



William Dunbar Public School School Community Council (SCC) January 2026 Meeting Minutes

Date January 15, 2026
Place Virtual
Time 6:30pm

Principal	Tina Mandal
Vice-Principal	Terry Lawrence
Chair	James Tantsef
Co-Chair	Terra Snape
Treasurer	Jamie O'Connor
Secretary	Farzana Damji

Attendees (Based on MS Team Attendee List)

Terra Snape	Nella Cozza	Christine Chellingworth	Terry Lawrence
James Tantsef	Sam Snyders	Taniqua Lalani	Melissa Masson
Jamie O'Connor	Shannon Belmore	Sahaba	Kelly Bannister
Farzana Damji	Jenn Danaher	Rachel	Martine Robinson
Alana Burns	Ruchi Wali		Tina Mandal

Meeting Start & Opening Remarks

6:30pm

Welcome – James Tantsef & Terra Snape, Chair & Co-Chair, begin the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Land Acknowledgement & Human Rights Policy – presented by Terry Lawrence, Vice-Principal.

SCC Norms – presented by Terry Lawrence.

Student Nutrition Program – Presentation

by Teresa Ierullo – Regional SNP Coordinator – 6:38pm

An overview was provided of the Student Nutrition Program and benefits to the school/student population.

- The structure of the program was explained
- It was explained that there are different options for the program, the school can order as much or as little as they want or need (or have budget for)
- Various examples for snack/meal options were provided to the parent community to give a better understanding of what is available in the program
- Various examples of fundraising options were reviewed

- Considering a pilot to begin with and see if this is something that is feasible to implement
- Questions regarding the food program should be directed to Terra, and she will forward them directly to SNP

DDSB Auditor Presentation

by Sid Lashley – DDSB Auditor – 7:04pm

Sid spoke of the move toward schools going cashless, and the reasons behind why this is the preferred option.

- Recent security issues across many schools due to cash being on site
- School Cash Online was noted to be a better, more convenient option for most families, even with the administration fees that are charged
- The intent is to move away from cash events, however there is still an option for cash payments for families who do not have the ability to use online payment
- Sid disconnected at 7:11pm and reconnected at 7:18pm
- Questions for Sid regarding the percentage fee of School Cash Online, and questions if the School Board is able to absorb this fee. Sid mentioned at this time the benefits to School Cash Online is still in our favour.
- There is less time spent counting cash, less misappropriation with online/cashless
- There are some devices for tap payments in some schools, this could be an option for William Dunbar in the future.

Grade 7/8 Student Representative Presentation

by Akanksha presented on behalf of the student reps. – 7:13pm

Overview of current and upcoming events and activities.

- Presentation of current and upcoming clubs and teams within the school
- Debrief on events that have passed: spirit days, clay ornament club, Spring Musical practice, Faces of Change, Pik-North, Pik-South
- Thank you to SCC for Jungle Sports, feedback was that it was an overall positive experience for all students

Passing of October 2025 minutes – 7:35pm:

- Passed by Jenn Danaher and Shannon Belmore

Fundraising Recap

by Alana – 7:36pm

November 21 Glow Dance Recap:

- Fasteners that attach to glow sticks are not great, took a long time to attach and aren't good quality. They were not initially attached and had to be put on glow stick manually, could we look at ordering glow sticks with these pre-attached in the future.
- A packing party took place to pack the individual classroom orders. In this "party" the playlist was vetted for any inappropriate songs, and those were removed/replaced from the playlist requests.
- Alana will compile all feedback that was received

Teacher Representative Presentation

by Mme. Mason on behalf of all teachers. – 7:40pm

- Mme. Mason was asked to obtain feedback from teachers on the recent Glow Dance
 - Overall "Thank You" from teachers to the SCC for the event
 - Observation: older grades weren't too interested in the playlist – grades 5-8 need a better curated playlist
 - Perhaps look at a more engaging playlist for next year
 - It was mentioned at this time by the Glow Dance Subcommittee that the provided playlist was vetted for appropriateness, and any suggestive or inappropriate songs were removed
 - Suggestion to reevaluate the size of drink if carbonated or give our snack packages earlier as many students struggled to finish
 - Perhaps in the future intermediate students can help pack packages
- Winter Blooms for the K-Primary Winter Concert
 - Bouquet \$8.00, Single \$2.00
 - Perhaps a cash on the day option can be considered

