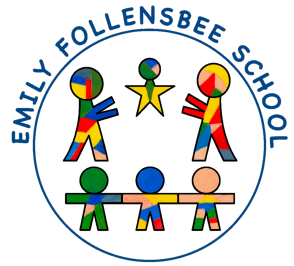


**Emily Follensbee School  
School Council Meeting**



**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**DATE |** Thursday, February 19, 2026  
**TIME |** 6:45 PM

**IN ATTENDANCE |** Nancy Koutselas (Chair), Sara Minshull (Secretary), Fred Bulloch (Acting Principal), Lanna Myers (Assistant Principal), Colleen Russell (Teacher), Darcy Allen (Teacher), Diana (Teacher), Lisa B(Parent), Amanda F (Parent), Brian (Parent), Jeanette Mendez Sarmiento (Parent), Cindy Zhai (Parent)

**REGRETS |** Ali Azam (Treasurer)

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT:** 6:45 PM

ITEM	PRESENTER	NOTES
1. Welcome & Introductions (1 min)	Nancy	<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction of Attendees</b> Nancy welcomed and round table for introductions.
2. Minutes from Last Meeting (2 min)	Council	<b>January 2026 Minutes:</b> Nancy motioned, Sara approved
3. Approval of Agenda (1 min)	Council	<b>February 2026 Agenda:</b> Nancy motioned, Sara approved
4. Land Acknowledgement (5 min)	Lanna	<b>Acknowledgement of the Land:</b> Lanna acknowledged the land on which we gathered.
5. Teacher Presentation (5 min)	Darcy	<b>Connecting Through Fine Arts:</b> Darcy will talk about how the fine arts curriculum helps learners to make connections to their learning, to themselves, to others and to their environment/land. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide alternative ways for students with diverse needs to engage and understand educational context effectively</li> <li>- Art activities offer safe spaces for emotional expression, supporting self-regulation and mental health in special education</li> <li>- Improving memory and comprehension for complex learners</li> <li>- Emphasizes personalization, student voice, and participation, aligning with CBE's values and educational expectations</li> <li>- Literacy connections through drama and storytelling, visual arts, music and phonological awareness and multimodal literacy support</li> <li>- Mathematic connections through music enhance math skills with rhythm and repetition</li> <li>- Dance supports spatial understanding; direction, shape, spatial awareness</li> <li>- Math concepts; symmetry, sorting, shape recognition</li> <li>- Science connections; movement, exploration, interpretation of nature through drawing and sensory materials</li> <li>- Drama and role play</li> </ul>

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**MINUTES OF MEETING**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Functional life skills - art support life skills, motor development, sensory processing, and social interaction</li> <li>- Students have complex needs including cognitive, physical sensory and communicating challenges</li> <li>- Programs are tailored, predictable and multi-sensory to support developmental levels effectively</li> <li>- Arts bridge non-verbal communication gaps fostering agency, achievement and belonging</li> </ul>
6. School Presentation (10 min)	Fred & Lanna	<p><b>2026 School Planning Presentation:</b> Lanna shared the informative video that explains the process of School Development Plan; it is based on results data relative to the goals and outcomes set in the 2024/2025 SDP for Year 1 and the results from the Alberta Education Assurance Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SDP aligns individual school goals with the identified goals in CBE Education plan (2024-2027).</li> <li>- Celebrations, Areas for Growth, Identified Next Steps</li> <li>- Measurable outcomes and data for monitoring progress</li> <li>- School budgets and school fees 90% from CBE and 10% from</li> <li>- Informs instructional strategies, resources to improve student learning</li> <li>- School goal: <i>Student foundational skills in expressive and receptive communication will improve</i></li> <li>- Individualized communication goals and strategies documented in eerie students IPP</li> <li>- Communication Matrix Profile; in June highlighting student achievement and progress for all students</li> <li>- Modified Bridge Assessment</li> <li>- Formative and summative cross disciplinary documentation</li> <li>- Classroom teams will complete a Communication Matrix Assessment for every student and engage in an analysis of assessment data</li> <li>- All staff are aware of each students IPP goals, and personalized strategies are visible and implemented across contexts</li> <li>- Multimodal communication</li> </ul>

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**MINUTES OF MEETING**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff will teach, model and provide responsive feedback support</li> <li>- Literacy and communication open house and literacy week to support parent involvement with literacy and communication</li> <li>- Sarah (Indigenous Lead Teacher) is meeting with each class and the entire school community to support building and applying application foundational knowledge about First Nations, Metis and Inuit and intentional exposure of learning experiences</li> <li>- Colleen (Learning Leader) school wide home reading program to support literacy and communication</li> <li>- Engaging Learners with Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities - book study</li> <li>- Comprehensive literacy for all, Very Special Maths, Pedagogical Documentation.</li> <li>- The block funding that EFS received covers 96.5%</li> <li>- School wide collaborate response team meetings focused on the development and shared understanding of Emily Follensbee Schools continuum of supports</li> </ul> <p>Celebrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 100% of students had a completed Communication Matrix</li> <li>- Staff intentionally taught, modeled and provided responsive feedback to enhance students expressive and receptive communication</li> <li>- Student co-regulation and regulation practices are embedded in daily routines and task design, fostering both communication growth and well being</li> <li>- Assurance survey results continue to be in the excellent range across all measures, with notable gains in access to supports, services, and parental involvement</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Room for growth with the Assurance Survey as it showed 5.7% decrease</li> <li>- Student enrollment for the current year is 89 students. RAM allocations is per school total of \$3,329,413 which per student is \$470, 655.</li> </ul>
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**MINUTES OF MEETING**

