



# JD SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

2025-2026 School Year

Date: February 2, 2026 (Virtual Meeting)

CHAIRS: Amanda Duncan, Erin Coates

RECORDER: CoPilot (edited by Erin Coates)

ATTENDEES: Mark Peckham, Christine Link, Justin Skrypnyk, Michelle Shillington, Wendy Torres, Jennifer Weir, Mark Kuprowski, Jen Galambos-Brown

## 1. Principal's Report – Feb 2, 2026

Amanda provided an update:

- Thank you to Council for funding Pancake Day – it was a great success and the kids loved it.
- Facilities: the outside bells are broken and will be replaced in spring with speakers. Air conditioning remains on track for summer.
- Enrollment/Staffing: Mrs. Nantoulis is on medical leave; Mr. Andrews is hired as her replacement.
- Nutrition Program (OSNP): first installment of the grant (~\$1,700) has been received; a \$100 gift card from a partner store allowed purchase of fruit and cheese strings. Leftover snacks from the Grade 8 auction are available for students.

## EQAO Results

Amanda shared the recently released EQAO results via slideshow:

- Grade 3 students achieved 96% at or above provincial standard in reading, 84% in writing and 96% in math, with very few in lower levels.
- Grade 6 results were extraordinary: 100% at or above standard in reading and writing and about 78% in math.
- The staff expressed pride in these results, and School Council voiced their appreciation.

## SIEP

Staff continue diagnostic testing throughout January and February to see where gains have been made and to inform targeted instruction moving forward. The School Improvement and Equity Plan guides these cycles of assessment and action.

## SISP

We continue our Safe and Inclusive School Plan with the 'Stop it, Name it, Explain it, Ask for Change' language; Sarah Westbrook's presentations will reinforce these messages for students and parents.

## 2. Budget Status

Mark provided a financial update: current balance approximately \$6,900; likely adding \$1,000 from the BBQ. It's estimated that remaining hot lunches will contribute ~\$3,500 net. The wish list items cost about \$3,100 and classroom allocations are about \$2,300. Planning ahead, projected year-end balance is around \$5,900 but the board suggests staying at or below a \$5K threshold. The budget will be monitored, and council will decide to disperse any excess funds (if available).

It was noted that the teachers have not yet accessed much of the allotted funds and support is available to reimburse classroom expenses. Amanda/ Wendy will raise this at the next Teachers Meeting.

## Grade 8 Fundraising Update

The Grade 8 fundraising activities (silent auction and hot lunch) are going well – participation in hot lunch on both Tuesdays and Fridays is high. Further update to be provided at the next meeting.

## Grant Applications – OSNP

First installment of the OSNP grant has been received. Additional sources of funds:

- A \$100 gift card was provided by Superstore, and used to purchase fruit and snacks
- In-kind donations (snacks) were provided by School Council (leftover package food from the Holiday Concert)

## Grant Applications – PIF

Schools are provided with a \$500 PIF (Parent Involvement Fund) Grant every year and have the option of spending it or rolling it over for one year. Amanda went through the possible options for Council's consideration. After discussion, Council indicated they were ready to make a formal **decision**: we will roll-over the 2025/2026 PIF allocation for this year, and plan a literacy night in early November hosted by Investing in Children (Amanda to reach out and initiate the scheduling process). The older students will have a Byron Library based literacy experience (Christine to further explore).

## Grant Applications – PRO

Amanda submitted a \$5,000 Parent Involvement Fund request on December 2. The program office followed up and asked for additional breakdown details and a response is pending. Details of the request:

- Sarah Westbrook parent presentation (April 16<sup>th</sup>) – tentatively scheduled
- Wellness night (Booster juice and yoga)

Sarah Westbrook for two student presentations (April 16)

## Student Experience

- At last meeting, Council agreed to utilize the budget earmarked for the "Student Experience" to host Sarah Westbrook - \$1,000.
- Amanda has scheduled her for two student presentations (April 16)

### 3. New Business

#### Administrator Profile – Input into Development

TVDSB introduced a process to gather input from parents and staff to inform future administrator placement: qualities desired, unique school characteristics, etc. Erin will create a survey, for both staff and school council members to complete. Erin will consolidate results, and share a draft with School Council members by the end of February for input.

#### Primary Playground Replacement

The council discussed next steps for the primary playground: an email will be sent to three board-approved vendors to propose multi-year replacement plans, identifying safety risks and priorities; vendor presentations will be scheduled and will be open to all school council members.

#### Year End BBQ

Amanda is confirming leadership for the annual year end BBQ. Council members discussed the idea of incorporating a fundraising component to the BBQ to raise funds for needed gym equipment (beyond the allotment provided). Ideas were shared to sell “passports” and to have activity-based games available for students to play (e.g., baseball, soccer, volleyball, games). John Dearness alumni could help to facilitate the events (and get hours towards their volunteering requirements). Further details to be considered once BBQ leadership is confirmed, including the potential creation of a planning sub-committee.

### 4. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting concluded with planning for the next meeting: April 13, 2026 from 6:00-7:30 (avoiding Easter week). Attendees expressed appreciation for everyone’s participation and commitment to the school community.