

Agenda
Alta Vista School Council Meeting
Wednesday, Jan 21, 2026 7-9 pm
Virtual

1. Welcome and Introduction (Melissa Extross, Chair)
 - a. 9 needed for quorum, 12 in attendance
 - b. Quorum achieved
2. Approval of Agenda
 - a. approved
3. Approval of last meeting's minutes
 - a. approved
4. Chair's Report (Melissa Extross)
 - a. Removal of voting members due to non-attendance
 - i. Approved
 - b. Aaron Livingstone removed and re-admitted as a voting member of the board
 - c. The new membership is 13 members, and we now need 7 members to achieve quorum
5. Kinder Information Night promotion
 - a. Advertisements required for kinder info night
 - b. Early enrolments needed
 - c. AVCA advertised for kinder night
 - d. Seeking volunteers for further advertisement, especially anyone with connections to a daycare (Anna sharing with Memories & Milestones, Heather to share with Kinderville and Micah to share with STTANS)
 - e.
 - f. Melissa will send everyone a copy of it and asks that all members of Council to share it
 - g. Melissa has sent an email to Councillors Carr, Menard and Brockington with a request to have them shared in their respective newsletters to communities.
6. Administrative Report (Alina Orlea, Principal)
 - a. Early kinder enrolment is important for helping with staffing allocation, particularly by mid-February.
 - b. There is now a complete fence around the screen, which is safer for the students
 - c. Small gym heating problems currently fixed
 - d. Staffing updates
 - i. R3/4- Jill St Laurent is retiring and Sulekha Warsame took over
 - ii. Replacement for Ms. Tatiana who is retiring in February
 - iii. EF4B and Junior Core French - Tatiana Kapoustina is retiring and Jana Dumas will take over
 - iv. More staffing needed for students in Grade 8
 - v. There is a mat leave coming up for Kinder and help in 1/2/3

- vi. Sarah Bonneville took a secondment to CHEO and Erika Fish is replacing her
 - vii. Jackie Likins is covering the last hour of the day.
 - viii. R8A: Brianne Meadus is currently replacing Mitchell Schwartz
 - e. Middle French Immersion staying put for the next 3 years
 - i. Students can still go to Featherstone for MFI if they want to
 - f. Students can come and register EFI any time GR 1-3
 - g. Alternative schools
 - i. Crossboundary transfer is available to all parents now, rather than previous process of needing to be nominated by a member of the school staff
 - h. Upcoming dates
 - i. PD Day- Jan 23
 - ii. Report cards going home on Feb 11th
 - iii. IEPs will come home Feb 20th
 - i. Focusing on literacy
 - i. SK kids identified as needing additional supports are working with a literacy coach
 - ii. Acadience testing for kinder/primary kids coming in the next few weeks
 - iii. Grade 2s getting additional resource for literacy
 - iv. Feb/Mar: Gr 3 & 6 using a new program called "Volt" to support them for standardized testing
 - v. Lots of work on intermediate literacy and writing
 - 1. successful paragraphs
 - 2. Improvements in writing
 - j. Saidat show for Black History Month
 - i. Students receive a card describing a Canadian who is part of the Black community and will learn about them
7. Teacher's Report (Teacher's Representative)
- a. Update on School Activities
 - i. Lots of exciting things happening
 - 1. Sports and fests are everywhere
 - ii. Kinder
 - 1. Animals and snow
 - 2. Literacy coaches
 - iii. Primary
 - 1. Project Smile: Dr. Li from the dental centre at Bank and Riverside taught the kids about flossing
 - 2. Mdm. Birch is doing singing club
 - 3. Grade 2 went to MacSkimming and did snowshoeing
 - a. Lots of science, floating
 - 4. Curling skills came for the day
 - iv. Juniors
 - 1. Also participated in rocks and ring

