MINUTES OF MEETING OF WOODMAN SCHOOL COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026, BY 7:00 PM
MEETING FORMAT: HYBRID (IN PERSON AND ONLINE)

NOTE: These minutes have been prepared from the meeting transcript

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Scott Willoughby, who welcomed parents, school representatives, returning council members and new participants attending both in person and online.
The meeting began with a land acknowledgement said by Tara. Members were advised that the meeting was being transcribed to assist with preparing accurate minutes.

Adoption of September School Council Minutes

Motion to approve the September School Council meeting minutes as presented.

- Moved by: Tara
- Seconded by: Mark
- Outcome: Motion carried.

Election of School Council Executive and Coordinators

The Chair reviewed the nominations received for the 2026–2027 school year. Members were invited to volunteer for executive and coordinator positions.
The following nominations were presented and approved:

Position	Elected/Assigned Member
Chair	Tara
Vice Chair	Mel
Treasurer	Mark
Secretary	Jane
Key Communicator	Medeana
Staff Appreciation Coordinator	Marisol
Volunteer Coordinator	Jad
Member at Large	Alice

Jad agreed to take on the Volunteer Coordinator role to support Lynette, after clarification that the responsibilities could be tailored to his availability.
Members were reminded that additional volunteers and members at large are welcome to join throughout the year.
Outcome: All nominations were approved by a show of hands.

Woodman Music and Band Association (WMPRA) By Tara
Tara thanked families for their continued support for student participation and emphasized the importance of students arriving on time for rehearsals. Students have been working closely with clinicians and are actively preparing for upcoming performances, with their first appearance expected at the school's Remembrance Day assembly. Families were also encouraged to visit Mr. Bane's webpage for program information and updates, and those needing access to the webpage were advised to contact the Chair.

Staff Appreciation Update
The Staff Appreciation Coordinator, Marisol, was absent from the meeting.
The item was deferred to a future meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (BY MARLENE AND SCOTT)

School Development Plan: Student Well-being and Social-Emotional Learning
Marlene and Scott presented the first part of the school's development priorities for the year, focusing on student well-being and social-emotional learning. Academic achievement will be the focus of the November meeting.

CBE Well-being Framework and School Priorities
Marlene shared that Alberta Education introduced a mental health intervention plan in 2022, investing approximately $23 million annually to support student well-being across the province. In response, the Calgary Board of Education refreshed its well-being framework to guide school priorities, professional learning, and development planning. Woodman School was selected as one of 18 schools participating in the second year of the Social-Emotional Learning Teachers initiative and receives dedicated support through specialized staff, system leadership, and ongoing collaborative discussions to identify student needs and implement effective interventions. The school emphasized that students need to feel both emotionally and physically regulated to be ready for learning.

Student Well-being Data and Survey Results
Based on survey data collected during the 2025–2026 school year, including CBE, Our School, and school-based surveys, Woodman School identified several positive trends and ongoing areas of need. Students reported a 10% increase in their sense of belonging and a 6% improvement in their ability to identify a trusted adult at school. However, fewer than half of students reported healthy screen-time habits, and many indicated challenges with maintaining focus, managing distractions, building resilience, setting goals, and tracking their progress. Students also highlighted difficulties with friendship conflicts and peer relationships, reinforcing the need for continued counselling and support services in these areas.

Student Voice and Peer Support
Members discussed the importance of ensuring students have access to trusted adults and peers for support and explored the idea of creating a peer-support or student-counselling program where trained students could offer informal assistance to their classmates. The conversation also highlighted a growing trend of young people turning to artificial intelligence platforms for personal advice instead of seeking help from real people. In response, Marlene emphasized the value of student leadership opportunities, clubs, and other school activities in fostering meaningful connections, and school administration agreed to consider the peer-support program as part of its ongoing student well-being initiatives

Social-Emotional Learning Initiatives
Marlene highlighted several initiatives supporting student well-being, including regular staff collaboration to identify and address student needs, Wolfpack mini lessons focused on resilience, perseverance, and tenacity, health education lessons led by physical education teachers, and wellness days designed in response to student feedback. The school also encouraged student leadership through participation in the CBE Student Well-being Symposium and the creation of an eight-member Well-being Action Team. Parents were encouraged to continue these conversations at home by discussing the Wolfpack lesson themes with their children.

Supporting Student Focus, Organization and Independence
The school identified focus, organization, and student independence as key areas for growth and has implemented strategies to support these goals. These include encouraging students to use agendas and develop planning habits, teaching them to prepare materials before class, establishing consistent classroom expectations, and gradually building their ability to sustain attention during learning activities. The school is also promoting self-advocacy, responsibility, and appropriate help-seeking behaviors to help students become more independent learners. Recognizing that students and classes have different starting points, the school aims to steadily increase students' capacity to focus for longer periods over time.

