

# School Council Meeting Minutes February 4th, 2026

## Meeting Details

6:30 PM / In person @ Dalhousie Elementary/ Hybrid via Microsoft teams

Land Acknowledgement: Noelle Challoner

Attendees: Sebastien Fournier, Danielle Outhet, Holly Fedosoff, Desiree Challoner, Jackie Bilsky, Amanda Tsai, Heather Ryan, Kelsey Forest, Stephanie Pinch

Topic	Discussion
<b>Teacher Updates</b>	<p>Asking for feedback for the Spanish program.</p> <p>Write out notes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeing my child learn in two languages has meant...</li> <li>• A moment when my child's bilingual learning made us proud....</li> </ul>
<b>Principal Updates</b>	<p><b>Gratitude:</b> Parent society thank you for the funds for Bussing, Meals, Raz Kids and ExamBank.</p> <p><b>Learning Common project:</b> Reduced the cost from \$62k to \$56k by removing expensive furniture. Option to resurface the existing tables. Shared intention and reviewed plans. We would be supported by area office to move forward with the renovation.</p> <p><b>Mural Project updates:</b> Concept 1: Book Surfer Concept 2: Saxophone Player Book surfer has won 15/19 class votes.</p> <p><b>Important Dates:</b> Spring Concert April 29-30 K-1 Day concert (1m/pm) Grade 2 to 6 Evening Concert + day rehearsal. Schedules will be sent out to families.</p> <p><b>Que Pasa 2026:</b> Tuesday May 12 – 1pm to 3pm Bus from school to Jubilee No Bus back to school. Parents to pick up. Grade 5 students only 4 Tickets per family.</p>

<p><b>2026 Survey Updates from Kelsey Forrest</b></p>	<p>132 Responses  23% engagement  30 email address shared to volunteer database.</p> <p>See Table 1 below: Summary of Important &amp; Very Important Results  See Table 2 below: Percentage values of feedback  See Table 3 below: Summary of key themes from parent Feedback  See Table 4 below: Survey Results Summary</p> <p>Summary of Results  Top Parent Values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investing in learning materials &amp; tech upgrades</li> <li>2. Supporting Residencies</li> <li>3. Gym Equipment</li> <li>4. Special Events.</li> </ol>
<p><b>COSC Meeting Updates from Kelsey Forrest</b></p>	<p>Attended a COSC Meeting Summary</p> <p>Increasing parent engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online only meetings</li> <li>• Text message reminder day of meeting</li> <li>• ‘Konstella’ App (Kelsey to review app)</li> </ul> <p>Fundraising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using ‘Zeffy’ to receive online payments for fundraisers or events. (Desi to review Zeffy)</li> <li>• Remind parents of direct donation option with each fundraiser.</li> </ul> <p>Teacher Morals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents society funds regular staffroom snacks</li> <li>• Use weekly sign-up genius for parent’s staffroom snack donation. (Jackie to set up sign-up genius)</li> <li>• Approx 30 staff.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Teacher Wish List</b></p>	<p>List should be sent to administration for review prior to approval.</p>

Table 1:

