Ohpaho Secondary School Council

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 / 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM / OSS Library

Agenda

1. **Welcome & Call To Order**
2. **Agenda Approval**
3. **Review of Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2026**
4. **Reports**
    a. Chair's Report
        i. School Council - 2026/27 Calendar of Events
            1. 2026-27 Goals
                a. Parent Learning Sessions - January 2027
                b. Other Topics?
            2. ASCE Grant
                a. Book Study Survey
        ii. Community Special Events
            1. Movie Night
            2. Student Market
    b. Principal's Report
5. **New Business**
6. **Old Business**
7. **Upcoming Events**
    a. Upcoming Meetings - Third Wednesday of the month - 6:30 to 8pm
        i. **December - no meeting**
        ii. January 20, 2027
        iii. February 17, 2027

Ohpaho Secondary School Council

Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2026

In Attendance: Sandra Jory (Chair), Tracy Schulz (Vice-Chair), Amanda Saunders (Secretary), Danika May (staff), Justin Klaassen (staff), Kim Terry, Tracy Reid, Megan Brown, Asha Joseph, Kim Sauneuf, Thera Smith, Andrea Waterhouse.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Sandra called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and introductions were made.

2. Agenda Approval

No additions to agenda. Approved.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The September 16, 2026 meeting minutes were approved.

4. Reports

Principal's Report

a. Current Events and School Safety: CTIP (Center for Trauma Informed Practices) was involved and advised that continuing regular school operations was appropriate and safe. Student and staff safety remains a priority. Similar attempts to disrupt school operations with threats have reportedly occurred at other schools across the province. RCMP presence will continue regularly for the foreseeable future, with no end date established. Approximately 50% of students were absent on October 14, 2026. School communications have temporarily transitioned to the division, with plans to return to Mr. Klaassen on Friday, October 16, 2026. Mr. Klaassen held a Google Meet with students on October 14, 2026 to address concerns and emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity or threats directly to teachers or trusted adults rather than spreading information on social media.

b. Meet the Teacher Night: Discussed moving Meet the Teacher Night on a teacher workday prior to the first day of school. Teachers were supportive of this change.

c. School Information Videos: Mr. Klaassen confirmed that school and division staff have agreed to assist with video creation and voiceovers to support the project.

d. Gymnasium Banners: Discussions have taken place with the PE and maintenance departments regarding banner installation. The school does not have a scissor lift required for installation. Mr. Klaassen is exploring arrangements with the division office to bring a scissor lift to the school.

e. School Culture and Student Artwork: Mr Klaassen met with Mr. Templeton to discuss incorporating more student artwork throughout the school. Potential display spaces were identified, including upper windows with existing ledges. Discussed the possibility of

installing shelving and ledges to display student artwork and strengthen school culture and pride.

f. Peer Tutoring: A call for tutors has been distributed, with a focus on developing peer tutoring opportunities.

g. Student Population Update:
   - Grade 8: 136
   - Grade 9: 156
   - Grade 10: 1954
   - Grade 11: 198
   - Grade 12: 227
   - Total student enrollment is 911.

h. School Budget Report: The total school budget is $6,721,823, with approximately 98% allocated to staffing. School expenditures total approximately $226,713, covering operational expenses such as photocopy paper, first-aid supplies, and substitute coverage for field trips. Approximately $8,807 remains in the school expenditure account. Administration will review available funding to determine where additional resources are needed due to increased enrollment. Certificated staffing currently has approximately 1.3 FTE unfilled, while non-certificated staffing has approximately 1.4 FTE unfilled. These vacant positions account for some of the remaining balances and contribute to the budget appearing balanced. Administration is exploring how to allocate these available staffing resources most effectively to support student needs. ESL funding is approximately $1,200 per eligible student, with approximately 39 students qualifying, representing an estimated $46,800. Funding can be used flexibly, with translation devices being considered as a potential investment. Overall, the budget is balanced, with limited discretionary funding remaining. The focus is on responsible spending and maximizing the impact of available resources.

i. Three-Year School Priorities: Opened the discussion to parents in attendance to identify priorities and improvements they would like to see over the next three years. Parents raised concerns regarding bathroom security, and appropriate use of facilities. Similar challenges have been reported at other schools. Discussed the difficulty of balancing student privacy with appropriate supervision. A policy was discussed regarding multiple students occupying a single bathroom stall, including the possibility of students being sent home immediately. Staff are preparing a regular bathroom sweep schedule to improve supervision. School values and culture were also discussed, including revisiting previous school survey results to help identify priorities. Plans are underway to display graduation photos chronologically throughout the school hallways.

j. Student Mentorship and Orientation Program: Ms. May provided an update on the proposed mentorship program. The Student Council expressed strong enthusiasm for participating and supporting incoming students during first-day orientation. The goal is to help new students become familiar with the school, build connections, and feel welcomed. Logistics and implementation details are still being developed.

