

# Kanétskare School Council

## Meeting Minutes

### April 23, 2025

**Members present:**

Chair: Jennifer Walsom  
Vice-Chair: Cindy Stranak  
Principal: Joanne Hall  
Teacher: Janine Durajlija  
Helen Burnett-Nichols  
Natacha da Silva  
Pam Ekins  
Esme Rambert

**Regrets:**

Treasurer: Carly Felton  
Secretary: Katherine Hollands  
  
Jennifer Coon  
Meaghan Eisenberg  
Tiffany Herron  
Darina Vasek

## 1) Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Attendance

Natacha da Silva read the land acknowledgement, and attendance was taken.

- March minutes were distributed prior to this meeting. We were unable to approve the minutes because we did not have enough members present. They will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- There was a change to tonight's meeting agenda
  - There will be no Recreation Report this evening as they could not attend

## 2) Meeting Agenda - Updates

- Kanétskare Café – May 22 – Volunteers (Natacha)
  - Natacha completed the SignUp.com webpage and had it circulated to several parents to ensure it is checked before being mass distributed.
  - Will be communicated to the greater school community in the coming days. Communication will include that dry goods can be dropped off ahead of May 22 but perishable goods will only be accepted day of event.
  - All proceeds from the café will be used towards the library.
- Fundraising: Book Drive Update (Principal Hall)
  - Majority of novel studies books have been ordered from Epic Books. Roughly \$5,000 has been spent. An additional \$1,000 will be spent on French Books.
  - Novel Studies section is being added to library. The area they are hoping to use is currently a staff-only section (back right corner of the library). That area will be condensed, and new books will be added.
  - Principal Hall noted that Megan d'Andrade did an outstanding job on this project.

- 50<sup>th</sup> School Anniversary Celebration: Sub-Committee Update (Esme)
  - Sub-Committee is recommending that the celebration be considered for June 7. They are envisioning a Street Party – Live music, food truck(s), 1975 theme games, special guests.
  - Previous to this meeting, the committee was looking at planning the celebration for October 2025 because school renovations are happening over the summer including painting and library re-design. Date change is recommended because HAAA will be closing for renovation in August 2025, making the park off limits. If the celebration is moved to June, the park can be used.
  - Details and concerns were discussed including timeline for permits, event times, booking of band and food truck(s) and organizing archive presentation.
  - Principal Hall let the group know that there is no budget for this event. Fundraising at the event would need to be used to cover all costs.
  - Principal Hall asked that a rough plan of the event addressing the details and concerns be communicated to her by May 1 to determine if the event can move forward.

### 3) Principal's Report

Principal Hall shared some details of the staffing plan for next year.

- There are 454 students planned to attend in September 2025, that is an increase from this year (school population is currently 411 students).
- This increase means that there will be 2 additional classes formed next year. This year there are 16 classes, next year will be 18. The make-up will be:
  - English stream: Grade 6 – 4 classes, 6/7 – 1 class, 7 – 3 classes, 8 – 3 classes.
  - French stream: Grade 6 – 2 classes, 7 – 2 classes, 8 – 2 classes.
  - Sage Quest: 1 class
- The Staffing has also increased from 20.7 to 23.7. With 3 new positions along with possibly 3 retirements, the school will be recruiting 6 new positions.
- The school is already over capacity and with the extra students it means there will be the addition of 2 portables. Principal Hall is hoping to place them out front because with the park closed there will be limited space behind the school for recess.

The library renovation planning is underway. The renovation hit its first roadblock because of US tariffs. Staff are needing to source materials and work from Canadian companies. The first quote was received. It estimated \$35,000. The goal is to have a final plan in place by June.

Information: The Board has launched a program review for French Immersion and Sage Quest. Parent engagement will be coming soon.

### 4) Teacher's Report

Janine Durajlija updated the Council on the various school clubs, lots of student engagement happening. She also shared that the Talent Show practice is in full swing, although it's a small

group, everyone is excited. She also shared that the Grade 6 school trip will happen on June 20<sup>th</sup>. She was not aware of the dates for Grade 7 and 8 trips but information will come home to parents as soon as possible.

### 1) Hamilton Recreation Report

Recreation member not able to attend, so nothing to report.

### 2) PIC Update

Cindy Stranak shared that there is a PIC Celebrates Well-Being family event taking place on Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup> from 9am-2pm at Sherwood Secondary School. This event is open to the community if anyone is interested in attending. At the meeting on April 8, it was communicated that the School Bylaws will be replaced by 2026/27 with common by-laws. Next year will be a feedback year where councils will have input into the common by-law document. Meeting had to end so additional updates will be shared at the next meeting.

### 3) Standing Business

- We were unable to discuss as the meeting transitioned to the Aubrey Noronha PRO Grant Event. Discussion moved to next meeting.

### 8) Future Business

- Graduation Planning - We were unable to discuss as the meeting transitioned to the Aubrey Noronha PRO Grant Event. Discussion moved to next meeting.

### 7) Adjournment & Next Meeting

The next meeting date is May 15 at 6:00pm. This meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.