IPS School Council Meeting September 30, 2025

Location: Virtual via MS Teams
Type of meeting: Open meeting for council members, TDSB staff and public

Attendees	**Parent Council Members, and community members**	**Executive:** 1. Jennifer Yeung, Co-Chair 2. Samira Zarghami, Co-Chair 3. Kami Shabahang, Treasurer 4. Hanna Bondar, Secretary **Members:** 5. Jason Applebaum 6. Jennie Lai 7. Tracey Baker 8. Jeff Kearns 9. Lindsay Stephens 10. Judee Yarmolinsky **Public: (8)** 1. Niku Ghalebegui 2. Erica Lamanna 3. Airlie Heung 4. Arij Javed 5. Marseda Shtylla 6. Sasha Sheybani 7. Irina Mishchenko 8. Dan
	Toronto District School Board Staff	11. Kiera Vanderlugt , Principal 12. Joel Sieman, JK/SK Teacher
Regrets	**Parent Council Members**	1. Jenn Hume 2. Abigail Wren 3. Sana Ibrahim 4. Tara Peterson 5. Maria Khan

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1. Quorum and call to order

Kiera Vanderlugt (IPS Principal) was present for the meeting and 10 out of 15 parent council members were present. There were also 8 community members.
Samira Zarghami called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

2. Approval of previous minutes from June 17, 2025

VOTE: Council to approve the previous June 17, 2025 meeting minutes draft, previously distributed.

Motioned by Jen Yeung; seconded by Lindsay Stephens. All in favour. Minutes approved.

The meeting began with brief introductions of all participants.

Due to technical difficulties, Principal Kiera Vanderlugt let Jen Yeung to open the meeting with an overview of last year's events and accomplishments.

Jen shared that last year saw a number of successful fundraising initiatives and community events. The school ran several fundraisers, including Spirit Wear, Purdy's Chocolates, Krispy Kreme and Cinnabon sales, and Mabel's Labels fundraiser (which returns 20% of sales proceeds to the school). These, hopefully, may be repeated this year to generate funds for IPS.

The end-of-year Fun Fair was a huge success. QCYC generously donated the event space, while Loblaws provided food and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Amsterdam and Great Lakes Brewery donated beer. There were many auction items, and the event was very well received by families. The event brought in over $10K with a net profit of over $6K.

Overall, the 2024-25 Council generated funds that covered most of the school's wishlist items - outdoor play equipment, document camera, presentation for the school, charging cart for chromebooks plus misc event support. Approximately $2,000 will remain, following the planned purchase of Chromebooks.

Other memorable activities included the Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch and Skate Night.

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3. Principal's report

Kiera Vanderlugt congratulated everyone on the start of the new school year and shared several updates from September.

Ferry Updates

Parents are currently not permitted inside the ferry terminal. Kiera is continuing discussions with the ferry management to allow parents back into the terminal once the winter schedule begins.

There is a chance the students will remain on the 8:30 a.m. ferry schedule through December, as service to Centre Island continues during this time. Further update to follow.

Terry Fox Run

The event was a great success, raising $521. Kiera thanked all families who participated and noted how much the students enjoyed the day.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Thanks to last year's parent donations, the school was able to invite Tribal Vision Dancers to perform this year. All grades including nursery and kindergarten students attended and loved the show.

The Superintendent also visited that day and complemented the students on their excellent behavior and engagement during the assembly.

Coding Club & Chess club

The Coding and Gaming Club for Grades 2–6 begins on October 1st.

The Chess Club will start in a few weeks.

Lots of sports programs, including Cross Country for Grades 1–6, are now underway.

Staffing updates

The school gained 0.5 teacher this year, so we took miss Lana back from Market Lane. She will be running the gamming and coding club. Students are very happy about it.

Grade 7-8 at IPS update

A proposal regarding addition of grades 7 and 8 to IPS was submitted to superintendent. The superintendent is open to the idea.

The IPS presented 3 points why it will benefit the community and have minimal impact other schools. The Superintendent will take it for further discussion with her people. It was suggested to wait what TDSB planning will come back with.

However, due to the current situation with Trustees not actively serving, the decision process may take longer than usual.

Kieara has asked the Superintendent to have an update for us by the next meeting.

Other updates

- The picture day is coming up on Friday. (Gr 6 will have both, class picture and their regular pictures and then a graduation picture will be taken in February).
- Kiera plans to host an information session for Grade 6 parents to discuss high school options after IPS
- The next PA Day is on Friday, October 10 right before the Thanksgiving weekend.
- Halloween at IPS – no specific plans yet but some activities are going to happen.

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- Ottawa trip – last year Gr 5 (current Gr 6) went on the trip. Due to the closure of three outdoor education centers, including Sheldon where IPS used to go, options are limited this year. IPS has been placed on waiting lists for Mono Cliffs and the Ed Centre, but current priority is being given to Grade 6 only. The problem is to find a place where both, gr 5 and 6 can be sent together. Kiera is exploring private camps options.

  Fundraising for the Ottawa trip will likely begin next year.

4. New School Council Members nominations

Jen shared the list of Council nominated for 2025-2026:

1. Jason Applebaum
2. Tracey Baker
3. Hanna Bondar
4. Nikou Ghalebegui
5. Arij Javed
6. Jeff Kearns
7. Jennie Lai
8. Erica Lamanna
9. Irina Mishchenko
10. Kami Shabahang
11. Marseda Shtylla
12. Judee Yarmolinsky
13. Samira Zarghami
14. Airlie Heung

Chair and co-chair are available positions for this year's council. The 2024-2025 Council is now disbanded. Jen thanked the 2024-2025 council members for all of their contributions.

A few current Council Members briefed in new nominees on what does it mean to be an official member (you get an official vote on different matters), how do meetings work, what is quorum and how to get it. It was also shared that there are by-laws and other resources available for review and that it is Council's job to periodically review & update these, same with school plans & focus areas, etc.

VOTE: Council to approve the list of nominations for 2025-2026 School Council Members Motioned by Jen Yeung; seconded by Samira Zarghami. Motion approved.

5. Other business

The chair opened the floor for other business. No additional items were brought.

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6. Adjournment

Jen Yeung motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Samira Zarghami.
Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Hanna Bondar
Edited by Jennifer Yeung - Nov 5, 2025

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