

University School Council

Meeting Minutes

Jan 14, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

Attendance: Salim Ahmed, Advik, Allison, Lori Bonanno, Fatemeh, Hadi, Kashkary, Kurt, Marian, Jennifer McTighe, Nur, Raofeh, Garry, Zahra, Cliona, Vaitare, Vivek, Helina, Nusrat

School Council Meeting

1. Call to Order

- Meeting started at 6:32PM

2. Approval of last meeting's minutes

- Motion to approve: Salim Ahmed. Seconded by: Marian Zlomislic

3. Approval of the agenda

- Motion to approve: Salim Ahmed. Seconded by: Marian Zlomislic

4. Updates from School Council

a. December Movie Night

- Attendance of approximately 150 people.
- Net profit of \$737, including licensing costs.
- Save-On-Foods, in University District, donated many of the concession items. This significantly reduced expenses and helped us keep costs low and still generate funds. Huge thanks to them for their support.
- Event received positive feedback from families.

b. Upcoming events details:

- **Winter Ball – Feb 26, 2026**
 - Will include a DJ, quiet activities, and food options through Healthy Hunger.
 - Entry will be “donate what you can.”
 - Volunteers will be required; sign-up information to be shared via Monday Message.

5. Update from UES Principal and Assistant Principal

Principal McTighe and Vice-Principal Bonano shared the following updates:

a. Student Learning & Experiences

- ***Siku (Polar Bear) Installation***
 - Created by students in Miss Rowley's class.
 - Included art, storytelling, and audio recordings accessed via QR codes.
 - Opened for all classes to experience.

- ***Winter Pond School***
 - Focus on land-based and place-based learning.
 - Activities adapted due to warm weather (e.g., freezer experiments, water testing, observation activities).

- ***Choir Program***
 - Division II (Grades 4–6) choir underway.
 - Practices Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
 - Spring concert scheduled for April 9 (dress rehearsal and evening performance).

- ***Art Felt Studio Residency***
 - Artist Leah Kathleen Donald working with all classrooms.
 - Projects include Alberta landscapes, Seven Sacred Teachings, and Turtle Island themes.
 - Funded through School Council/Parent Association support.

b. Staff and operations

- **Teachers' Convention**
 - February 12–13 (professional learning for all staff).

- **Playground Structure**
 - Confirmed to have at least 10 years of remaining lifespan; potential future netting repair noted.

- **Teacher Candidates**
 - Mount Royal University Year 4 students on practicum from January 6 to April 17.

- **Kindergarten Registration**
 - Open for the 2026–27 school year via School Engage.

6. Adjourn. Meeting closed at 6:58 PM.

