



April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 6:30 pm

ATTENDANCE

In Person: Domitillah Antoinette, Lovenia Gorman, Andy Coe, Kim Welton, Julie Vander Herbers, Heather Morgan, Jennifer Goodfellow, Mallory Drysdale, Angelia Grabhom, Natalie DeLuca, Megan Anderson, Jessica Mason, and Danna Barak

Virtual: Ms. Adeline, Kelly Kirkpatrick, Jessica Moody, and Ashley Wood-Suszko.

Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement

Motion to Approve the minutes of the last Jan 2026 meeting - **APPROVED**

Welcoming Andy Coe as our new Secretary - **APPROVED**

****Due to the recent resignation of our secretary, Eugenia Rosenblun-Bourdieu. Thanks to Eugenia for all her work; it was much appreciated.**

Principal's Update

- Since we last met, all primary and junior classes have had a bullying vs. conflict workshop. About to continue with JK/SK, and Ms. Adealine will be leading these sessions. Howard's bullying prevention plan is in the weekly update. Kids are making posters related to this. Once JK/SK have done the course, parents will be given tips and information via the newsletter. Biggest learning moment—being a bystander vs. an upstander: interrupt and ask to speak with an adult. Pivotal part of the learning.
- The mural in the hallway is on pause until the fall. Focus on the library first. Recreate Place is exploring grants to help cover the costs. Hopefully, the grant and school budget will pay for the mural. Hopeful for the beginning of the 2026-27 year.
- Focus on math learning—every school board—instruction and increasing the math EQAO score. Grade 3 and 6 students have been selected for a pilot program. The Knowledge Hook is board and ministry-approved. Aligns with the curriculum. An expert with the program is coming in—short learning cycles—to determine where the students are and then how we teach to the gap (intervention). Then there will be a follow-up and continuation through the cycle. Informative teaching. For French and English students.
- Reading intervention program - HP has received funding for the Empower Reading program through SickKids. Only for English students and those who already have an IEP with a gap in reading. Assessed through the program, and then the resource teacher will work with a small group. Put in place for the 2026-27 school year.
- Thanks to the library committee—successful Read-A-Thon fundraiser, congratulations!
- Thanks to the classroom teachers, the Scientist in the School and Arts funds have been used.
- Two arts clubs are currently running for the end of the year.
 - The RISE club is back.
- Track and field is up and going.
- Earth buddies are continuing.
- Library Buddies is still happening.
- Grade 2 tennis lessons on Fridays with PE with High Park Tennis Club.
- Donations to date: Feb \$12K for the library.

Financial Update

Alfredo is absent; Domitillah is sharing for him.

- Lost and Found laundry: we have a roughly \$400 charge for washing lost and found items before donation. Some of this was for last year's budget. This is not in the budget, so we need to decide whether this is something we want to support and from which budget. TJ, the parent who handled it, is going to send us the details.

For transparency, I think it's worth showing where we stand in terms of cash and anticipated spend.

- **Not the normal protocol. Please let the parent know that this isn't what we can spend money on. Can we wait until May / June, since it wasn't approved?**
- **Maybe donating to another school in the future.**
- The summary is that we are right on budget. ✅ 😊 Little fundraisers help, but we rely mostly on the spring social and fall fete. If a committee has something they need to discuss about their allocation, they can bring it up. May is the most important month. We raise money in June, September, and October and spend the rest of the year, so we have to make sure not to run out of cash between November and May.
- **SUGGESTION FROM COUNCIL:** Perhaps next year we can have a line in the budget for a bus fund for field trips?

Howard Parent & Caregiver Social Fundraiser

- Julie and Heather are co-chairs of the Social Fundraiser.
- \$25k last year and hoping to do the same. 125 people last year. Tickets and the auction were successful last year.
- This year's theme is Disco Rodeo. It will be on the Thursday before PA day—June 4—at Henderson Brewing Co., 28A Sterling Rd. If anyone would like to volunteer for the day of the event, please let Julie and Heather know. Friends and families are welcome to join.
- Lovenia has helped with a spreadsheet with teacher requests to support STEM and learning tools for classrooms.
- If anyone has any other ideas for fundraising, please let Julie and Heathe know. There are specific areas where the funds can go for both English and French.
- \$5000 for the musical. How much do we need? Ask Carla.

Committee and Club Updates

- **Movie Night**

Postponed. Haven't heard anything.

- **STEAM Night**

Too late to organize for this year. We need to start planning in the fall. It would be great to have more than 1 teacher help. Reach out to Ms. Adeline well in advance so she can organize this. The prep work is extensive.

- **Learning Commons Renovation**

See Lovenia's update.

Ms. Adealine has worked on what to spend the rest of the funds on from the Read-A-Thon. Items will be ordered in one chunk due to delivery fees. Looking to order ASAP. The following items are to be ordered:

- New teacher's easel
- Two new bookshelves
- Soft seating
- Beanbags
- New tables

- Kindergarten book cart replaced
- Storage cart
- Label Maker
- Maker Space supplies

- **Equity & Garden**

Earth Buddies will be planting in the raised garden beds soon.

- **Mental Health & Well-Being**

Pizza Friday money went to Mental Health Awareness Week and Kindness Week supplies. Received \$700 TDSB for this area. Lovenia has arranged for a yoga instructor to do a mindful day on May 8 for Grades 1-3. Info to those families soon.

- **Literacy/Reading Event (Forest of Reading)**

Ms. Adealine has purchased all the tickets. Can she use the remainder to purchase the books for the following year? YES! The council supports this.

- **Scientists in the Schools**

See Lovenia's update.

- **Art**

All funds have been used. Teachers pooled together for workshops or bought classroom supplies.

- **Sports & Team Building**

The bus is reserved for track and field in May. 2-3 buses in the fall for cross country.

Other Business

- Applying for the "Free to Play" Program grant. Should hear back in the next month.
- Davina's Swim House - **School Council to send a letter requesting the social.**
- **Youth Climate Action Grant - need volunteers for someone to do this.** The deadline is September, so they will work on it over the summer. Ms. Adeline can help to write this one. Very specific criteria. Which students are and what they are doing.
- AI Workshop for parents—look to do it in 2026–27. **Check with Nancy that they are a TDSB partner.**
- Spiritwear update—back and front design at 50 shirts = \$14 cost. \$20 for purchase. **Would like a cost for hoodies, please.** Going to hold a class vote for which version—there are two. Lovenia will put it in the school messenger for families. There will be a rack with the shirt options outside the office.

Motion to Adjournment—Next Meeting is **May 20, 2026**

There will be a meeting in June. The last day of school is June 25.

Please help us and the administration better understand your concerns by adding your thoughts [here](#). See below for some background on the Council and explore the [blog](#) for examples of past activities.