MINUTES OF DR. E.W. COFFIN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, Sept 8th, 2026

Attendees:

James Miller (Principal)
Marie Weninger Henderson (Chair)
Nancy Yu (Vice-Chair)
Mrs Cowdy (Teacher rep)
Marinas Paris
Fatemeh Asr
Lois
Adeel
Leanne Klempner
Laura Dooley
Kelsi Porter (Secretary)
Becky Hagen
Erica Crowther
Laura Granberg
Priyanka Bhardwaj
Yuna Xiaodong
Lu Lu

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

2. **Reading and Approval of June 2026 Meeting Minutes**

ON MOTION DULY APPROVED IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes of June 9, 2026 School Council meeting be approved.

3. **Principal's Report (James Miller)**

New school year - enrolment 163 students. Staffed for 160 students - been up and down. Staffing wise - down one home room of students but retained same number of staff because of the complexity team. Complexity team primarily focused on EAL students. CCT Team: Ms Michelle moved into role, Ms Amy, Helen Lee.

Natalie Cox left for a new position, hard to hire but finally found Bode Procinsky, Kindergarten teacher in morning and grade ¾ in afternoon.

Land based learning, question of the month (teachers create their own take on it in own classrooms) - How will I grow? Focus on setting goals, look forward to year ahead. Great start, great energy.

4. **Teacher's Report**

Ms Cawdy - Great start to year. 20 years here myself. This year is extra interesting that I haven't taught any of the kids in my class, all new. Staff talked about Fresh Air Friday - started 10-12 years ago. Great part of our program - maybe we rebrand it to land based learning. Was more discipline based (botanist, engineering, etc), but land based is more about reconciliation and focus for this year. More in line with the times of outdoor learning.

Gov't testing - Grade 4-5's are now being tested this year. Preparing for that. That is going to be going on with Kindy-Gr 5. Next couple weeks will be doing lots of testing, releasing to parents when we get

info back after the gov't sends it back to us. Literacy and numeracy. It's already what we do, just formalized and standardized now.

5. **Chair's Report**

Talked at beginning, welcome everyone. Important in Council - have a number of roles we need covered. We're seeking new members for the school council: an Environment Coordinator and a Treasurer. Treasurer: Think it's about 1-2 hours of work per month. Access to banks, write cheques - no accounting experience required, just manage the books for our two simple accounts. Training would be provided. Legal requirements if we don't have Treasurer - will lose casino, and can't spend money without this role. Might send out flyers to go home with kids.

Also Environment Coordinator for upcoming year. Most of the role has been completed for this year (Sun Circle garden) so tasks really start up again in the spring. Big thank you to everyone who volunteered to water over the summer.

Thank you also to:
Laura - Fun Lunch Coordinator
Erica - Welcome Back BBQ Coordinator
Marinas - Casino Coordinator

Parent mentions that another parent has volunteered to get pumpkins this fall and will coordinate Grade 6 Farewell in June.

6. **Welcome Back BBQ**

School Council provides grilled items, then volunteer sign up to bring snacks, veggies, cookies, etc. Volunteers also needed to help run the bbq, clean up, etc.
Looking at Wednesday, Sept 23 @ 5:30-7:30pm.
Quote for BBQ - pricing is the same as last year, plus getting warming dishes this year.

7. **School Council volunteer positions**

- Environment coordinator
- Treasurer

- Volunteer coordinator

8. **School Logo and T-shirts**

Parent inquired about what step of the process for the new logo. Mr Miller will continue to get the ball rolling. Need to complete a couple steps with CBE.

9. **New Business**

Casino planned on January 5-6, 2027. Need to work on filling up volunteer list. Marinas will set up the Sign Up Genius for volunteers. Suggestion from parent to add brief description of roles to Sign Up Sheet so people know what they are signing up for. Transportation fees can be covered to get volunteers to and from casino.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026. This will be the AGM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

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Kelsi Porter, Secretary