

PANORAMA HILLS SCHOOL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 25, 2025 6:00

Welcome

Introductions

Co-Chairperson - Parissa Mohamed
Co-Chairperson - Christine Hansplant
Administrator - Chrissy Parkinson
Key Communicator - Tamara Galambos
Volunteer Coordinator - Ken Nguyen

2025-2026 PHS Updates/ Principal's Report

- Land Acknowledgement (6:04 PM)
- Loreen Mitchell - Grade 2 learning leader
- Tanya Bedard - Grade 3 learning leader
- Population 493, were projected for 510
 - Population is getting smaller

- New Staff - Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Bedard, Ms. Farooq, Ms. Welte, Ms. Saini (temp until April) and Ms. O'Brien
- AM Entry - designated doors - consultation with community, counsel, police, etc.
- 8:05 doors open, but the bell will ring at 8:10
- Teacher supervision starts at 7:55, kids can be dropped off as early as then
- Lates are down significantly
- City looking to redesignate the North part of the school as a loading zone, no parking due to safety concerns.
 - Now have 5 buses
 - Hug and go running smoother than before. You are not allowed to leave your car.
 - Building was painted inside and outside over the last few months
 - Holistic framework put up and a language board in the office, represents most languages of PHS students last year.
 - Survey of grade 4 students and teachers - good results in Education quality, sense of belonging and culture and community in school. Will work to engage more grade 4 students this year to have more thorough results.
 - Last year - focus on writing. Saw improvements in all grades.
 - Focusing on a different strand of writing this year
 - Created a plan to connect Indigenous and Social and Emotional learning. This will help students regulate themselves and be better writers.
 - DLC - Only One You was the first activity - students painted rocks to show their individuality
 - 5 buses are new to PHS this year
 - A number of refugee students and Aboriginal status students this year. 39 primary languages in PHS this year.

Discussion on parking and entry

- Winter - Hoping that when winter comes that people will just drop their kids off.
- Hope that parents will trust that teachers will supervise and get kids in safely
- If weather is inclement then the doors will be open early
- A ramp is being explored from the grade 3 doors for a child with mobility concerns
- With respect to inclement weather, we will allow kids in at 7:55 at about -20, which is the CBE guidelines.
- If parents have two students in two different grades and drop off is a challenge, the parents can speak to Mr. Jeffrey to make alternate arrangements.
- Lates are down about 30%
- Clarification that inclement weather means if more than - 20 than the doors will be open. The -20 includes the wind chill and the earliest they will open is 7:55. If it is a cold day, then they can go into any door.
- Will talk about how things are going in the January meeting
- If there are further issues about parking, we can send comments or concerns to the Principal or we can explore setting a further meeting.
- The school will send an email about this

Kindergarten

- Kids are working on letters including upper case and lower case letters
- Working on numbers

Grade 1

- Working on seasons
- Patterns

Grade 2

- Sentences, upper case, lower case, making a sentence complete
- Repeating and increasing patterns and numbers up to 100
- Working on materials and how to use appropriately, making a 3D model
- Wellness - regulation and how brain works
- Orange shirt day

Grade 3

- Establish routine
- Working on time and angles
- Working on strong sentences
- Looking at scientific method
- Land Acknowledgment and community building
- Developing a growth mindset

Grade 4

- Annotating and jot notes, using Terry Fox
- Working on saving money and spending money
- Connecting ideas to real life

Grade 5

- Place value, working on numbers to 10 million
- Working on matter
- Periodic table
- Comprehension strategy
- Components on a well structured paragraphs
- Ancient civilizations and geography

CAD

- CAD will start Friday October 3, 2025.
- Three rounds, each 5 sessions
- There is a balance between AM and PM Kindergarten
- CAD duration will be shortened and 5 sessions rather than 8

Assemblies, Residencies and Performances:

- There will be a monthly assembly each hosted by a grade team
- Celebrations of learning will showcase the learning at the end of each residency. Friday mornings for 3 Left Feet and one Thursday evening for Trickster.
- Can we please know assembly dates well in advance so we can take the days off when our kids are hosting the assembly
- PHS website has a calendar with events that parents can go to, dances, assemblies and move nights will all be in there.