   Action item: *Ms. May and Student Council to continue exploring program logistics and implementation.*

Chair's Report

1. School Calendar of Events: Discussed establishing school council goals for the year, as previously suggested by Sandra. Parent surveys were discussed as a way to identify topics of interest, including potential parent learning sessions, and encourage greater engagement. Surveys may be distributed throughout the year as needed.

   Action item: *Sandra to prepare a list of potential topics for discussion at next month's meeting.*

2. ASCE Grant: Sandra explained that the Alberta Government provides a $500 grant to support school council engagement and activities. Discussed potential uses for the funding, including a parent book study. Previous experiences with courses and workshops have been less successful, so members expressed interest in trying something different. One suggestion was to have a different member lead a brief book discussion each month. *Growing Up in Public: Coming of Age in a Digital World* was suggested as a potential alternative to *The Anxious Generation*. Parents will explore the book to determine whether it would be a good fit.

3. Community Special Events: Concerns were raised regarding the proposed Oilers hockey night in light of recent decisions made by team. Discussed organizing a community market night, similar to the successful events held at West Haven. Efforts are underway to connect with West Haven organizers for information and guidance on planning and logistics. A family movie night in the school gymnasium was also discussed for December. It was noted that the movie may be licensed at no cost provided admission is free. A concession could potentially be organized.

4. Chair Responsibilities and Updates: Sandra will attend the Council of School Councils (COSC) meeting October 20, 2026.

5. Old Business

a. Nothing to address.

6. New Business

a. Student Council: Planning a Restock the Food Drive event, along with upcoming Halloween activities, including costume contests. A hot dog lunch is also being planned. Goals for the year include community-building activities in December and cultural events recognizing Black History Month. Student Council is working on developing a calendar of events.

b. Music Program Sponsorship: Seeking sponsors to support the school music program. Sponsorship letters are available through Mr. Froland.

c. Fundraising Society: Provincial incorporation registration has been received, with the first meeting planned for next month. The goal is to organize at least one fundraiser to support teacher appreciation activities.

d. Next Meeting: November 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

7. Adjournment

Sandra adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

OSS COUNCIL 2026-27 ACTIVITY PLAN

SEPTEMBER

- Review and update operating procedures & website
- Brain storm annual goals
- Discuss ideas for ASCE grant

OCTOBER

- Overview of 2026-27 budget
- Finalize annual goals
- Finalize use of ASCE grant

NOVEMBER

- Evaluate progress on goals and use of ASCE grant

JANUARY

- Review 2025-26 School Assessment Results
- Evaluate progress on goals and use of ASCE grant

FEBRUARY

- Evaluate progress on goals and use of ASCE grant

MARCH

- Recruit for positions for next year

APRIL

- 2026-27 Assurance Plan Results
- Evaluate progress on annual goals and use of ASCE grant

MAY

- Review Draft Budget
- Annual General Meeting (elections)
- Presentation of draft Annual Report

Legend Red - Principal Black - Council

OSS Book Study

As part of our monthly meetings, OSS Council will be utilizing its ASCE grant to purchase books for a book study that will focus on the healthy use of technology. Please complete this survey if you would like to participate. Note: books will be distributed on first come first serve basis at the January 2027 meeting.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

2. Name *

3. Phone number *

4. The book I would most like to study is: *

Mark only one oval.

- Unselfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All About Me World by Michell Boarba
- Empire of AI: Dreams and Nightmares in San Altaman's Open AI by Karen Hoa
- The Distraction Addiction: Getting the Information You Need and the Communication You Want by Alex Soojung-Kim Pang
- The Anxious Generation: How the Great Re-wiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness by Jonathan Haidt
- Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention and How to Think Deeply Again by Johann Hari
- The Amazing Generation - Your Guide to Fun and Freedom in a Screen Filled World by Jonathan Haidt and Catherine Price
- AI Literacy in Any Class : Preparing Students to Thrive in an AI Future by Matt Miller
- Growing Up in Public: Coming of Age in a Digital World by Devorah Heitner

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