

Kanétskare School Council

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2025

Attendance: Jennifer Walsom, Helen Burnett-Nichols, Tiffany Herron, Esme Rambert, Natacha DaSilva, Cindy Stranak, Meaghan Eisenberg, Louai Moghrabi, Jen Castle-Timms, Pam Ekins, Joanne Hall (Principal) Janine Durajlija (Staff Representative)

1) Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Attendance

Land acknowledgement was read and attendance was taken.

Joanne started the meeting by mentioning all that was accomplished thanks to our council and parent support last year – we built a better sense of community, Give Read Grow campaign that brought in books for classrooms and novel studies, Kanetskare café, Scholastic Book Fair. Money we raised paid for new furniture that's being enjoyed by students, painting and branding in front entrance and hallways. Money raised moving forward will go back to technology. We discussed positions that

2) Election of Council

Jenn Walsom is willing to continue our chair but has offered up the position to anyone else who would like it. Cindy Stranak has passed the torch over to Meaghan Eisenberg as Vice Chair. No treasurer is needed and it was decided that we would all take a turn at taking minutes for Kathy.

Meeting Agenda

- Fuel for Kids – Ms. Zacharidis discussed this fundraising event – Wednesday September 24th 4-7pm

Every year Fortinos adopts a school and this year they have chosen Kanetskare (Joanne mentioned that Ms. Zacharidis is responsible for this wonderful connection!)

Fuel For Kids is a fundraiser where 100% on the money raised goes directly back to our school. Professional race car driver Shawna Woudstra will be at the school on Wednesday afternoon (last period of school) to showcase her 1,400- horsepower dragster car. After school there will be a BBQ at Fortinos along with additional activities (temporary tattoos, henna, cupcake station, facepainting). The school will purchase supplies for tattoos, cupcakes/decorations, and facepaint). Hotdog, drink, chips will be sold for \$5.

Some teachers have volunteered to come and help BBQ.

We need parents help – Natacha DaSilva will make a sign-up.com for volunteers, Meaghan will post on Kirkendall Facebook, Helen will post on Durand Facebook, Cindy will post on Strathcona

Facebook. Students are wanting to help too. Joanne said that we could bring the new banner which was to arrive on September 19th.

50th School Anniversary & Open House, Thursday October 16th, 4-8pm – Esme Rambert

Galaxy Burger food truck has been confirmed (Rachel Rochweg worked very hard securing this) and she is looking for a Halal option as well.

Market will be happening in the gym – small community businesses will be showcased (food, art, vintage)

Joanne is organizing the archival display by decades and time capsule will be revealed.

There will be a DJ (Lauren Baker and Stuart Berman)

Scholastic Book Fair (Jen Castle-Timms – responsible for setting up sign up sheet and gathering volunteers for 1 hour time slots) Helen and Pam have offered to help

We will be advertising on HWDSB and other Facebook site, flyers will be ready soon and then can be distributed and posted.

Meet the Teacher portion will be from 5-6:30pm

We will set up a parent council table to hand out flyers and Esme will make a poster for the table. Tiffany has offered to woman the table.

3) Principal's Report

We have 460 students this year up from 410 last year. There are 18 classes each with 26-28 students each. 2 portables have been added.

We might need to advocate to the trustee for more staff and a vice-principal as Joanne is extremely busy.

There was a Welcome Back assembly (now they have to host 2 since they cant fit all the students in the gym at the same time)

They discussed the Big 6 – Be ontime, be prepared, be safe, be focused, be present, be respectful. It was well received.

Cindy Stranak mentioned that the park construction isn't to begin until April. Joanne thought later this fall but the city has to give them 2 weeks notice as they have to adjust their nutrition break schedules.

4) Teacher's Report

Janine Durajlija provided the update- Cross country club and baseball are happening right now and they are planning on starting a cooking club.

Grade 6's had their play day and Grade 8's led it.

Teachers are meeting on September 19th about clubs/sport clubs/intramurals.

5) PIC Update

Cindy Stranak – the Pro Grant deadline is November 21st and we should all to the October meeting with ideas to present to the council. Last year's event was not well attended and it was

decided that we should not do another speaker event. It needs to engage parents but kids are allowed to attend. Joanne suggested a mindfulness or yoga focused event or inviting a Math or Literature facilitator

Cindy briefly discussed Bill 33 being passed on September 29th and how this will take power away from trustees. If this is a concern we should contact MPP.

6) Adjournment

The next meeting will be October 23rd at 6:30pm and we will decide if a November meeting is needed at that time.