● Wish list/ Request for Funds

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ○ Buses for field trips 1/class | \$6000 (Casino) |
| ○ Laminator | \$3000 |
| ○ Class contingency funds (\$200/ classroom) | \$5200 |
| ○ Residencies - | |
| ■ Astrodome Sky Science | \$3000 |
| ■ Trickster | \$4500 first installment |
| - Total will be about 9,000 | |
| ○ Lego for DLC and CAD | \$500 |
| ○ Kinder centres | \$750-1000 |
| ○ Magnetic letters and cookie sheets | \$900 |
| ○ EALL, Trauma, and Social supports | \$ |
| ○ Djembes | \$ |
| ○ | |

This year, PHS will be asking that the cost of field trips is limited to 40.00 per person as there was a lot of unpaid fees last year. Buses will be paid by Casino funds for parent counsel.

Have approx. 1,000 we can put towards parent education, and those funds can be considered to use towards EALL, Trauma, and Social supports.

The cards with school information were very useful last year, and we could also explore using some funds towards making more of those.

Staff Appreciation

- Potluck dinner for staff on conference evenings
 - November 27th, 2025. Sonya and Kiran volunteered to help with the potluck.
 - Will have another one for the parent conference evenings in the Spring
- Sweet treat day – May/June
 - Will plan this date later

School Spirit Events:

- Movie nights 6-9pm (Feb 26 k-2; April 23 3-5)
- Halloween dance (Oct 23 5:30-8:30)
 - Chantelle will lead
 - DJ
 - Gym - Kiran can book the gym
 - Students can wear costumes, but no weapons and no masks.
 - Ticket sales - need to start soon. Can sell tickets during school periods.
 - Halloween Theme
 - If there is a strike, then we will need to work with the care takers
 - Chrissy will make posters and tickets for the dance
- Sports day freezies
 - We need to buy freezies still, Mr. Freeze, jumbo, 60 in a box.
 - Sonya will arrange this.
- Grade 5 grad celebration

Meeting Dates:

- September 25
- November 6
- January 15
- March 12
- AGM - May 21

Additional Items:

Buddy bench

- Was a request from a student, put this over to the next meeting

Push cart to replace wagon

- A cart would be easier for the EES teachers to push students around, if there is an alternate that is suitable for use in the school
- Mr. Jeffrey will speak to OTPT to get equipment suggestions

A parent raised a concern with respect to team teaching. There is one class with three classrooms, more than 70 kids in one portable room with only one exit door. There is a concern that this is a safety risk. A suggestion to move the kids to another teacher's classroom rather than combining all classes into one space.

Mr. Jeffrey advises the intent is not that all the students spend all the time in one classroom, it is intended to be for shorter periods of time. The school is exploring alternate spaces to teach in different locations.

Ms. Mitchell advises to reduce teacher workload, teacher sharing helps them not have to plan all of the lessons. Ms. Mitchel advises teaching science multiple times is taxing and she would rather teach it once to multiple classes than three times. Need to work out the schedules to work out what is best for the teachers as they learn to work together.

Mr. Jeffrey will explore the fire code requirements of having all of the kids in one classroom.

A parent speaks to the concern of moving kids around and the time that it takes to move the kids around and the time that is lost, by the time kids are settled it takes time.

Mr. Jeffrey advises Teachers are not required to use Google Classroom.

Motions:

Parissa motions to move fund requests from council meeting to society meeting, Chrissy seconds. All in favour. No opposed.

TOTALS:

Adjournment: 7:56

Next Meeting November 6 at 6:00 pm (hybrid)

Parissa Mohamed, Co-Chair

Christine Hansplant, Co-Chair

Chrissy Parkinson, Administrator

Scott Jeffrey, Principal