

BUCHANAN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

September 23, 2025

6:30 PM

Buchanan School Library

People Present:

- Jillian Gilmour - Chair
- Nasie Makos – Vice Chair
- Robin Phillips, Principal
- Salwa Amche, Vice Principal
- Kelsey Sostar
- Kayce Wong
- Miranda Diakiw
- Terry Keli Chen
- Salam Engida
- Rachael Lee
- Seble Kifle

People Absent:

- Sara Keane – Treasurer
- Anna Cruz – Alternate Treasurer

Meeting called to order: 6:40 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from last meeting:

- Jillian moved to approved, seconded by Robin, all in favour.

Chair Report: Jillian Gilmour

Important notices regarding Student Council:

- Jillian Gilmour stepped down at the end of the 2024/2025 school year
- She has been nominated back and would like to be President for 2025/2026
 - Nasie moved to approved, seconded by Miranda
- Sara Keane was nominated to take over the Treasurer role for 2025/2026
- Jillian Gilmour, Sara Keane and Anna Cruz have banking signing authority for the 2025/2026 school year.
- Insurance has been ordered from ASCA Insurance Program through Lloyd Sadd
- Applied for Alberta School Council Association Membership for 2025/2026

Open Positions:

- Secretary
- Fundraiser Coordinator
- Fun Snack Distributor(s)
- Members at Large!

Fundraising and Events:

- Muffin Mixer – School Council sponsored the event (around \$400)
 - Robin and the teachers did a great job organizing and hosting
- Meet the Teacher Night – Staff meal was purchased by the PTA.
 - Lots of great community partners came to participate. Very well received.

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- First fun snack will be Texas Donuts October 23rd
 - Slips to be sent home this week in case teachers go on strike on the 6th
- Halloween Dance is fast approaching – need volunteers to decorate, run the photobooth and monitor admission/concessions
 - DJ has been secured along with photobooth
 - Signup Genius to be created and sent out in the weekly meetings starting now
- Purdy's fundraiser catalogues have been ordered to kick off in November
- Looking for our first fun snack volunteer to run November's fun snack
 - Jill is happy to train and support if you would like to try your hand at running a chip fun snack
- If you would like to volunteer with the school in general, please obtain a volunteer letter from Dan at the front office. Once the police check is complete, school council will reimburse the \$15 cost.

Treasurer's Report: Sara Keane provided by Jillian

- Operating Account: \$2,160.50
- Casino Account: \$54,606.09 – Next Casino Scheduled for Sep-Dec 2026
 - Activities for the 2025/2026 school year sponsored by these funds:
 - Fitset Ninja (\$2000)
 - 4,5,6 will go to confluence (bussing)
 - Alien in-line skating (one week)
 - Story book theatre residency
 - Swimming lessons

School Report: Robin Phillips

- Please follow the school and school council pages on Instagram
 - @buchanan_school and @buchanantgether1
- Terry Fox Run brought the school community together
 - Grade 6ers ran with the kindergarteners
- Focus on the bears and the ecosystem – every child picked a plant or flower that was important to them and these are being displayed
- Naming spaces and places, ownership to the kids for naming items in the school
- Ralph Klein Park field trip for wetland study occurred and was well received
- New library furniture has arrived, and the kids are loving it
- Literacy focus of the year is writing – helping students become stronger writers
- High academic expectations and teacher feedback to push them further
- 12 teachers, Principal, Vice Principal and 5 EAs at the school
- Buchanan also has a wonderful EES (Enhanced Educational Support) class

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Upcoming Key Dates:

- **September 26th - Orange Shirt Day**
- September 29th - Non-Instructional Day (No School for Students)
- September 30th - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No School)
- October 2nd - Grades 4, 5, and 6 – Field Trip to the Confluence (We Are Treaty People)
- October 7th - Picture Day
- October 13th - No School- Thanksgiving Monday
- October 22nd – Texas Donuts Fun Snack
- October 23rd – Halloween Dance from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.!

Adjourned Meeting: 7:10 p.m.

All meetings will be held in person in the library at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings:

- **28-Oct-2025**
- **25-Nov-2025**
- **NO MEETING IN DECEMBER**
- **27-Jan-2026**
- **24-Feb-2026**
- **17-Mar-2026**
- **28-Apr-2026**
- **26-May-2026**
- **09-Jun-2026 – AGM**