2. "Find your passion days"
 - a. Each teacher picks a topic to do a workshop
 - i. Kids get assigned based on their selection on a google form
 - ii. Mix of grades & classes!
 - b. Friendship bracelets, tie-dye, Seed Paper Making , STEM challenges, rhythm making, floor hockey, calligraphy, games & puzzles, polar bear art,
 3. Junior art club w/ Mme Emily working on acetate self portraits
 4. Borden ball teams has a lot of participation
 5. Tripleball (volleyball) tryouts have started, tournament in March
- v. Intermediate
1. Annual students vs. staff volleyball game: staff won :)
 2. Skating should be a nice long season
 - a. Intermediate grades support the younger grades tying skates
 - b. Riaz (Rink Rats) has been super supportive
 - c. School Council supported by purchasing the sharpener
 3. Mini courses
 - a. 1 week at Carleton or U of O they attend a course everyday
 4. High school class section will start Feb 9th
- vi. Grade 1-4 are getting an anti-bullying magic show (Michael Bourado)
1. Funded by Council
- vii. WalkSafe Program: Focused on road safety
1. Presentations kinder - GR 6
 2. Run by Ottawa Safety Council
 3. Will be run in the library
8. Treasurer's Update (Kathy Wrye, Treasurer)
- a. Financial update
 - i. Current Bank Account Balance: \$54,115.54
 - ii. Net revenue to date: \$8,812
 - iii. Total amount allocated to date: \$25,545
 1. Total amount spent to date: \$10,242
 - iv. Funds remaining to be allocated: \$26,290
 - b. Review and discussion on Funding Requests (~\$3,250)
 - i. No opposition, funding approvals carried
 - ii. Yearbook: \$225 for bigger and better
 - iii. Skating Program: \$425 for 5 new helmets
 - iv. Scientist in Schools (Forces in Motion): \$500 to cover the rest of the classes (clerical error)
 - v. Luv 2 Groove (for juniors): \$2,100
 - c. Vanessa discussed experience with Room Parents
 - i. potential to put this in place for future years

- ii. Another adult that help out teachers w/ activities , field trips, etc.
 - iii. Could be tricky to implement, Alina and Vanessa will connect
- 9. Committee/Event reports and updates
 - a. 67s Hockey Fundraiser (Francis/Aaron)
 - i. Goal was to sell 100 tickets
 - ii. 100 tickets sold with seating in the original block
 - iii. \$500 now contributed for our funds
 - iv. We have now sold about 115 tickets
 - v. There are even more tickets that we could sell, but there are in a slightly different section
 - vi. Kudos to Alina for sending emails, she will continue to promote
 - b. PRO Grant event - not applied for
 - i. We didn't apply this year by the deadline and did not have anyone volunteer to take it on
 - ii. If anyone comes up between now and end of January, we might still be able to get an application in
- 10. Discussion items and New business
 - a. Motion to strike Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony Committee
 - i. No opposition to creating this: the committee is created
 - ii. No longer called a graduation
 - iii. Historically this has been an informal process led by the parents of the grade 7 kids so that the grade 8 parents can enjoy the ceremony
 - iv. Last year parents asked for a more formalized approach to this.
 - v. The ask is for an ad hoc committee to be created
 - vi. There would need to have a chair of this committee
 - vii. The chair would have to report back each meeting
 - viii. There already is a budget line item for the ceremony so this would be directed to this committee for spending
 - b. Reminder:
 - i. PD Day on Friday, January 23, 2026
 - ii. Family Movie Night (K-Pop Demon Hunters) on Friday, January 30, 2026
 - iii. Kinder Information Night on Thursday, February 5, 2026
 - c. Coordinators needed for the following events:
 - i. Silent Auction Coordinator (May)
 - 1. A coordinator for the silent auction is still needed
 - 2. Vanessa, Anna, and Shawn can help with the silent auction
 - 3. Note for next meeting: request to strike a Spring Fair Committee
 - 4. Micah is available to help with the Spring Fair
 - ii. New food program Coordinator (ASAP)
 - 1. Higher priority to find a coordinator for Subway than for the silent auction
 - 2. Melissa will draft an email "Help Needed!" for Alina to send out

- d. Melissa confirmed the Spring Council committee should be starting up soon. She will send an email to volunteers from last year. New volunteers are also welcome -anyone interested should email the School Council email.
 - e. AV Gear
 - i. Coming out soon!
 - f. AV Garage Sale- June 13th
 - i. Difficult for the school to participate bc of insurance (ppl selling their own stuff)
 - ii. Likely not this year
11. Next meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 (Virtual)