

New Dundee Public School - School Council Agenda/Minutes

Date: November 10, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Link: meet.google.com/onz-fpv-urp

School Council Handbook: [School Council Handbook](#)

Introductions and Attendance

- **Principal:** Joshua Kirk
- **Staff:** Kelly Willig
- **Chair:** Sarah Cherry
- **Secretary:** Melissa Kristensen
- **Treasurer:** Sarah Benn

- **School Council:** Jessica Nartey, Keizo Mauri
- **Guests:** Saliy Shaker
- **Student:** none
- **Regrets:**

Welcome / Territory Acknowledgment

As we gather virtually this evening, we would like to honor the existence of the First Peoples by acknowledging that we are on the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga peoples. New Dundee Public School occupies the land of the Between the Lakes Treaty from 1792. As learners, we continue to understand this place has significance to the First Peoples because of the rolling hills, forests, flat land, and the proximity to the Nith and Grand River, which is fed by the Great Lakes. Settlers need to take responsibility to continue our education and honor of the First Peoples. Let's work to honor the Dish with One Spoon covenant, a peace agreement made between the Indigenous nations before the settlers arrived. It characterizes our collective responsibility to each other and to Mother Earth. We should only take what we need and leave enough for future generations.

Principal Update

Updates

- Thank you to School Council for organizing and running a successful Herrle's fundraiser and Scholastic Book Fair
- All Health and Safety drills completed for 2025 – next drill will be in January (lockdown drill), followed by a tornado drill in April
- Remembrance Day assembly tomorrow in the gym (10:50-11:20am)
- PD Day November 17th – no school or extended day
- Progress Reports go home November 18th – please reach out to your child's teacher if any questions or concerns – reminder this is not reflective of achievement but progress towards achievement right now
- Continuing with small committee on SLIP – looking to ensure 80% or more of our students in Grade 3 & 6 achieve provincial standard or above on EQAO – Acadience, ORF, MAAP – also focus on Equity Habits of Mind
- This will also benefit the other grades – full staff engagement – full SLIP plan posted in main office on bulletin board
- Also focus on RISE – code of conduct – Respect, Integrity, Safety, Encouragement – celebrated in the form of Gotchas – Safe Caring and Inclusive School (SCIS) committee will start up in coming weeks
- Week of Giving – first week of December – details forthcoming
- Winter Concert – details and date/time TBD
- Facilities Update – all public provincial buildings must be accessible by 2028 – Josh met with contractors from the board – will look at installing elevator in 2027 or 2028 – two phases – will also be updating some classrooms
 - Going through heritage foundation to ensure integrity of original building is maintained and not impacted by the elevator
- Fence installation underway – will help keep JK/SK students safe
 - Completing in the coming weeks
- Accessibility Update
- Kongdara retiring at the end of this year (Dec 31)
 - Facilities is in charge of hiring for Jan 1

Important Dates

- November 11 - Remembrance Day

- November 13 - Photo Retake (PM)
- November 17 - PD Day
- November 18 - Progress Reports Sent Home
- December 22 - January 2, 2026 - Winter Break
- January 19 - School Council

Action item:

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What are we fundraising for?

- Bussing for field trips
- Nutrition for learning
- What is on the educator wish list this year
 - Gym equipment - dodge balls
 - Outdoor equipment
 - Action item from last meeting: Josh - are teachers requesting approval to use council funds for equipment?
 - 5 new sets of dodge balls
 - 2 recess kits
 - Total \$1,614.94
- School improvements
 - Fence around kindy area.
 - Completed within the next two weeks
- Playground equipment repairs/replacement
 - Sarah C attended the New Dundee Optimist Club townhall to request support for playground equipment. Town was excited about playground and there was buy in from club to fundraise for it.
 - Attach a goal to each fundraising event
 - Josh has reached out to facilities manager; they will come out in the spring.
 - Sarah C met with Forest Glen and it cost \$60,000 and they raised funds within 2 years
 - Tractor is 24 years old and not very inclusive, most playgrounds are only supposed to be up for 10 years

Action Items:

- Sarah C made a motion to approve spending on gym equipment of \$1,614.94. Sarah B seconded it. Approved.

