

# GEORGES P. VANIER SCHOOL COUNCIL

Calgary Board of Education

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board of Trustees, Calgary Board of Education (boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca)  
**COPY:** Chad Edmonds, Principal, Georges P. Vanier School  
**FROM:** Travis McIntosh, Interim Chair, Georges P. Vanier School Council  
**DATE:** September 13, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Georges P. Vanier School Council Annual Report, 2025-26 School Year

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### 1. Purpose

This memorandum outlines the Georges P. Vanier School Council annual report for the 2025-26 school year, submitted under the Education Act and in response to the Board of Trustees notice of September 9, 2026. The report follows the content set out in the CBE School Council Annual Report template and School Council Handbook. A copy has been provided to the school principal.

Georges P. Vanier School Council is the advisory body established under the Education Act and the School Councils Regulation. The Council works alongside a separate, incorporated fundraising arm, known as the Parent's Association. Fundraising revenues, casino proceeds and disbursements referenced in this report are held and administered by that Association, not by the Council. They are reported here for context only.

### 2. School and Reporting Year

|                                           |                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| School                                    | Georges P. Vanier School (Grades 6 to 9, English and French Immersion) |
| Reporting year                            | 2025-26                                                                |
| Principal                                 | Chad Edmonds                                                           |
| Assistant Principal                       | Cindy Chin                                                             |
| Date of first Council meeting of the year | September 23, 2025                                                     |
| Annual General Meeting                    | November 25, 2025                                                      |
| Meeting format                            | Hybrid, in person at the school and virtual                            |
| Report submitted by                       | Travis McIntosh, Interim Chair (2026-27), on behalf of the Council     |

### 3. Council Executive, 2025-26

The following members were elected to School Council positions at the Annual General Meeting held November 25, 2025.

| Position                      | Name            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Principal                     | Chad Edmonds    |
| Chair                         | Farouk Gillani  |
| Vice Chair                    | Steven Rowe     |
| Secretary                     | Monica Vekved   |
| Treasurer                     | Travis McIntosh |
| Key Communicator              | Tanis James     |
| Casino Coordinator            | Dawna Morrow    |
| Member at Large, Fundraising  | Joy Park        |
| Member at Large               | Sarah Andre     |
| Member at Large, Social Media | Tara Niscak     |
| Teacher Representative        | [confirm name]  |
| Community Representative      | vacant          |

*Note: Farouk Gillani concluded approximately seven to eight years of service as Chair at the May 26, 2026 meeting. Executive positions for 2026-27 will be elected at the Annual General Meeting in the fall of 2026.*

### 4. Meeting Dates

The Council meets on the last Tuesday of each month during the school year, with the exception of December, March and June.

| Date               | Meeting                                                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 23, 2025 | Regular monthly meeting (first meeting of the year)         |
| October 28, 2025   | Postponed indefinitely                                      |
| November 25, 2025  | Annual General Meeting, followed by regular monthly meeting |
| January 27, 2026   | Regular monthly meeting                                     |
| February 24, 2026  | Regular monthly meeting                                     |
| April 28, 2026     | Regular monthly meeting, attended by Trustee Laura Hack     |
| May 26, 2026       | Regular monthly meeting (final meeting of the year)         |

Context: the provincial teachers' labour disruption in the fall of 2025 affected the Council's schedule in the first part of the reporting year. The Annual General Meeting, anticipated for October 2025, was held on November 25, 2025 and was immediately followed by the regular monthly meeting and the Band

Association annual meeting. Scheduling of a trustee visit and of planned fundraising activity was also deferred into the second half of the year. [Confirm whether the October 28, 2025 meeting proceeded or was cancelled.]

Minutes for each meeting are retained by the Council Secretary and are available to the school community on request.

## **5. Council Activities, 2025-26**

### **5.1 Advice to the Principal and Consultation on School Planning**

- Reviewed the principal's annual funding requests at the September and November meetings, covering emergency student supplies, core subject consumables, physical education, library literacy materials, field trip transportation, music and band, and staff appreciation.
- Received and discussed the school's Program Monitoring Report on French Immersion in January 2026, including identified strengths and growth areas such as extending French use outside the classroom and increasing student to student oral interaction.
- Reviewed wellness survey results in January 2026, which showed positive trends in belonging, positive relationships, self esteem and feeling safe at school.
- Discussed school budget context and constraints, including the proportion of the school budget committed to staffing, the supply budget, photocopying costs, and losses carried on some optional and extracurricular activities that support student engagement.
- Reviewed enrollment, staffing and programming plans for 2026-27 at the May meeting, including new option choices, additional guidance and resource staffing, Official Languages in Education Program funding, and building envelope upgrades.
- Discussed the phased introduction of new provincial curriculum, including teams at the school considering piloting in 2026-27, and the transition of students from Grade 9 to Grade 10.

### **5.2 Parent and Community Engagement**

- Held all meetings in hybrid format to allow families to participate in person or online. Attendance ranged from small working meetings to meetings with more than twenty participants.
- Surveyed the school community to identify priority questions in advance of the trustee visit, and invited parents to submit additional questions.
- Developed a Linktree and social media presence for the Council.
- Used the Alberta School Council Engagement grant to produce promotional magnets carrying a QR code and Linktree information, and to fund display materials for the Clubs and Options night held in conjunction with the Fine Arts Showcase on June 2, 2026.
- Presented at the school open house and surveyed attending parents. The Council will present again at the September 8, 2026 open house, with an emphasis on demonstrating the impact of parent fundraising on student programming.

