MINUTES

Byron Southwood P.S.
Home & School / School Council

1379 Lola St, London ON N6K 3R6 (519) 452-8100

09/14/2026 | 6:31p.m.-8:10 p.m. | School Library

Meeting called to order by Tonia at 6:31p.m.

Officers

President/ Chair: Tonia Siemon

Vice President/Vice Chair: Nina Rudd

Treasurer: Chelsey Gibson

Secretary: Elisha Bergeron

Fundraising Chair: Candice Avola-Lyons

In Attendance

Present: Tonia Siemon, Nina Rudd, Valerie Laufman, Candice Avola Lyons, Mandy Long, Angela Carter, Amy Thompson, Sasha Dewque, Adam Bujold, Lisa Watson, Charlotte Kaye McQueen, Matt Ebel, Tammy Adams, Myles Olson, Ashley Armstrong, Dayna Aalbers, Lesley Greer, Darbi Greensides, Natasha Barby, Allison Hillis, Chelsey Gibson, Meredith Lockwood, Jenna Scott, Elisha Bergeron

Regrets:

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

- **GEN-SEPT2026-01 THAT WE APPROVE SEPTEMBER AGENDA**
  M: Charlotte Kaye McQueen S: Natasha Barby **Carried**
- **GEN-SEPT2026-02 THAT WE APPROVE JUNE MINUTES**
  M: Natasha Barby S: Charlotte Kaye McQueen **Carried**

Nominations for Parent council. Tonia opens the floor to accept nominations.

Vote: Tonia for Chair, Nina for Vice Chair and Elisha for Secretary

All in Favour **Carried**

Principal Report-Lisa Fleet

- Fabulous first week. Everything was executed beautifully by staff and volunteers. Kids were all smiling and the staff has hit the ground running. Soccer has already started, cross country starts Tuesday September 15, 2026.
- Glee and band are starting this week.
- Kindergarten was all here on Thursday of last week. 5 Kindergarten classes with lots of new JK's.

- Some things to look forward to is meet the teacher/ family night. Would love input from the group for how meet the teacher can be a success. Meet the teacher night will be the first week of October. Cannot do meet the teacher earlier since there can still be a re-organization of classrooms. If Southwood were to re-organize it would be in primary grades. Do not want to re-organize and families meet a teacher and then have a new teacher. Southwood will announce meet the teacher night very soon.
- Learning agenda consists of lots of conversations about early reading. Will be starting the acadience screenings. The screening will be grades SK to grade 2. Research shows struggling readers will be impacted if we do not help.
- Resilience and grit into what we do everyday.
- We will have leadership opportunities for grades 7 and 8s.
- Snack program up and running thanks to Mrs. Adams.

Q- Can we get a date for Christmas concerts? The sooner Home and School know the dates and we can plan accordingly. – We will let you know as soon as possible.
Q-Is there Cross country try outs? – No, everyone comes, they can all run. Grade 3 will have the meet at the school. Cities/ finals Oct 20th, Oct 21st is rain date. Regional date is October 7th, Mrs. Watson will send out.

Staff Report-Matt Ebel

- Over the summer a couple carts for technology arrived and they were assembled.
- Reminded the staff about their yearly allowance to spend on supplies that home and school will reimburse.
- 40 Chromebooks have arrived from the fundraiser and they have been circulated.
- Mr. Masek would like basket balls for the younger grades, and these would be for Gym. Old ones will go out for recess or class bins. Asking for $400 worth of balls.
- Mrs. Webb said thanks for everything last year and wondering if there was any money rolled over? Home and School is waiting on receipt for the specific ask for last year.
- Mrs. Webb is looking for help with purchasing 4 clarinets, 2 bass strings, and 5 method books for $2742.88. The best seat of the house fund has $1732. Home and School would need to fund $1010.88.
- Mr. Ebel talked about a mural for Jana and Dale. Talked to both parents and they decided canvas would be better. The canvas would still be symbolic. Both families have quotes of $1500. Will work out the receipts with Mr. Ebel. They can invoice us for the amount. This will be done in October.

Financing Report

2025/2026 Overview

- Last year the Home and School Committee raised over $36,000 and our goal was $40,000 for our big project for Chromebooks. We received over $13,000 in donations. The community is responsive. We will continue to fundraise for the Chrome Book fundraiser. We have done some hot lunches that were Donut Diva and Cookie Nook specifically for the Chromebook fundraiser. Other additional fundraisers we did was used book sale and some 3d printed items.

