrians and increase our kids' independence in getting to school. Three schools in Calgary have participated in this project and have had very positive feedback. Please contact Sarah with any feedback or questions! Safety Week There have been at least four very close calls so far this year including pedestrians almost being hit by cars, kids being let out of cars in the middle of the road, and vehicles passing other vehicles in the crosswalk. Grade 5 safety patrollers will start next week. Their primary concern is helping students cross the street safely on 9th street, not traffic flow. Please consider avoiding driving in this area to minimize traffic congestion! The most important thing is that children get to school safely. We are in desperate need for our school community to come together to make sure this happens!

		Please follow all traffic and pedestrian rules (including NO jaywalking). If you see something, say something! We can all play a part in keeping our children safe and setting positive examples.
8:28 PM Item 12 Fundraising Update	Sarah A.	
		 Dance DJ: In contact with a GP Vanier student that is interested in starting his own DJ business. ACTION: Andrew will look into getting a license for the 50/50 raffle at the dance. Healthy Hunger Healthy hunger is set up and families can place their orders online. Healthy hunger lunches will be offered to purchase once/month. Through this fundraiser, a portion of proceeds come back to the school. The first Healthy Hunger lunch will be Panago Pizza on Oct. 17th. Question: Can healthy hunger be offered more frequently?
8:34 PM Item 13 Treasurer's Report	Janine M.	Treasurer's Report (see attached financial summaries) School Council has two accounts:
		1) King George School Council Account: Money in this account comes from the

		school council's fundraising. School council has full discretion on how this money is spent and works with the school administration to create a plan for these expenditures (i.e. pancake breakfast, teacher appreciation, parent info sessions, etc.). Closing Balance: \$23 077.56 2) Friends of King George School Account (Casino): Money in this account comes exclusively from casinos. The AGLC sets specific guidelines for how this money can be spent. Any money from this account must go directly toward student engagement. Closing Balance: \$136 355.54 ACTION: Janine will provide administration with an updated dollar amount remaining for the 2024/25 school year from the Friends of King George School account. • Considerations for 2024/25 spending budget: O New gaga ball pit: approximately \$15 000 Calm corner furnishing and tools for each classroom: up to \$8500(?)
8:43 PM Item 14 Casino Update	Barry R.	Casino Update The next casino for KGS will be in Q1 of 2026. We should be receiving our dates soon!
8:45 PM Item 15 Resolutions	Steven R.	Motion: Be it resolved that the school council provide up to \$8500, from the Friends of King George School account, to pay for one bus per class for field trips during the 2024/25 school year. Motion: Sarah Second: Kelsey Motion carried unanimously. Motion: Be it resolved that the school council provide up to \$6500, from the Friends of King George School account, to purchase English decodable books for grades 3-5. Motion: Andrew Second: Whitney Motion carried unanimously.
8:57 PM Item 16 Adjournment	Steven R.	Move to adjourn: Sarah Second: Whitney Motion carried unanimously.

	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
	Budget	Actuals	Difference
Opening Balance	\$18,750.02	\$19,226.26	
Revenue			
Bank Interest	0.00	3.84	3.84
Casino Tips	200.00	0.00	-200.00
Halloween Dance Revenue	6,000.00	5,414.50	-585.50
Healthy Hunger	1,000.00	1,758.25	758.25
Mabel's Labels	30.00	197.62	167.62
Movie Night Revenue	6,000.00	3,524.01	-2,475.99
Parent Donation	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Merchandise Revenue	1,500.00	607.56	-892.44
Skip the Depot	500.00	0.00	-500.00
Other Revenue	0.00	3,873.08	3,873.08
Subtotal Revenue	15,230.00	15,378.86	(148.86)
Expenses			
Active Transportation/Safety	500.00	1,102.63	-602.63
Artist in Residence	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	15.00	107.79	-92.79
Carnaval	900.00	341.00	559.00
Casino Expense	0	0.00	0.00
Christmas Hampers	2,000.00	1,998.00	2.00
Grade 5 Graduation	1,000.00	599.50	400.50
Halloween Dance Expense	1,000.00	846.62	153.38
Indigenous Initiatives	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
KGSC Insurance	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Movie Night Expense	600.00	416.27	183.73
Naturalization	2,000.00	769.32	1,230.68
Pancake Breakfast	2,500.00	2,408.88	91.12
School Merchandise Expense	300.00	250.00	50.00
School Resources	0.00	0.00	0.00
Science Fair Luncheon	0.00	0.00	0.00
Teacher/Parent Interviews - Food	600.00	620.20	-20.20
Teachers/Staff Appreciation/Gift	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Wellness Day	500.00	209.14	290.86
Workshops	2,000.00	602.50	1,397.50
Yearbooks	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expense	0.00	1,255.71	-1,255.71
Subtotal Expenses	17,915.00	11,527.56	6,387.44
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Closing Balance	16,479.72	\$23,077.56	

Friends of King George School 2023-2024		
Opening Balance September 1, 2023		\$70,494.34
Revenue		
Bank Interest	20.75	
Casino Deposit	81,917.40	
Casino Hires Reimbursement	0.00	
Miscellaneous Exp Reimbursement	0.00	
Subtotal Revenue	81,938.15	
Expenses		
Bank Charges	42.26	
Casino Hires Exp	2,350.95	
Miscellaneous Casino Exp	0.00	
Equipment - Program Related - 100%	505.24	
Resource Materials/Supplies	9,498.50	
Wages, Salaries, Fees for Service and Honorariums	3,680.00	
Subtotal Expenses	16,076.95	
Closing Balance August 31, 2024		\$136,355.54