Partnership Between Home and School
Marlene emphasized that supporting student well-being is a shared responsibility between families and the school. Parents were encouraged to foster healthy habits at home by promoting consistent sleep routines, good nutrition, regular physical activity, balanced screen time, reading, mathematics practice, and music practice where applicable. Families were also encouraged to create opportunities for meaningful conversations, support healthy friendships and respectful conflict resolution, and help children understand that mistakes and challenges are valuable parts of the learning process. In addition, parents were encouraged to build their children's confidence in seeking help from teachers when needed and to allow them to work through manageable challenges independently rather than immediately solving problems on their behalf.

Student Attendance and Well-being
The school emphasized that regular attendance plays a key role in student well-being, noting that students who experience frequent absences, particularly due to anxiety or withdrawal, may face increasing challenges returning to school. To support student success, attendance is monitored weekly, with follow-up provided for students whose absences exceed 20%. Families were encouraged to maintain open communication with the school when circumstances arise that may affect their child's attendance

Parent Question (Early Morning School Access)
One parent raised concerns about students arriving at school 15 to 20 minutes before the doors open, particularly during colder and darker mornings. Scott explained that the 9:00 a.m. opening hours are based on supervision and staffing requirements, making earlier opening challenging on a regular basis. However, the school may allow students inside during severe weather, consider individual family circumstances on a case-by-case basis, and encourage parents facing scheduling or transportation difficulties to contact Marlene directly to discuss possible solutions. The school also reminded families that students should be dressed appropriately for outdoor conditions, with indoor arrangements typically implemented when temperatures reach the CBE threshold of -20°C.

COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS (COSC) REPORT (BY MEDEANA)

Respectful Behavior Towards School Staff
The Key Communicator reported that schools will be introducing new signage to promote respectful behavior toward staff in response to a rise in incidents of inappropriate and abusive conduct directed at school employees. The initiative aims to foster a culture of respect and positive interactions throughout school communities.

Consistent and Reliable School Funding
COSC continues to advocate stable, long-term funding for Alberta's education system, noting that recent one-year funding enhancements have positively affected class sizes and student support. While detailed impact data has not yet been released, the CBE expects to provide additional information by spring 2027, including details on the number of classes affected and which support measures had the greatest impact.

School Space and Modular Classrooms
The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) continues to face significant space challenges due to growing enrolment. To address capacity needs, the Board is adding 55 modular classroom units and has requested an additional 26 units. Parents were encouraged to support advocacy efforts by contacting elected representatives to highlight the need for increased school space and sustainable education funding.

New Alberta Curriculum
The new Alberta curriculum for Grades 7–9 is currently being piloted in Mathematics, Social Studies, Physical Education and Wellness, Career Education, and Financial Literacy, with full implementation planned for the following school year. Concerns were raised about the availability of consistent teaching resources and support for educators. While Woodman School is not participating in the pilot this year, some teachers have begun reviewing the curriculum in preparation. The CBE is expected to provide additional resources, professional learning, and collaboration opportunities as implementation progresses, including consideration of French Immersion resource needs.

Support for Undocumented Families
The CBE continues to support families facing documentation-related challenges, which have affected approximately 1,200 students, with about 400 reportedly unable to return to school at the time of the COSC meeting. A Welcome Centre has been established to help affected families navigate documentation requirements and access support.

High School Assessment and Proficiency Scale
Members discussed the new high school assessment system, which uses an eight-point proficiency scale based on four achievement levels: Beginning, Developing, Proficient, and Exemplary. Concerns were raised regarding the associated percentage ranges, particularly the gap between 85% and 95%, and the potential implications for university admissions. Further review and discussion of the grading system are expected.

Upcoming COSC Meeting
The Key Communicator highlighted the importance of the next COSC meeting on January 20, 2027, which will include discussions on the CBE's 2027–2030 Education Plan. The Chair thanked Medeana for regularly attending COSC meetings and sharing information that supports school community advocacy efforts.

CLOSING
The next School Council meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2026. The School Council meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WOODMAN SCHOOL PARENTS SOCIETY HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026, BY 8:00 PM
MEETING FORMAT: HYBRID (IN PERSON AND ONLINE)

NOTE: These minutes have been prepared from the meeting transcript

Adoption of September Parent Society Minutes

Motion to adopt the September Parent Society meeting minutes as presented.