### 5.3 Engagement with the Board of Trustees and the System

- The Key Communicator attended Community of School Councils meetings during the year and reported back to the Council, including updates on class size and complexity, budget planning for 2026-27, and capital planning for 2027 to 2030.
- Raised facilities concerns at the Community of School Councils meeting in January 2026, including snow clearing of walkways, the condition of the soccer field, and building envelope items, and pursued follow up with EducationMatters and the Ward 4 Councillor.
- Efforts to schedule a trustee visit began in the fall of 2025 and were deferred by the labour disruption, with the invitation carried forward and confirmed in the winter.
- Invited Trustee Laura Hack, Wards 3 and 4 and Chair of the Board of Trustees, who attended the April 28, 2026 meeting. Questions were provided to the Trustee in advance. Ward 4 Councillor DJ Kelly was invited and was unable to attend.
- Topics raised with the Trustee included review of service providers on the Master Agreement list, off site activity approvals under Administrative Regulation 3027, lockdown and emergency preparedness practice under Administrative Regulation 3021, teacher workload and assignable hours, PowerSchool usability for parents, interpretation of the grading scale on report cards, guidelines for the use of artificial intelligence, school based accounts receivable, and curriculum transition.
- Action arising: circulate the CBE grading scale video with report card notifications, and consider Council hosted orientation sessions for parents new to PowerSchool.

### 5.4 Student and Teacher Voice

- Hosted Grade 7 leadership students at the February 2026 meeting to present proposals developed through a school based competition. Students proposed expanded field trip access and an expanded graphic novel collection for the library, and committed to raising a portion of the cost themselves.
- Received a teacher funding proposal for indoor classroom gardens for all Grade 7 classes, with learning outcomes in plant science and collaboration and a low annual maintenance cost.
- Received a presentation on the BelCanFran reciprocal student exchange program with families in France and Belgium.
- The parent fundraising association subsequently approved funding of up to \$6,000 covering the indoor gardens, library materials, and a visiting political cartoonist workshop for all Grade 9 students.

### 5.5 Governance and Organizational Change

- Supported the consolidation of the Vanier Band Parents Association into the Vanier Vikings' Parents Association, motioned and approved on May 26, 2026, with the merged body operating as the GP Vanier Parents' Association.

- The consolidation removes duplicate executive positions, duplicate financial reporting and duplicate gaming licence administration. A further motion dedicated at least forty percent of casino proceeds to fine arts and music programming on an ongoing basis.
- Digitized and organized historical financial and administrative records in a shared repository, and began documenting the history of expenditures to support multi year planning and role succession.
- Identified succession as a priority following the departure of the Chair and the Treasurer's intention to transition the role, and began recruitment and training of incoming volunteers.

## 6. Financial Summary

### 6.1 School Council Funds

The School Council does not operate a bank account. The only funds administered directly by the Council during the reporting year were provincial Alberta School Council Engagement grant funds, provided as prepaid spending cards, in the amount of \$500 for the current year plus \$500 carried over from the prior year. These funds were directed to parent and community engagement, specifically promotional magnets and display materials for the Clubs and Options night.

### 6.2 Parent Fundraising Association (separate legal entity)

The following figures relate to the incorporated parent fundraising association and are reported for context. The association's fiscal year begins November 1.

| Item                                                                     | General Fund | Casino Fund  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Balance at 2025 fiscal year end (unaudited, presented November 25, 2025) | \$2,723.05   | \$137,482.36 |
| Balance at May 2026 month end, as reported                               | \$1,497.66   | \$89,988.27  |
| Band association assets transferred on merger, May 26, 2026              | \$3,457.10   | \$0          |

The Band Parents Association also held a guaranteed investment certificate valued at approximately \$19,975.97, which transferred to the merged association.

- On November 25, 2025 the association approved a base spending plan of \$50,000 for the 2025-26 school year, developed in consultation with the principal. The plan directed funds to classroom and school materials, fine arts and music, sports and physical education equipment, field trip transportation, library materials, emergency student nutrition and educational supports.
- Approximately \$30,000 of the approved plan had been disbursed as at the May 2026 meeting, with the balance in process. Delays in processing expenditures through CBE systems affect the timing of disbursements.
- The association's next casino is confirmed for December 13 and 14, 2026. Volunteer recruitment is underway.
- Financial statements for the association are reviewed annually by member volunteers and presented at the Annual General Meeting.

## 7. Priorities for 2026-27

- Elect a full executive at the Annual General Meeting and complete the transition of the Chair and Treasurer roles, supported by the documented procedures and digitized records prepared during 2025-26.
- Present at the school open house on September 8, 2026.
- Approve the annual expenditure plan earlier in the school year so that teachers can plan spending with certainty, and move to a per student allocation model for field trip funding.
- Support recruitment of volunteers for the December 13 and 14, 2026 casino.
- Determine the allocation of funds transferred from the former Band Parents Association, with the band program operating at expanded capacity.
- Continue trustee and Community of School Councils engagement, including an early invitation to the ward trustee for the 2026-27 year.
- Continue traffic safety follow up with the Ward 4 Councillor and the City of Calgary, and continue to raise facilities and capacity matters as enrolment grows.
- Support parent understanding of PowerSchool, report card interpretation and new curriculum implementation through information sessions and communications.

## 8. Attachments

- Minutes of School Council meetings held during the 2025-26 school year.
- Financial statements of the parent fundraising association [attach if the Board requires them].

## 9. Certification

Submitted on behalf of the Georges P. Vanier School Council.

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Name of School Council Chair:      | Travis McIntosh |
| Signature of School Council Chair: |                 |
| Date:                              |                 |