		<p>Resource Allocation Method - split amongst teachers, support staff, administration, and then supplies/other.</p> <p>2025/2026 School Fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Music Therapy: Fee of \$90 per year, and will remain the same for 26/27</li><li>- Warm Water Therapy: Fee of \$20 per year, and will remain the same for 26/27</li><li>- Note that all CBE system fees (transportation, student supplies etc) are determined and issued by the Calgary Board of Education.</li></ul> <p><b>Alberta Education &amp; Childcare Assurance Survey:</b> Reminder to Parents/Guardians of students in grades 4, 7 &amp; 10 to complete Alberta Education &amp; Childcare Assurance Survey online. Survey link and Random Access Codes were sent via email to Parents/Guardians of students in grade 4, 7 &amp; 10. Deadline is March 6.</p> <p><b>Student Specialized Report Cards &amp; IPPs:</b> Feb. 24 - Specialized Report Cards are available online via Parent/Guardian MyCBE accounts. IPPs will be sent home with students same day.</p> <p><b>Student Learning Conferences:</b> Scheduled for Thursday, February 26 (3:30 pm-8:00 pm). Parents/Guardians can book online using their MyCBE account on Feb. 17 at 4:00 pm.</p> <p><b>School Events:</b> Jan. 20 - Calgary Philharmonic Feb. 4 - Family Literacy Day Event Feb. 11 - Calgary Opera (Little Red Riding Hood) Feb. 12 &amp; 13 – ATA &amp; SA Conventions (staff professional development)</p> <p><b>Spring Break:</b> March 20 – April 6. Classes resume on Tuesday, April 7. School will be closed during this time.</p> <p><b>Gratitude:</b> Many thanks to Nancy &amp; her family for providing lunch to EFS teachers on Jan. 30 during their system professional learning day.</p>
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**MINUTES OF MEETING**



7. Old Business – Carry Forward (10 min)		None to note
8. Carry Forward (0 min) <i>To be discussed at next meeting</i>		

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT:**

8:15 PM

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:**

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Emily Follensbee School  
EFS Children's Society



**MINUTES OF MEETING**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT:

8:16 PM

ITEM	PRESENTER	NOTES
1. Minutes from Last Meeting (2 min)	Society	<b>January 2026 Minutes:</b> Nancy motioned, Sara Second
2. Approval of Agenda (1 min)	Society	<b>February 2026 Agenda:</b> Nancy motioned, Sara Second
3. Financial Update (5 min)	Ali	<b>January 2026:</b> Casino Account: General Account:  Ali unable to attend, this update will be postponed for next month.
4. Fundraising Events (2 min)	Lanna	<b>EFS Spirit Wear Fundraiser:</b> Jill has reached out to Big Mountain and unfortunately our previous account manager is no longer there. Jill is still awaiting to hear from the vendor/new account manager. Once this happens, she will proceed with organizing the fundraiser & online store.
5. New Business (10 min)	Lanna & Council	<b>The Ability Workshop Society:</b> Follow up on donation made/to be made by EFS Children's Society. Possibly present cheque at March School Council Meeting.  <b>Prestige Sprinkler System:</b> Approve & sign contract for summer & fall services.  <b>Provision of Meal to Teachers:</b> \$1500 was pre-approved under 2025-26 Wishlist by School Council. Student Learning Conferences scheduled for Thursday, February 26 (3:30 pm–8:00 pm)  Sara & Nancy to confirm about the cheque, and get signed contract to Jen from Prestige.  Nancy motioned, Jeanette in second, all in favor for the meal for teachers. Nancy and Sara to coordinate the meal, and coffee restock. Will submit receipts to Ali.
6. Old Business – Carry Forward (10 min)	Sara	<b>Parent Social Survey:</b> No survey has been sent, Sara to e-mail questions to Jen for survey still.  Deerfoot Casino has been signed and we will receive the dates shortly.

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**MINUTES OF MEETING**

		New Parent Bulletin board at front, Sara will bring in a memo noting the positions that are open on the Parent Council. Thank you to Colleen for making the board!
7. Carry Forward Items (0 min) <i>(to be discussed at next meeting)</i>	Council	

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT:**

8:32 PM

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:**

Thursday, March 19, 2026