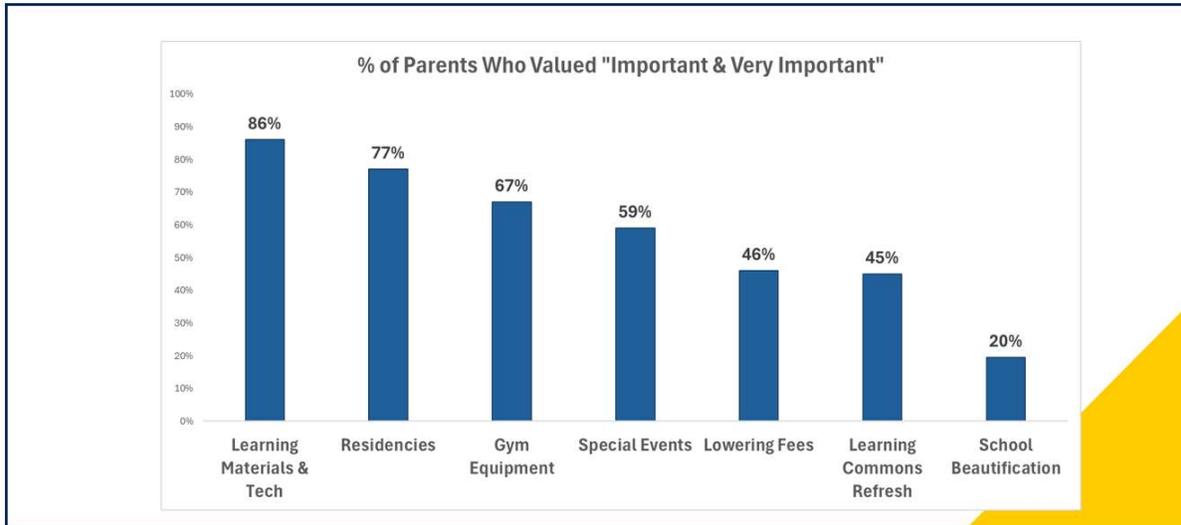


Table 2:

% of Parents who selected each rating	Learning Materials & Tech	Residencies	Gym Equipment	Special Events	Lowering Fees	Learning Commons Refresh	School Beautification
1	1%	3%	8%	8%	15%	11%	20%
2	5%	3%	5%	9%	12%	13%	27%
3	8%	17%	21%	24%	26%	31%	33%
4	33%	36%	30%	26%	22%	30%	15%
5	53%	41%	37%	33%	24%	15%	5%
<b>% of Parents Who Selected 4+5</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Total Importance Points</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>338</b>

Table 3:



<p><b>Key Themes from Parent Feedback (Chat gpt)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•<b>Field Trips:</b> Desire for more trips, greater parent input, and inclusive, weather-independent options.</li><li>•<b>Outdoor Improvements:</b> Strong support for mural, gaga ball, basketball upgrades, better snow clearing, and expanded play/gym equipment (mixed views on climbing wall).</li><li>•<b>Technology &amp; STEAM:</b> Interest in coding, computers, literacy tools, and teacher-identified learning resources; some concern about excessive screen time.</li><li>•<b>Clubs &amp; Enrichment:</b> Requests for after-school clubs (chess, art, drama), outdoor education, and Indigenous cultural programming.</li><li>•<b>Community Events:</b> Positive feedback on movie nights, dances, Family Fiesta; preference for fewer, higher-quality fundraisers.</li><li>•<b>School Environment:</b> Concerns about washroom cleanliness and traffic safety; suggestion to support families in need.</li><li>•<b>Parent Engagement:</b> Desire for better communication and more meaningful parent involvement.</li></ul> <p>Overall: strong appreciation for current efforts, with priority interest in outdoor spaces, experiential learning, technology, and community-building.</p>
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Table 4:



<p><b>Survey Results Summary</b></p> <p><b>Top Parent Values:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Investing in Learning Materials &amp; Technology Upgrades – more education required to parents on status of technology</li><li>2. Supporting Residencies*</li><li>3. Gym Equipment</li><li>4. Special Events</li></ol> <p>*46% of parents want to see school fees reduced * Incremental residencies would require collaboration to be fully-funded * Recommend continued communication with parents on investment choices to clarify impact: <i>i.e. It would require \$10K to reduce parent fees by \$20/person, while \$10K could make XYZ impact with ABC investment</i></p>
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**Next Meeting: March 11th.**

Upcoming meeting agenda will be posted on the school website proper to following meeting.

Limited copies to be printed and shared at in-person meeting.

E-mail us with ideas/contributions: [dalhousieschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:dalhousieschoolcouncil@gmail.com)

**School Council Handbook:** <https://cbe.ab.ca/FormsManuals/School-Council-Handbook.pdf>

**Dalhousie School Website - School Council:** <https://dalhousie.cbe.ab.ca/school-council>