

PARENTS AT WESTBROOK SOCIETY (PAWS)

Minutes

Date/Time: November 19, 2025

Where: Westbrook School

Time: 7:30 pm

Attendance: Nikki Murphy, Maria Gastle, Mary Thomas, Kim Labelle, Natalie Schlamp, Sim Kaida, Meghan Galipeau, Dana Garner, Noopur Parmar, Theresa Bosko & Da Li

Online attendance: Kelly Kentel, Sameera Bhatia, Syed Benazir Alam, Sonia Delhon, Krishna Koshal, Jamila Moloo, & Shaina Terriff

1. Meeting called to order at 7:32 by Nikki Murphy

2. Approval of agenda & June minutes - motion by Megan Galipeau to approve the agenda, seconded by Sim Kaida. Motion to approve June's meeting minutes by Theresa Bosco and seconded by Sim Kaida

3. New Business

3.1 - Available Board Positions to Fill - Secretary and Member at Large

Position of Secretary - Natalie Schlamp volunteered, motion to appoint by Sim Kaida, seconded Teresa Bosco

Position of Member at Large - Kim Labelle volunteered, motion to appoint by Sim Kaida, seconded by Megan Galipeau.

3.2 - PAWS Playground donation from existing Casino Funds

Motion put forward for PAWS to donate \$70,000.00 from existing casino funds to the new playground. Motion made by Dana Garner, seconded by Sim Kaida.

3.3 - Recap of Sept/Oct Events

Meet the staff event - successful! Kids liked the gift bags, feedback was positive. We really enjoyed being in the courtyard, well attended and the weather cooperated. Thanks to Darren for organizing the mini donuts - they were a hit.

Teacher/custodian appreciation - provided teachers, EA's and custodians with amazon giftcards, hot chocolate, chocolate and snacks/treats in the staff room.

4. Financial Report by Mary

General Account October 2025 Statement		
Opening Balance	\$24,849.86	
	Receipts	Disbursements
Pumpkin sale fundraiser transferred to playground account	\$350.00	
Teacher & Staff appreciation & Hot lunch bins		-\$1,286.69
Davison Orchards - Apples fundraiser initial deposit		-\$4,051.40
Transfer to playground account (Bottle drive and Pumpking sale)		-\$680.00
Total	\$350.00	-\$6,018.09
Book Balance October 31, 2025	\$19,181.77	
RBC Bank Statement October 31st, 2025	\$19,181.77	
Variance*	\$0.00	
Casino Account October 2025 Statement		
Opening Balance	\$135,236.08	
	Receipts	Disbursements
N/A	-	\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -
Book Balance October 31, 2025	\$135,236.08	
RBC Bank Statement October 20th, 2025	\$135,236.08	
Variance*	\$0.00	
Playground October 2025 Statement		
Opening Balance	\$41,626.80	
	Receipts	Disbursements
Transfer from General account (Bottle drive and Pumpking sale)	\$680.00	
Total	\$680.00	\$ -
Book Balance October 31, 2025	\$42,306.80	
RBC Bank Statement October 20th, 2025	\$41,626.80	
Variance*	\$680.00	

2024-2025 vs. 2025-2026 YTD				
G/L Code	Account Title	Actual	2024-2025	Variance Over/(Under)
1000	0	\$105.00	\$2,659.00	(\$2,554.00)
4000	0	\$155.00	\$2,473.73	(\$2,318.73)
5000	0	\$2,407.15	\$15.00	\$2,392.15
6000	0	\$350.00	\$1,050.18	(\$700.18)
7000	0	\$4,717.70	\$4,953.94	(\$236.24)
Total		\$7,734.85	\$11,151.85	-\$3,417.00

5. Requests for Funds

- Toques for the student patrollers ~ \$700
- Artist in resident ~ \$4500
- Gingerbread People cookies ~ \$1000
- Bussing for ski trip ~ \$3050

Motion to spend \$9250 to \$9500 on the 4 above items made by Maria Gastle, seconded by MaryThomas.

6. Fundraising Updates

6.1 - Planned upcoming fundraisers

Waterpark - April 23 (Friday evening). Put on the events page. Will be using the playground website to sell tickets. George P Nickolson reached out to coordinate and facilitate. 750 tickets = 375 tickets per school. Early bird pricing available. Shorter lines and less pressure to sell 1000. Projected profit will be about \$2500. \$10,500 spent to secure 375 tickets.

Westcoast Seeds - starts February 2, 2026 - 40% of every packet of seeds sold will go to PAWS. Will run ahead of spring seedling planting.

Glow Dance - Feb 20th - Booked. Tickets will be sold on the playground website.

6.2 - Ongoing fundraiser Updates

Purdy's chocolate - deadline to order November 22nd with delivery during the first week of December (currently at \$5,641.25 sales, profit of \$1,480.83)

Growing Smiles Seasonal Greenery - deadline to order was yesterday. Delivery December 4th. Final sales total was \$1,848 which amounted to a profit of \$430.68.

Davison orchards - sold 128 boxes which amounted to a profit of 971.30. Pick up was a bit more challenging with the strike coinciding but most people were able to come and grab their apples. Thanks again to everyone who made time to make that fundraiser a success.

Hot lunches - Every 2-3 weeks, more frequent this year. Major contributor to our funds. Every second lunch will be simpler with 1 pizza vendor. Sell cookies & apple juice from Costco and mark-up for a larger profit margin. So far lots of volunteer help, hopeful to have more join the fun

6.3 - Playground Update

Family movie night Dec 5, bring your own seat/cushions, concession. Nov 30th deadline to buy tix.

Waiting on C-FEP grant. Sent application for a 2nd time in July. Hopeful to hear back soon. With the grant, planning can begin. Without the grant, we continue to fundraise for the outstanding ~\$25,000. Re-application is an option.

6.4 - Suggestions

None.

7. Adjourn - Motion to adjourn at 8:00 by Nikki Murphy, seconded by Maria Gastle

8. Next Meeting on January 21, 2026

About PAWS

The Parents At Westbrook Society (PAWS) is an independent, self-governing organization, separate from Westbrook School Council and Westbrook School, with the authority and responsibility to make necessary decisions to manage its operations and activities.

The objects of PAWS are to:

- Raise money to support opportunities for students attending Westbrook School that enhance their educational experience.
- Provide opportunities for parents and community members to provide additional financial resources to support Westbrook School Council and Westbrook School.
- Secure funds through casinos, grants, and other fundraising activities to achieve the goals of PAWS.
- Strengthen the quality and relevance of education and contribute to the development of responsible citizens through access to funds.
- Develop and maintain a symbiotic relationship with Westbrook School Council and Westbrook School.
- Work collaboratively with Westbrook School Council and Westbrook School to determine the needs, wishes, and priorities for funds.