

Northern Lights School Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Online Microsoft Teams Meeting

In Attendance: Marissa Gillespie, Andrea Manning, Lindsay Stanford, Christine Sizer, Shelley Henderson, Sam Cassel, Michelle Brinson, Charney Docherty

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Marissa Gillespie calls the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
 - b. Land Acknowledgement
 - c. Introduction of Guests and Council Members
 - d. Quorum Verified

2. Review and approval of the November 26 meeting minutes
 - a. Sam Cassel moves to approve the minutes as presented
 - b. Christine Sizer seconds
 - c. Motion carries

3. Review and approval of the February 3 agenda
 - a. Sam Cassel moves to approve the agenda as presented
 - b. Christine Sizer seconds
 - c. Motion carries

4. Updates and Reports:
 - a. Principal Report
 - i. Staffing – Joan Pham will be on leave until the arrival of her baby. Mabel Allen will be the temporary teacher in her place until the end of the year. Andrea Penonzek had her baby and Temi Oshokoya is the temporary teacher in her place.
 - ii. School Planning and Budget/Fees Presentation
 - b. Chair report

5. Standing Business
 - a. ASCE Grant
 - i. Marissa Gillespie continues to look into possible parental engagement sessions
 - b. Review Parent Council policies – any amendments
 - i. No amendments at this time
 - c. Membership discussion
 - i. We continue to discuss ways to engage parents in school council

6. Closing
 - a. Next meeting of the Northern Lights School Council and the Northern Lights School Fundraising Society:
March 4, 2026 at 6:00 pm ONLINE
 - b. Adjournment 6:13 pm

Northern Lights School Fundraising Association

Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Online Microsoft Teams Meeting

In Attendance: Marissa Gillespie, Andrea Manning, Lindsay Stanford, Christine Sizer, Shelley Henderson, Sam Cassel, Michelle Brinson, Charney Docherty

1. Call to Order
 - a. Marissa Gillespie calls the meeting to order at 6:14 pm
 - b. Quorum Verified
2. Review and approval of the November 26 Annual General meeting minutes
 - a. Lindsay Stanford moves to approve the minutes as presented
 - b. Sam Cassel seconds
 - c. Motion carries
3. Review and approval of the February 3 agenda
 - a. Lindsay Stanford moves to approve the agenda as presented
 - b. Christine Sizer seconds
 - c. Motion carries
4. Financial report for the 2024-2025 school year
 - a. Signatures from parents still required; however, financial statements are completed
 - b. Marissa Gillespie creating a letter for parents explaining signature process
 - c. Andrea Manning and Shelley Henderson will be submitting once signatures completed
5. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Casino account – \$92,807.71
 - b. General account – \$11,202.35
6. President's Report
 - a. Signing authority changes at bank still pending
7. Updates / Standing Business:
 - a. School Update on money and spending
 - i. Teachers are wondering if they can use any leftover money from the \$550 per class for field trips on in-school activities (such as purchasing materials to hatch goslings)
 1. Review of June 11 meeting minutes showed prior approval allowing money to be used towards "either field trips or in-school enrichment activities for the 2025/2026 school year"
 - ii. We have an opportunity to have Melissa Allan, the author of 'Brave like a Buffalo', read the book to the school, sing a song connected to the book, and do a Q&A session. She is not charging a fee, but we hoped that the Parent Fundraising Society would fund an honorarium that we could provide to her.
 1. Lindsay Stanford Moves to spend up to \$300 from the casino account to be used towards having Melissa Allan come to the school.
 - a. Sam Cassel seconds
 - b. Motion carries
 - iii. Our opportunity for a residency with Elder Shirley fell through, but we are trying to book knowledge keeper Chantal Chagnon in her place. We have a \$1000 ATA grant for this work but hoped the balance could be covered from Casino money. \$500 was previously approved for Elder Shirley, however the charge for this residency is more. The school is requesting \$2000 to cover the additional cost.
 1. Shelley Henderson moves to approve the addition of \$1500 to the previously approved elder residency from the casino account for a total of \$2000.
 - a. Andrea Manning seconds
 - b. Motion carries
 - iv. The staff loved the chocolate and the key chains. They couldn't believe that the cards were handwritten to each of them and wanted to pass on a huge thank you!
 - b. Casino Update
 - i. Next casino dates are Thursday and Friday, June 4-5, 2025
 - ii. We will start asking for volunteers in early May

- iii. We still have money available in the fund that can be used.
 - 1. Marissa Gillespie moves to approve spending up to \$2500 per grade on school supplies / classroom needs / learning enhancements / etc. out of the casino fund
 - a. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 - b. Motion carries
 - 2. Lindsay Stanford moves to spend up to \$15,000 on books for the school's Learning Commons and/or Guided Reading collection out of the casino fund
 - a. Sam Cassel seconds
 - b. Motion carries
 - c. School fundraising updates
 - i. Purdy's Chocolate
 - 1. Orders can be placed between now and March 6
 - 2. Orders are available for pick up March 19 and 20 during Student Learning Conferences before the Spring Break
 - ii. Popcorn Fundraiser is on February 11
 - iii. Papa John Family Pizza Nights
 - 1. Thursday, March 5
 - 2. Thursday, May 21
 - iv. Petal Heads fundraiser
 - 1. \$50 raised
 - d. School Dance
 - i. Superhero Themed
 - ii. Thursday May 14, 2026
 - iii. Andrea Manning moves to spend up to \$5000 on supplies for the school dance from the general account
 - 1. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 - 2. Motion carries
8. New Business for future meetings
- a. Bylaw changes
 - b. School Council Insurance
 - c. Action items: Alien inline skating
9. Adjournment 6:56 pm