- Moved by: Tara
- Seconded by: Mark
- Outcome: Motion carried.

Election of Parents Society Executive and Coordinators

The Chair reviewed the nominations for the Parents Society executive and coordinator positions for the 2026–2027 school year.
The following nominations were presented:

Position	Elected/Assigned Member
Chair	Tara W
Vice Chair	Mel
Treasurer	Mark M
Secretary	Jane B
Member at Large	Alice H
Casino Coordinators	Cinnamon and Tejay (Co-coordinators)
Fundraising Coordinators	Siobhan K. and Jesse

Siobhan K. volunteered to organize a Purdy fundraiser, while Jesse also expressed interest in coordinating an additional fundraising activity.
Members were encouraged to volunteer for further fundraising activities and other positions throughout the year.
Outcome: All nominations were approved by a show of hands.

TREASURER REPORT, FINANCIAL UPDATE (BY MARK)

Casino Account Update

Mark reported the previously approved expenditure from the last school year has been processed.
The following are the previously approved allocations:

Purpose	Approved Amount
Library books	$2,500
Student wellness days	$5,000
Remaining band room/construction allocation	Approximately $670

Mark also reported that approximately $670 remained from previously approved project funding because some purchases cost less than originally estimated. Members agreed that these remaining funds should continue to be used for intended school improvement purposes rather than being transferred back to the general account. It was also reported that the Casino Account balance exceeds $74,000, providing significant funding to support approved projects and school initiatives throughout the remainder of the school year.

Fundraising and General Account
Mark reviewed the general fundraising account and noted that the account started the year with a balance of approximately $300.

- $1,000 for Cabana Sucre.
- $500 for the Grade 9 celebration.

The $500 allocation for the Grade 9 celebration had previously been deferred pending the outcome of fundraising activities. Without additional fundraising, the current projections indicate a potential deficit of approximately $700.

Staff Appreciation Funding
Mark noted that donations from families, including financial contributions, had helped fund the activities and resulted in some remaining funds.
Members discussed the possibility of using existing funds to support future staff appreciation activities, depending on the overall financial position and fundraising results.

POTENTIAL FUTURE FUNDING REQUESTS BY MARLENE

Archery Equipment Repairs
Marlene advised that seven of the school's nine archery bows require servicing and repairs, including replacement parts. The estimated cost is expected to go up to $1,500. Members discussed whether repairing the existing bows would be more cost effective than purchasing new equipment.
It was agreed that the school would obtain further information from Mr. Heron regarding repair requirements and the expected lifespan of the equipment.
Motion: To approve up to $1,500 towards the repair of the Physical Education Department's archery bows.

- Moved by: Tara
- Seconded by: Jesse
- Outcome: Motion carried.

Indigenous Garden
Marlene provided an update on the Indigenous Garden project, which was originally created through classroom learning focused on Indigenous plants it was initially funded grants, the project established four seasonal garden areas in June 2025 but the water restrictions in Calgary affected plant survival. The school partnered with

ULS Landscaping in September 2026 to restore and assess the garden and plans further work in spring 2027 involving Indigenous Studies students and potentially Grades 6 and 7 students. The next phase is estimated to cost approximately $2,000, and Marlene requested that the Parents Society consider providing financial support. The proposal was noted for future consideration, but no funding motion was presented or approved at this time.

Special Event Chairs
Marlene highlighted that many of the school's special events chairs (used for concerts and assemblies) are aging and may date back to the 1980s, with an estimated replacement cost of approximately $20,000. Members discussed several potential funding options, including using future casino proceeds, establishing a cost sharing arrangement between the school and the Parents Society, purchasing a small number of chairs for evaluation before a larger replacement, and launching a donation campaign. Given the significant cost involved, members agreed that further discussion, planning, and financial review would be required before moving forward. The item was noted for future consideration, and no motion was presented or approved.

Future Casino Funding
Members discussed the timing of the next casino fundraising event and the anticipated availability of additional funds. The next casino is expected to take place in the fourth quarter of 2027, with the resulting funds anticipated in early 2028.
Members noted the importance of managing the existing casino balance carefully until the next allocation becomes available.

Fundraising
Siobhan K. and Jesse volunteered to coordinate fundraising activities during the year. Purdy fundraiser was identified as one of the proposed activities. Members were encouraged to continue developing fundraising ideas and to support the newly appointed coordinators.

Next Meeting and Adjournment
The next joint School Council and Parents' Society meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2026. Members were thanked for their participation and contributions.
Motion: To adjourn the Parents' Society meeting.

- Moved by: Chair
- Seconded by: Jesse
- Outcome: Motion carried.