

IPS School Council Meeting January 7, 2026

Location: Virtual via MS Teams

Type of meeting: Open meeting for council members, TDSB staff and public

Attendees	Parent Council Members, and community members	<p>Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kami Shabahang, Co-Chair 2. Jennie Lai, Co-Chair 3. Nikou Ghalebegui, Treasurer 4. Erica Lamanna, Secretary <p>Members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Jason Applebaum 6. Hanna Bondar 7. Airlie Heung 8. Arij Javed 9. Irina Mishchenko 10. Jeff Kearns 11. Judee Yarmolinsky <p>Public: (4)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jennifer Hume 2. Abby Khalil 3. Dan Lui
	Toronto District School Board Staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Kiera Vanderlugt, Principal 13. Joel Seaman
Regrets	Parent Council Members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tracey Baker 2. Marseda Shtylla 3. Samira Zarghami

1. Quorum and call to order

Kiera Vanderlugt (IPS Principal) was present for the meeting and 11 out of 14 parent council members were present. Quorum and the school principal was achieved. There was also 3 community members present. Co-Chair Jennie called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

2. Approval of previous minutes from December 3, 2025

VOTE: Council to approve the previous December 3, 2025, meeting minutes draft, previously distributed.

Motioned by Arij; seconded by Co-Chair Kami. All in favour. Minutes approved.

3. Principal's Report

Principal Kiera Vanderlugt presented her Principal's Report by sharing several updates from December.

Scholastic Book Fair

Kiera provided an update on the Scholastic Book Fair and advised IPS sold \$3,500.00 in books. Kiera thanked parents for purchasing books to donate to the teachers and students in classrooms as well as all the volunteers. Kiera described next steps in terms of the proceeds. Kiera clarified IPS does not make any money of the \$3,500.00 of items sold, but rather IPS receives proceeds in terms of credits that Lana is able to use to fulfill student and teacher wish lists of books.

IPS Spirit Week

Kiera provided an update on IPS Spirit Week and noted that it was a bit difficult to execute during the last week of school. Kiera thanked IPS staff for all their hard work in helping the student council execute this week-long event.

Candy Canes

Kiera advised that we raised \$322.15 in candy cane sales in which the proceeds of sales will go towards the grades 5/6 trip to Pinecrest Camp.

Student Council – IPS Thrift Sale

Kiera advised that the IPS Thrift Sale will take place on January 19-21st, but they are still looking for donations of toys, books, and board games.

Ball Hockey, Girls Volleyball, and Boys Basketball

Kiera advised that ball hockey, girls' volleyball, and boys' basketball is underway, along with the chess club, comic book club, coding club, and student council for grades 5/6. Maggie is starting a reading club on day 3 during lunch hour.

IPS Skate Night

Kiera advised that IPS skate night will take place on February 11th at the Harbourfront Centre skating rink. Kiera also mentioned report cards will be sent home that week with parent-teacher interviews taking place shortly after.

New Kindergarten Curriculum and 2023 Language Curriculum

Kiera provided an update on the New Kindergarten Curriculum and 2023 Language Curriculum. Kiera advised IPS staff are taking a deep dive into professional learning at the school by researching phonics, the science of reading, and the new language curriculum for grades 1-6. Although the language curriculum is from 2023, Kiera noted it is still quite new for staff. Kiera noted student teachers from

OSCE and Ms. Brooke Mann are completing training on identifying new ways of teaching reading and language-based activities than what has been done traditionally in the past. Staff are completing professional learning on Monday January 12, 2026, and supply and/or occasional teachers are called in to work with the students. The school budget is used for this and IPS staff will work in a different space to focus on the new kindergarten curriculum. The new curriculum will not be implemented until the next school year.

EQAO Results

Kiera provided an update on the EQAO Results, and the discussion kicked off with a question from a parent council member asking for clarification on what EQAO is. Kiera advised the EQAO is a provincial test written by students in grades 3 and 6 every year with the Ministry of Education releasing the results in early December. The three areas of focus in the test are math, reading, and writing and they receive a mark on it from level 1-4. Parents with students in grade 3 were sent home with an envelope with their individual results. Students previously in grade 6 at IPS had their results sent to their respective new school.