Upcoming Fundraisers

by SCC members – 7:55pm

- Removal of selling flowers for the Spring Musical was suggested, however most wanted to keep that option so it will remain

by Nella & Jenn – Fun Fair – 8:05pm

- Suggestions for the Fun Fair include:
 - Having a teacher present where money/counting of money is involved
 - We are looking for the family who sponsored the 360-photo booth 2 years ago
 - Looking to receive, if possible, donations from families for juice boxes, etc.
 - Farzana has volunteered to do Henna

- Open to any volunteers who can help with the Fun Fair

Treasurer's Report

by Jamie, SCC Treasurer – 8:10pm

- Presented treasurer's report on screen, asked if there were any questions
- Net Earnings are as follows:
 - Welcome Funds \$500.00
 - Freezie Friday \$798.00
 - Glow Dance \$1,671.31
 - Winter Blooms \$234.62
 - **Total** **\$3,203.93**

What Will SCC Profits be Used For?

by James Tantsef, SCC Chair & Terra Snape, SCC Co-Chair – 8:12pm

The following requests were made to the SCC:

- \$600 – Spring Musical (Scripts, etc.)
- \$985 – Drumming Workshop
- \$500 – Grade 8 Graduation
- \$750 – SNP Program
- \$700 – Scooters (Teacher's request brought forward by Mme. Mason)
- \$500 – Fun Fair advance to cover deposits

Items to be considered at future meetings (not to be voted on at January meeting):

- Jungle Sports for 2026/2027 school year
- Additional SNP Program Funding
- September/October 2026 Fundraising Expenses

Voting on use of funds – 8:18pm

- \$600 – Spring Musical (Scripts, etc.) **pass**
- \$985 – Drumming Workshop **pass** – will be rescheduling the second day of the workshop as it was cancelled due to inclement weather (May 2026)
- \$500 – Grade 8 Graduation **pass**
- \$750 – SNP Program – tabled until further discussions can be had
- \$700 – Scooters **pass**
- \$500 – Fun Fair advance to cover deposits **pass**

Administrator's Report

by Ms. Mandal – 8:49pm

- The last of the renovations were completed so now all of the planned renovations for the upper level have been completed.
- The elevator is next on the list for renovation/remodel. The intention is to make it larger and to function like a typical elevator.
- Plans for a 2nd staff washroom
- Student washrooms will be renovated in the 2026/27 year
- Drumming workshop was scheduled for January 14/15, however due to inclement weather the session for January 15th was postponed to May.
- Meaningful learning was discussed along with the Grade 3 & Grade 6 EQAO results. (The detailed results can be found in the Administrator's Report within the SCC Website)
- There will be a pilot project for grade 6 in reading and writing for the EQAO assessment tool
- There is a focus for staff on Assessment in Writing – Achievement Chart.
- Positive School Climate meeting on February 3rd at 3:15pm in room 104
 - Positive School Climate: committee based on feedback from students to improve the school climate. Examples of roles are greeters, washroom warriors.
- SCC Connect – PIC (Parent Involvement Committee). Each month submitted information will be compiled and shared by PIC representatives to SCC Chairs to take back to the larger community.
- Parent Reaching Out Grant (PRO Grant)
 - \$2000 towards a family math night
 - February 26, 2026 at 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - For all students grade K-8
 - More information will follow
- Thank you to parents from Admin for working through a complex situation
 - DRPS liaison was in grade 6-8 classrooms speaking about the law and doing the right thing.
 - School has enhanced monitoring capacity
 - Student movement protocols are in place
 - Security cameras have been installed
 - Regular review of drills (hold & secure, fire, etc.)
 - It is important to communicate through appropriate channels
 - Parents can call or email Tina if they need information

Meeting Adjourn - 9:11pm