



**School Council**  
**École Whitehorse Elementary School**  
*Kwanlin Kets'edan Ku*  
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## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 @ 6:30 pm – EWES Staff Room & Teams

Ashley O'Brien, Chair Micah Quinn, Vice-Chair Kelly Jiang, Member Sheila Merkley, Member Johanna Havelaar, Treasurer Shani Bishop-Rayner, via Teams	Charmaine Cheung, Member, via Teams Nicole Stark, Secretary Sharon MacCoubrey, Principal Valerie Long, Vice Principal Aparna Verma, School Council Elections Returning Officer
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### 1. Call to Order - 18:34

### 2. Land Acknowledgement

- a. We are meeting on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'an Council. We recognize their deep connection to this land and express our gratitude for the opportunity to live and work here.

### 3. Adoption of Agenda

- a. **Motion 26.04.01:** Adopt agenda as presented.
  - o Moved by Ashley; all in favour.

### 4. Adoption of March Minutes

- a. **Motion 26.04.02:** Adopt March minutes as presented.
  - o Moved by Johanna; all in favour.

### 5. Recognition of Community Members

- a. Aparna Verma, School Council Elections Returning Officer
- b. Shani Bishop-Rayner, EWES parent.

## 6. Presentation by Arpana Verma, School Council Elections Returning Officer

- a. Election will take place on May 11, 2026 if there are more than seven nominees for School Council.

## 7. Correspondence

### a. Panago Pizza fundraiser – Nicole

- Fundraiser brought in \$637.00.
- Intention is for this to become an annual fundraiser.
- **Action 26.04.01:** Nicole will follow up with Jamie to ensure the cheque is written to EWES and that a tax receipt is issued to Panago.
- **Action 26.04.02:** Nicole will send an email to the school community with the fundraiser results and note that the funds will be used to purchase schoolyard recreational equipment.

### b. Black Street crosswalk

- Identified as an intersection where leading pedestrian intervals and rest-in-walk should be implemented.
- Changes are expected by fall 2026.
- **Action 26.04.03:** Ashley will clarify details with Pierre and update the parents concerned.

### c. Council vacancy update – Nicole

- Nicole is an official voting member of Council as of April 21, 2026.

## 8. Reports

### a. Administration Report – Sharon

- March highlights included *Spectacle d'évasion*, *Chante-la-ta-chanson*, and the start of running club (70 participants, Grades 4–7).
- 2026/2027 posted positions include:
  - Two maternity leaves, 0.5 Vice Principal/0.5 Mentor.
- Multifactor authentication became mandatory as of May 6.
  - Some pushback noted, as all staff must use a personal device to provide authentication to access work email.
  - Limited computer availability as the DoE encourages educators to purchase their own computers.
- Reading/ writing assessments and Oral Proficiency Interviews are underway.
- A number of minor incidents occurred where the RCMP were contacted as a precaution.

### b. Financial/Treasurer Report – Johanna

- Budget updates:
  - \$500 donation to EWES for the read-a-thon.
  - There is \$800 allocated for attending meetings on Council's behalf.
    - \$300 will go to Gary for attending three meetings.

- Current council members may submit expenses for these meetings or for babysitting costs incurred.
  - Further discussion to occur at the June meeting.
- \$363 from the School Needs Fund will be donated to the school for outdoor recreation equipment (along with \$637 from the Panago fundraiser).
- Discussion regarding the Staff Wellness Fund will continue at the next meeting.

## 9. New Business

### a. Gift for outgoing Chair

- Council will take a photo of the school in the spring.

### b. Grade 7 graduation

- Cost of grad bags will be \$1962.77
- **Motion 26.04.03:** Purchase the bags for Grade 7 graduating students.
  - Moved by Nicole; all in favour.
- **Action 26.04.04:** Kelly will request candy and office supplies from local businesses for donation to fill the grad bags.
  - If donations do not come through, EWES will provide the necessary funds.

### c. Budget allocation for EWES 2026/2027 (Operations and Maintenance)

- This is the first year these reports have been submitted to school councils.
  - Most relevant sections for Council may include material resources and school growth plan.
  - Council will rely on Administration to communicate any needs that Council may support.

## 10. Standing Business

### a. French Second Language – Ashley

- Next meeting will be held May 27.

### b. Project Advisory Committee: New School Build

- Evaluation matrix has been completed by council.
  - **Motion 26.04.04:** Submit completed document to Martin Turpin.
    - Moved by Ashley; all in favour.

### c. School Growth Plan – Sheila

- Next meeting will be held in June.

### d. Transportation Committee – Micah

- Next meeting will be held May 28.
- Change to cancellation policy: buses must be cancelled the day before, unless the hosting venue cancels the event.

### e. Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees (AYSCBC) – Micah

- AGM took place April 18 and included presentations of annual reports and financial statements, and round-table discussions.
  - Connected North program has been cancelled

- Presentation by independent Education Review Panel, which is conducting a comprehensive review of the Department of Education.
  - Panel will provide a status update, interim report and final report by December 2026.
- Personal mobile device policy will be implemented in the fall.
- Micah has been appointed to the Yukon Teacher Certification Board.

**f. Community Events**

- School BBQ
  - **Action 26.04.05:** Johanna will order food (hot dogs, buns, ketchup, mustard, relish, watermelon, napkins).
  - Two groups of volunteers will be needed:
    - 10:00-12:00 for hot dog grilling and watermelon cutting.
    - 12:00-14:00 for cleanup.
  - **Action 26.04.06:** All Council members will bring tongs.
  - **Action 26.04.07:** Ashley will bring a camping BBQ.
  - **Action 26.04.08:** Sheila will order four cakes from Save-On-Foods.

**11. Next Meetings**

- a. Tuesday May 19, 2026 at 18:30.
- b. Tuesday June 9, 2026 at 18:30.

**12. Adjournment of Council Meeting - 20:41**