

Minutes  
Alta Vista School Council Meeting  
Wednesday, February 18, 2025 7-9 pm

1. Welcome and Introduction (Melissa Extross, Chair)

- 7 needed for quorum
- 12 are present

2. Approval of Agenda

- Micah moved, Kathy seconded

3. Approval of last meeting's minutes

- Heather moved, Kathy seconded

4. Chair's Report (Melissa Extross)

- Removal of voting members due to non-attendance
  - N/A
- Ongoing Road safety issues
  - The walk to and from St. Timothy's is essentially reduced down to one-lane due to parents parking on Ridgecrest combined with snow banks
  - There is no sidewalk on these streets
  - The School and council have received numerous complaints about safety issues on Ridgecrest and parents are encouraged to park **only** in the designated areas.
  - Marty Carr's office has limited ability to change the parking rules on Ridgecrest
  - Suggested added for additional signage along the school drop-off zone, which will require Board confirmation
  - Council discourages members from engaging with people who are parking in a dangerous way due to safety—the recommendation is to take a photo and submit a report to bylaw for follow up.

5. Administrative Report (Alina Orlea, Principal)

- A lot of work done for the past few weeks
- Report cards went home recently
- IEPs going out this Friday, which is a big team approach
- The team is working with the primary grades (SK-grade 2) to get the kids that were below the benchmark re-assessed for the Acadience
- Volt trial → preparing students in grade 3 and 6 for EQAO. Parents should expect to hear more
- It is Black History Month so there is a lot of learning around that.
- There were some events funded by council, such as a performance from Masabo (via MASC)
- Several projects taking place across all grade levels in the school
- Intermediate team is preparing a pink shirt assembly for Wednesday February 25
  - Kindness and compassion

- Staffing is stable this month
- Currently planning for classes for next year
  - 26 students are already registered for JK for next year, and the team effort to promote Kinder Info night and early enrollment was impactful

#### 6. Teacher's Report (Teacher's Representative Mme Seline)

- Update on School Activities
  - Kinder:
    - Learning about the 100th day of school
    - Kinder and primary bike is set up in the hallway and it is helpful for them to burn some energy
  - Primary
    - Masabo was incredible: 4 musicians, all from the West Coast of Africa, particularly from Cote d'Ivoire
    - Let's talk Science came in and they learned about feather and other features of animals (fat, fur, and feathers)
    - Michael the Magician came and did an anti-bullying show
    - Grade 2s are making hats and weaving
    - 100th Day and Valentine's Day celebrations
    - All of the Primary classes are getting out and going skating
    - A grandparent of a Grade 5/6 student made more skate helpers
    - EF 2/3 are doing cool math
    - Grade 2/3 kids are doing penpal work with Charles Hulse kids
  - Junior
    - Loving skating
    - Grade 4 Scientist in the Schools
    - Grade 5s are working on plant systems
    - The Juniors and Intermediates also enjoyed the Masabo presentation
  - Intermediate
    - Skating and Basketball are popular
    - The helmets and skates purchased by the Council are appreciated
    - First ever Grade 8 canal skating field trip
  - School-wide
    - Junior Rainbow Club is looking for wool, crochet hooks, and key rings
    - Gardening club is looking for donations of native pollinators seeds/plants and a rain barrel

#### 7. Treasurer's Update (Kathy Wrye, Treasurer)

- Financial update
  - \$54,500 in our account
    - Most of that is already spoken for
  - We have raised about \$10,000 for the year (excluding the first team of pizza and subway)
  - We have allocated \$29,000 to requests, but have only reimbursed about \$10,000

- We haven't gotten the receipts yet for the other amounts
    - We have about \$23,000 left to allocate for the year beyond this \$29,000
    - We have a list of things to examine tonight
  - Review and discussion on Funding Requests for February, \$6,450 is approved by Council for the following:
    - Steampunk discovery lab for Grade 5s: up to \$800
    - Chompsaw: 3 are requested and they cost ~\$400/Chompsaw. Approved up to \$1200.
    - Karen the librarian has requested library books (French, Indigenous): up to \$850
    - Cooking club (Grade 3 & 4), ingredients for a period of 6-8 weeks: up to \$500
    - Indigenous club for materials for medicine bags: up to \$100
    - Scientists in the School, Grade 7 and 8s for 6 classes: up to \$1,500
    - New Pickleball courts: racquets, balls and nets: up to \$1,000
    - Painted lady kits for kinders (caterpillars becoming butterflies): up to \$200
    - Flavours of the World: additional \$300 (Council approved initial allocation of \$1,500, but performer costs more this year (Makhena, interactive Hoop Dance))

#### 8. Committee/Event reports and updates

- 67s Hockey Fundraiser (Francis/Aaron)
  - Raised over \$726 and had a great time
  - Very well organized and executed
  - Proposed changes for next year would include possibly being able to access a larger block of tickets outside of the standard 100 we've been allocated the last few years.
- Grounds Committee Update (Jen Cox)
  - Grant to Canada Post going in before the end of February
  - Meeting in early March
  - Large fundraising initiative upcoming for upwards of \$300-\$500k over the next 10 years
- Leaving Ceremony Committee Update (Steph)
  - Parents are still looking to connect and are aiming to have a meeting before the next Council monthly meeting.
- Spring Fair (Melissa)
  - Hit the ground running
  - Tracking down availability for a few people
  - Aim is to have the initial meeting before the next council meeting
  - We are still looking for someone to take the lead on the front end leading on the silent auction
  - Kathy has the silent auction items to go
  - If anyone has any connections for the silent auction, please reach out to Kathy and Melissa
  - Restaurant or other shopping cards are always helpful
- Flavours of the World (Kathy/Heather)
  - A Save the Date will be shared before March Break

- Interactive Hoop Dancing performance has been booked via MASC
- Will look into backpack mailers and various promotional efforts

9. Discussion items and New business

- Reminder:
  - Family Movie Night (Live Action How to Train Your Dragon) on Friday, February 27, 2026
  - March Break from March 16-20, 2026
- Coordinators needed for the following events:
  - Silent Auction Coordinator (ASAP)
  - New food program Coordinator (ASAP)

10. Next meeting: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 (Virtual)