A parent council member asked a question in terms of how parents should view the individual//school results and Kiera emphasized that it includes a lot of variables such as time of year, the effort put into the test by each student, and the fact that for grade 6 IPS had 19 students versus other schools that have upwards of 400 students. Kiera clarified these results do not go on their reports card for students in grades 3 and 6, but for students who take the test in grade 9 a percentage of their EQAO test result will go towards their math grade. For IPS Kiera advised that students in grade 6 received 100% in reading and writing and are operating at working level grade 4. For math grade 6 students landed with an 80% result. The results for students in grade 3 need to be reviewed and discussed further.

A parent council member asked for clarification on whether past results of EQAO test results are brought forward in grade 9 and Kiera advised that is not the case.

4. Skate Night - February 11, 2026

Co-chair Jennie provided an update on the February 11th IPS skate night. Nikou secured the Tim Hortons hot chocolate donation, and they will be mailing IPS a cheque for \$100.00. She will review the cost and come back to determine if additional monies are required from the parent council account to supplement the difference. Co-chair Jennie clarified Harbourfront Centre is aware of the date and time of our event, but noted it is not reserved for IPS as the rink must remain open to members of the public. Harbourfront Centre advised that during the time of our event it is never busy but requested a heads up on the total number of attendees so they can account for helmet and skate rentals.

A council member asked what would happen in the event of inclement weather. Kiera advised Harbourfront Centre will notify IPS if the rink needs to be closed and Kiera will then advise parents at 1:00 p.m. via email whether the event is taking place or not. Co-chair Kami advised only hot chocolate will be provided and no food.

5. IPS Spirit Wear

Co-chair Jennie advised that 23 orders were placed for 45 clothing items, with a gross of \$1,235.00 in sales. Once expenses and fees are removed, IPS has a 37% profit of \$433.91. Co-chair Jennie advised we will ask for orders to be placed no later than January 15th, with printing to take place on January 20th, and delivered the week of January 23rd. A council member suggested we provide this information in Kiera's Friday eblast.

A parent council member advised that the website shows 40 abandoned orders and hoped people would go back to complete their respective order(s).

A parent council member asked about the status of their order and they were advised it was the last of the five orders in production and it will be ready shortly.

6. Financial Report

Treasurer Nikou provided the financial report and advised since the bake sale took place they received one cheque from Mabel's Labels for \$57.80. This cheque will be deposited into the account tomorrow, resulting in a new total of \$3,618.53. Treasurer Nikou asked Kiera if the chrome books have been purchased and Kiera advised that the chrome books have been ordered. However, they still need to use the money from the account to order the recess equipment. The total cost of the recess equipment was under \$2,000.00, which led to some savings for the parent council.

7. Other Business

Co-chair Jennie opened the floor to other business and clarified for the next IPS Spirit Wear sale they will offer darker colours such as charcoal, grey, and others. Co-chair Jennie asked for suggestions on when to do the next IPS Spirit Wear sale and council members suggested we tie it with a future event such as the bake sale or the fun fair in June. Co-chair Kami suggested we start to gather volunteers to coordinate the fun fair as it is quickly approaching.

A council member asked Kiera to provide further background on what is involved in the staff appreciation event. Kiera advised that in the past parents donated food items and brought it over to the island and assisted with set up. Co-chair Kami asked Kiera for a wish list of items and dietary restrictions from staff to best help coordinate this year's event. Kiera advised the parent council provided a Google form to parents and parents inputted on the form what they would bring. The lunch would take place on a Thursday, and any leftovers would be packed up and used for lunch the next day. For this year Kiera advised we could proceed with a potluck or to collect money and cater it via meal train. Dates to host the event were proposed and the final date for the staff appreciation event will be Thursday March 11, 2026.- Co-chair Kami advised she will lead the staff appreciation event and decide the forum.

Action items:

Kiera will ask staff for feedback on preferred food items. Co-chair Kami will have an update at the next meeting on the staff appreciation lunch event and coordination for the June fun fair.

A parent council member asked a question on the search query for IPS with the EQAO website. Kiera advised to go to the website <https://www.eqao.com/results/> and type in Island Public School and you will be able to see last year's results for both grades 3 and 6. Kiera advised faculty will review the board and provincial averages and the results from IPS with a focus on grade 3 students. The grade 3 results demonstrate where IPS needs to focus on to help improve future results for future grades.

8. Adjournment

Co-chair Jennie motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hanna.
Meeting Adjourned at 7:48PM.

Minutes prepared by: Erica Lamanna, Secretary

APPROVED