

Valley Creek School Cooperating Society Meeting Minutes – January 20th 2026

CURRENT LIST OF DIRECTORS:	
Chair: Sarah Parchewsky	Treasurer: Lisa Antichow
Vice-Chair: Krista Delorme	Secretary: Celeste McIlhargey
Casino Director: VACANT	Fundraising Director: VACANT

Attendees:

Lisa Antichow, Celeste McIlhargey, Sarah Parchewsky, Krista Delorme, Danna Weatherbee, Kirsten Ledergerber, Maria Fedoruk, Ashley Thiessen

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm by Sarah.

1) Agenda and approval of minutes reviewed. Motion to approve agenda by Krista seconded by Lisa. All in Favour. Approved. Motion to approve meeting minutes from November 18th, 2025 by Sarah and seconded by Ashley.

2) Treasurer's Report

- General account balance as of December 31st: \$10,633.33 *this does not include the Fundscrip total as the cheque has not yet been deposited*
 - Motions of \$6,806.22
 - \$955.80 – Calgary Opera Tour – from Nov 24
 - \$750 – Popcorn Machine – from May 25
 - \$700 – 25/26 Grad – from Sep 25
 - \$300 – Coffee Cart – from Sep 25
 - \$1700 – 25/26 Dances – from Nov 25
 - \$2,242.76 - AWS grant *there is no deadline to spend this money, we have time to decide how we want to use it*
 - These numbers may not add up to the Motions Total because of Grade 9 grad + outstanding receipts
 - Balance remaining: \$3,827.11
 - \$400 deposit (likely from Benevity – Lisa will continue to investigate)
- Casino account balance as of December 31st \$21,691.61
 - Motions of \$12,080.90
 - PE Equipment - \$908
 - Alien In-line bill – still coming
 - Band Clinics - \$3000 from May 2025 (none of this has been spent yet)
 - Balance remaining \$9,610.71

- Motions report
 - The following items were motions from the November 18th 2025 meeting:
 - \$1000 - Marshall's insurance
 - \$300 – piano moving fee (paid in December)
 - \$300 – coffee cart
 - \$750 – Popcorn Machine
 - Audit has been completed – no issues
 - The audit is for both accounts
 - One audit goes to AGLC for them and one audit goes to Service Alberta
 - These audits are part of our annual reporting as a Parent Society (which is reviewed every year)
 - Our audit is done internally by two parents who are within in the school. They look at all the information and match things line by line.
- 3) Fundraising Report 2024 – 2025 (Annika)
- Fundscrip
 - No formal campaign ran due to teacher strike
 - We had one large donor/purchaser – they ordered over \$54,000 in gift cards! So this means we get approximately \$1,500 to our general account.
 - We typically do a pizza party for their student to say thank you!
 - This is the last year that Fundscrip will run as there is no one to take over the campaign, and the large donor is moving on. The return on purchases is very small (2-3%) and therefore may not be worth the time
 - Rebel Bean Details
 - Feb 2nd to 20th for sales, pick up will be first week of March
 - Estimated revenue: \$6/bag ordered – 250 orders would mean \$1,500 to the general account
 - Sarah is leading this campaign
 - Hopefully we can come up with one more fundraising campaign before the end of the year
 - Suggestion from Ashley: Texas Donut Sale for the kids
 - *Question: is VCS set up with Healthy Hunger?* New guidelines were released from CBE around food safety and food handling – transportation and temperature needed to be guaranteed + managed so it was decided that Healthy Hunger was too complicated. We were

also worried about having enough volunteers to hand out the food in the set time. **If someone is willing to help with this and coordinate with the school admin, then there is the potential to start this again.**

4) Other items to discuss

- Recruitment and Succession Planning for the Chair, Key Communicator, Fundraising and Casino Director. Start mentoring for the casino director.
- Follow up: COBS may have ended their fundraising partnership – Raye-Lynn will do more research
- *There is candy in the storage that is soon to expire and some that is expired (leftover from the school dance) – how should we handle this? Annika will go and look at the candy and check the dates. *ACTION ITEM FOR SARAH: Flash sale on candy* *Danna will support if we can sell the candy**
- *When does the money from previous casino need to get spent by? *ACTION ITEM: Sarah to investigate* There is potentially a form to extend the use of funds if you are near expiration.*
- *Why is the casino money kept separate from the general account? You have to have a specific license to be able to utilize and participate in the casino, and one rule from AGLC is that it has to be a separate account. They have specific rules for what the funds can be used for – and if audited, the AGLC will look at the account to cross-reference our records. For example – uniforms can be paid for by the AGLC because “everyone” can use them. Our own fundraising goes into the general account, which we can use anyway that we want.*
- *ACTION ITEM FOR SARAH: Review with admin how funds are being spent across subject areas*
- *ACTION ITEM FOR SARAH: Invite teachers from different grades to come to the meeting based on a rotating schedule*

5) New Motions

- Ashley Thiessen is interested in becoming the Casino Coordinator – she connected with Angie and will also be at Valley Creek long-term. Motioned by Sarah P. Seconded by Krista. All in favour.
- \$5,460 for School Jerseys for Cross Country and Track Team
 - Do the jerseys stay at the school? Yes these would be returned every season.
 - Students would need to put down a deposit for the jersey. If the student doesn't return the jersey, they cash the cheque.

- Based on the bussing fees + band instruments + band clinics, this motion is **TABLED** until next month
 - Busses – \$960 for both Grade 5 + 6, \$1,260 for Grade 7, 8, 9 each for a total of \$5,760 for the year (one field trip per grade)
 - Danna – do they need to present each one per trip per grade? Can council pay for only 50% of the bussing?
 - Sarah – does this set a precedent that then Council pays for the trip each year?
 - Ashley – this should be towards field trips going forward but considering we have casino money we have to use up – it makes sense to present this as a one-time sponsorship of the trips
 - Motion: student bussing for one field trip per grade to take place between now and end of June 2026 based on the amounts provided in the school council meeting on January 20th for a total of \$5, 760. Sarah motions, Ashley seconds. All in favour.
- APPROVED.**
- Outstanding: band instruments + band clinics ***Action Item for Sarah to follow up with admin***

Next meeting date:

- February 17th at 6:30 pm ONLINE via MS Teams (link to be provided by admin)

6) Motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm BY Sarah. All in favour. Adjourned.