

Earl Grey Senior Public School

School Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 In-person & Virtual

Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 211 135 477 586 907

Passcode: jb97Xk27

Meeting Minutes:

	Agenda Item	Presenter	Notes
1	Welcome Attendees	Jenna Greenfield	The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.
2	Land Acknowledgement	Jenna Greenfield	Jenna provided the land acknowledgement
3	Principal Update	Jenna Greenfield	School Reorganization and Staffing Earl Grey has grown to approximately 500 students, with about 250 students in each of Grades 7 and 8. Due to increased enrolment and class-size requirements, the school recently completed a rapid reorganization, which included the addition of new Grade 7 and Grade 8 classes (710 and 810) and two new teachers joining the school. Administration acknowledged the impact that the reorganization has had on students, families, and staff, while expressing confidence that the new classes will settle successfully. Amanda Anderson was also introduced as Earl Grey's new Vice-Principal. School Communication and Upcoming Dates The school website and weekly newsletter will continue to be the primary sources for school information and updates. Truth and Reconciliation activities will take place on September 30, with students encouraged to wear orange. The Terry Fox scavenger hunt will take place on Friday, along with a pizza celebration for classes and students affected by the recent reorganization. Curriculum Night is scheduled for October 15, followed by the Grade 7 vaccination clinic with Toronto Public Health on October 16. Families may also choose to arrange vaccinations through their family doctor.

			Trips and Student Programs The Grade 8 Ottawa trip has been rescheduled to April 14–16, with approximately 200 spaces expected to be available. A \$60 non-refundable insurance fee will be required due to the potential for labour disruption. For students who do not attend the Ottawa trip, a Grad Week program featuring local field trips will be offered. Grade 7 Camp Pine Crest will take place near the end of May, with capacity for approximately 250 students and financial subsidies available for families who require support. The lunchtime music program, including Rock Band, will also resume, while girls' and boys' groups offered in partnership with Eastview Community Centre are expected to begin after Thanksgiving. Student Council activities will also continue. School Initiatives The gym renewal is the major school improvement project proposed for this year, with options for new gym signage and graphics ranging from approximately \$9,000 to \$22,000. Student and staff input will be gathered before a final option is selected. The school will also continue to reinforce student participation in swimming, with pool scheduling information updated on the website since swimming takes place every other week. Administration reported a strong start to the year with reduced student cell-phone use and is also working to reduce unnecessary Chromebook and screen time while encouraging more reading and offline learning activities.
4	School Council Elections ● Chair(s) - Exec Position - open ● Treasurer - Exec Position - (Paul Besaw) ● Secretary - Exec Position - (Kymberleigh Richards) ● Caring & Safe School (open) ● Fundraising (open) ● Voting Members (open)	Jenna Greenfield	Council Positions and Elections Open and returning School Council positions were reviewed, including Chair/Co-Chairs, Treasurer (Paul Besaw), Secretary (Kymberleigh Richards), Caring & Safe School, Fundraising, and voting member positions. The Chair/Co-Chairs, Caring & Safe School, Fundraising, and voting member positions remain open. A self-nomination form will be distributed to the school community, and information regarding the number of voting members is available in the School Council bylaws on the school website. Caring & Safe School Administration identified safety concerns regarding the spinning playground equipment at Kempton Howard Park. The school has contacted 311 and would welcome School Council support with further community and City advocacy. Littering and off-property lunch behaviour were also identified as areas requiring continued attention. The possibility of providing additional lunchtime equipment was discussed as a way to encourage more students to remain on school property during lunch.

			Fundraising Equity funding supports students and families with costs associated with Camp Pine Crest, yearbooks, and field trips to help ensure that financial circumstances do not prevent students from participating. Direct donations and pizza lunches will continue as key fundraising initiatives, while additional ideas discussed included community sponsorships, silent auctions, and other parent-led initiatives. Pizza lunch registration is expected to be circulated shortly and will require support from parent volunteers.
	Treasurer's Report	Paul Besaw	School Council currently has approximately \$24,000 in available funds, with a minimum carry-forward balance of approximately \$5,000 suggested. Last year, Council raised approximately \$29,000 gross and \$21,000 net, including approximately \$14,000 in direct donations and \$5,000 net from pizza lunches. Approximately \$17,000 had been anticipated for spending, including funding for the gym project; however, the gym funds were not spent. Actual spending was approximately \$2,500, primarily in support of equity initiatives.
5	Open to Guardians	Guardians	Council discussed potential parent and community programming, including online safety sessions and self-defense programming for students. A parent raised concerns about families being asked to contribute toward supplementary French math workbooks and suggested that future requests for classroom resources be brought to School Council where appropriate. Administration clarified that the workbooks are supplementary and are provided to students regardless of whether families contribute. Parents also discussed opportunities for Council to offer additional workshops and events for families, particularly related to online safety education. Information was also shared about the September 30 Truth and Reconciliation ceremonial fire at Withrow Park.
6	Adjourn	Jenna Greenfield	Jenna thanked families for their participation and feedback. The meeting concluded at approximately 7:30 p.m. Next Meeting: Date to be confirmed. Remaining School Council meetings will be held virtually.