- There is always fixed expenses bank fees and membership fees.
- We always do Halloween dance which is not a fundraiser but is a great community event. We do run a snack bar. The Halloween Dance is a way for families to come together.
- We do our big funfair which is a fundraiser in the spring.
- We do 2 grade 8 grad supplements.
- We offer money towards school assembly/ author.
- Last year we provided staff appreciation, custodial and retired staff gifts, we also do lunch end of the year.
- We do teacher allowance to help classrooms.
- We help the music program and purchase sports uniforms.
- We purchased some toys/ exhibits for the kindergarten classes.
- We did not make as much money on the basket raffle last year $1900. We will need to decide if we will do the basket raffle this year.
- This year we expect to make $31000 with out adding additional fundraisers.
- Last year Chromebook and regular fundraisers Home and School made around $70,000.
- We did not make as much money of Basket raffle last year and will need to consider if we are doing It again.

Budget Line Items

- Expenditures for 2026/2027 Vote
    - Line-item Home and School Expenses - $1350 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item teacher allowances - $7600 (38 teaching staff) all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item retirement - $750 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Staff appreciation lunch - $1100 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Grad awards - $600 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Forest of reading - $1200 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item School Events - $300 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Outdoor play - $700 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Library Support – remove **Carried**
    - Line-item Dance - $1000 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Author - $1000 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Grad - $2000 all in Favour **Carried**
    - Line-item Chrome books - $5000 all in Favour **Carried**
    - ASK Murals for Dale/ Jana- $2000 all in Favour **Carried**
    - ASK Basket balls for Gym - $400 All in Favour **Carried**
    - ASK Music instruments - $1010 All in Favour **Carried**
    - ASK Monitor for School - $500 all in Favour **Carried**

- Topics of discussion for the budget items
    - Dance – Will be October 29th, Thursday evening. Tonia does the permit. 6-8 pm. DJ is confirmed. $560 for DJ’s. Photo booth, $609. Nina does the Snack bar.

Would like extra $100 for blow ups and treat bags. We do not try and make money just cover the costs. Costs alone are $1200. Allocating $1000.
    - Library lunch club – Vote to remove
    - School Assembly/ Author – Some will read their own story and do a workshop. Mrs. Watson interested in this. Lots of great options. Is $1000 suitable to cover this cost. Mrs. Watson will speak with staff and bring back next month with options.
    - Outdoor play equipment will need replenished in the spring.
    - Outdoor carnivals/ play day – We purchase equipment to use, rent costumes. $300 for Carnival and in the spring, we can discuss if school is doing a spring play day.
    - Mr. Masek looking for $400 for basket balls for gym.
    - Music - $1010 4 clarinets, 2 bass string, and 5 method books ask for $2742.88, best seat of the house money has $1732. Vote – All in favour $1010
    - Q- does Mrs. Webb get repair and consumable money for instruments. Mrs. Webb applies, but the program has been discontinued.
    - Q- How many chrome books got E wasted, repaired for the entire year about 30 units. - Mr. Ebel
    - Q- What is the school doing for early literacy – purchasing decodables from scholastic book fair earnings. Mrs. Watson will get back to us on their plans for early literacy.
    - Mrs. Watson would like a monitor in foyer with rise vision that will show pictures of things going on in the school and joke of the day. To get this set up $1000. View sonic, non interactive display. Q- who would do the content. Mrs. Watson will update the content, and teachers can submit and she can approve. $500 for school, and $500 from us.

Fundraising Update

- Hot lunch – Next week Hot lunch will start, the Munch-a-lunch is open for ordering.
    - Home and School (Candice) orders 1 hot lunch every week, and 1 ice cream end of the month for students in need.
    - Everything is updated for first block, will do next block shortly. The website was updated over the summer.
    - We have a bunch of volunteers/ help to hand out the hot lunch this year. Grades 7/8 help with handing out pizza.
    - 10 treat days a year, 6 have been scheduled for the year.
    - New hot lunch vendor – Pita Pit.

- Good Will fundraiser will be discussed in October
- Will discuss fall fundraisers in October's meeting, bring ideas for Christmas to next meeting.

- 2026/2027 Home and School Members
    - Interested in joining home and School membership – fill out the sign-up sheet if you want to be a member. Welcoming new members. Do not need to be a member to attend our meetings. If you plan on being active, please join.

- Annual verification – Tonia will work with Chelsey on getting verified.
- Q- Can the School do anything about the street parking around the school. No- The Principal can not call and get cars ticketed anymore. Mrs. Watson will look into street signs.
- Byron Pizza Adopt a night will be Meet the teacher night. To be confirmed the night from Mrs. Watson.

GEN-SEP2026-03 THAT WE MOTION TO ADJOURN

M: Darbi Greensides S: Natasha Barby **Carried 8:10 pm**

Next Meeting Scheduled: October 5, 2026, 6:30 pm