Fundraising Plans and Ideas for 2025 - 2026

Current Plans:

- **Veggie Boxes:** September - \$700 raised
- **Bookfair:** November
 - Scholastic points are used to purchase items for the school, determined by the staff
 - \$1,637.25 raised
- **Dance-A-Thon:** February; kids want glow sticks to buy this year; do not put fundraising for busing; can use for recess kits and gym equipment
- **Chocolate (Rheo Thompson):** March-April
- **End of year event:** BBQ, May or early June

Action Items:

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Financial Report

School Council Funds Summary November 2025

Main Account

Opening balance - May 2025	4,506.43
Herrle's fundraiser - orders	3,787.32
Herrle's fundraiser - expense	-3,080.00
Bussing for field trips (prior school year)	- 713.34
Balance in account at November 7, 2025	<u>4,500.41</u>

WEFI Account

No activity since April 2025

- \$140.80 in the School Council Float
- \$713.34 of bus expenses from last year has been taken out of WEFI account (Dance a Thon donations were earmarked for this expense last year but amounts were withdrawn from main account)
- Still have \$1,350 left from last year's Dance a Thon in WEFI account - use for this year's bus expenses?

Action item:

- Add playground equipment as fundraising goal for every fundraiser from now on - that way any extra \$ can be put towards the playground
- Any money coming out of WEFI goes to finance and we have to have documentation
- All of the fundraisers - put the playground on as what we are fundraising for (playground and)

Volunteer

- Sarah C. sent out the volunteer request and has created a list - Helping Hands
- Action item from last meeting: Josh - do teachers want volunteers in the classroom or help in other ways?
 - A lot of student teachers this year
 - Currently no additional needs identified

Action item:

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Ongoing Programs and Other Updates

- Nutrition for Learning - update at next meeting
- Strong Start
 - Fall/Winter session, send out next week requesting volunteers
- Gardens
 - Done for this season
- Care Committee
 - 8 cards done, and holiday cards coming up
 - Mr. Kongdara is retiring, looking for donations for a gift
 - Considering a gift card to: <https://www.theeasypourwinebar.com/>
 - Kelly to send an email to ask for donations
- Hot lunches

- Added Thursday hot lunches and replaced with Mother Flockers with A&W starting December
- Indigenous drumming circle and dancers idea - Sarah C sends to Josh.

Action item:

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WRAPSC/PIC Meeting Update

WRAPSC

No updates.

PIC

Decision via email to pool funds with other schools to offer families a seminar on education on social media, technology addiction and internet safety by Dr. Alison Yeung.

Most likely on a Tuesday evening

 WRDSB PRO GRANT APPLICATION 20252026.pdf

Upcoming meetings

- Sep 25, 2025 - PIC - 6:30pm
- Nov 4, 2025 - WRAPSC - 7:00pm
- Nov 25, 2025 - PIC - 6:30pm
- Jan 6, 2026 - WRAPSC - 7:00pm (Melissa)
- Jan 27, 2025 - PIC - 6:30pm (Sarah C)
- Feb 3, 2026 - WRAPSC - 7:00pm (Sarah B)
- Mar 24, 2026 - PIC - 6:30pm
- Apr 7, 2026 - WRAPSC - 7:00pm (Kiersten)
- May 5, 2026 - WRAPSC - 7:00pm (Melissa)
- May 26, 2026 - PIC - 6:30pm

Action Items:

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2024 - 2025 School Council Dates

- September 22
- November 10
- January 19
- March 30
- May 25

Meeting Minutes Approval

- Motion by Sarah Cherry, Seconded by Jessica Nartey

Please email the chair or administration with any agenda requests before the next meeting: sewrustic@gmail.com, joshua_kirk@wrdsb.ca, ndpscouncil@gmail.com

Topics from last year for future meetings

- Grade 6 transition
- Staff appreciation lunch
- EQAO snacks
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