

## Sir John A Macdonald School Council

### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

#### **Attendance**

Chairperson: Michelle Wood

Treasurer: Jennifer Razzo

Secretary: Laurie Leier

Volunteer Coordinator: Hope Lewis

Parents: Wayne Diesel, Brooklyn Shill

Admin: Michelle Hornby, Lee Jensen, Lauramy Hopley

**1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm.**

**2. Approvals:**

*Laurie moved to accept the April 21, 2026 agenda. Seconded by Hope. Carried*

*Jennifer moved to accept the minutes of March 17, 2026. Seconded by Hope. Carried*

**3. Attendance was taken.**

**4. Student Leadership Presentation: Amy and Miranda**

Past Events:

- March 17: Curling field trip
- March 17 and 20: Parent Teacher Student Interviews
- March 19: World Down Syndrome Day
- March 30: Classes resume and badminton TRYOUTS began
- April 6 and 8: Outdoor Ed Climbing Field Trips – thanks to School Council for the busses!
- April 13 was the MHL (Mustang Floor Hockey) championship game ~ Teachers won, again! MHL started March 3.
- April 14, 15, 16: SJAM Talent Show finals!
- April 20: Grade 9 Optional Field Trip – Calgary Zoo

Upcoming:

- April 21: Thursday April 23: Optional Band Camp (Grade 7, 8, 9)
- April 22: optional SJAM fun lunch.; Well-Being Homeroom
- April 24: Maatomisii' Pookaiks: CBE System Professional Noninstructional Day – no school for students – staff off to "Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump"
- April 27: Ms. Campbell returns!
- Track and Field practices are coming! Check the website and the P.E. bulletin board

- April 28: Make up day for Immunizations by Primary Care Alberta
- April 29: optional SJAM fun lunch; Math Homeroom; Darcy Turning Robe
- April 30: Gift Card draw #4 and #5 for an SJAM student who has entered the SJAM literacy contest through Ms. Campbell
- April 30: CBE Grade 9 Transition Round Dance (5:00 – 8:00 pm): Ernest Manning High School
- May 4 – 8: Mental Health Awareness Week: mental health bingo, random acts of kindness challenge, information sessions at lunch and various posters with strategies posted around the school
- May 7: Stampede Dance

**5. SJAM Learning Leader Presentation: Lauramy Hopley, Grade 8 and SMATH Learning Leader**

Ms. Hopley presented at this year's Teacher Convention on how to teach grade 8 math. This year staff has used the work of Pam Harris to solidify and refine our math instruction practices.

Developing Mathematical Reasoning encourages students to work through problems and think about the "why" instead of focusing on the "how." We want students to be "brains on" and constantly thinking about why they are doing an operation or process, not blindly following a given algorithm.

Examples of Number Modelling were shared, including Number Lines, Ratio Tables and Graphic Organizers. Staff acknowledge that math anxiety exists, but math should be accessible to everyone. The goal is to show that math is everywhere, and can be figured out in some way. Topics included estimation strategies, financial literacy, basic budgeting, and taxes and deductions.

**6. Administrative Report  
Principal: Ms. Michelle Hornby**

Proposed 2026-27 School Council Meeting Dates (3rd Tuesday of the month):

<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
September 16, 2025	September 15, 2026
October 21, 2025	October 20, 2026
November 18, 2025	November 17, 2026
January 20, 2026	January 19, 2027
February 17, 2026	February 16, 2027
March 17, 2026	March 16, 2027
April 21, 2026	April 20, 2027
May 19, 2026 (AGM)	May 18, 2027 (AGM)

Bus request: Track and Field Meet - \$598.50

Computer Request: Mac Mini, Monitor & Keyboard - \$1200

New class at SJAM next year: ALP/PLP Hybrid with 1 teacher and 2 EAs.

CBE's budget for 2026-27 will be released to Principals on Thursday, so staffing updates at May School Council meeting

**Assistant Principal: Mr. Lee Jensen**

Mr. Jensen has been preparing Timetables, Homeroom Buddies and Options for the next school year.

**Mr. Kwiatkowski**

Mr. K is away at Band Camp, but shared in his absence that the PAT Excused process has begun. If your child was slated for being excused, you should have had a letter come home.

Feel free to reach out to Mr. K ([bakwiatkowski@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:bakwiatkowski@cbe.ab.ca)) if you think your child should be excused as well.

**7. Questions, Concerns, Compliments**

Thanks to Brooklyn, Kim and Shannon for helping with Fun Lunch.

**8. Old Business**

Hope will post the open Council positions on Facebook and will share the access with Council. Ms. Hornby will add the open positions to the weekly newsletter.

**9. New Business**

A 'cap classroom sizes' campaign is underway. The recommendations for grade:student numbers are:

K - 3	17
4 - 6	23
7 - 9	25
10 - 12	27

*Jennifer moved to add the Sir John A Macdonald School Council name to the petition in support of capping classroom sizes.*

## **10. Treasurer's Report**

Casino bank balance is \$92,222.98

General account bank balance is \$2,997.05

Healthy Hunger cheque needs to be deposited. Are special writing math desks/tables allowed under casino funds?

## **11. Volunteer Coordinator**

The May dance and Fun Lunches require volunteers.

**12. Key Communicator:** CBE Connections content shared.

**13. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.**

Next meeting:

➤ May 19, 2026 (AGM)