

## 2025 - 2026 Varsity Acres School Council Meeting

**Date:** Feb 24, 2026

**Time:** 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Location:** Varsity Acres School (in-person and virtual)

**Attendees:** **Varsity Acres School:** Brooke Reilley (VAS principal), Courtney Klein-Swormink (VAS Assistant Principal)  
**VASC Executive Committee Members:** Meg Bateman (Chair), Amy Metcalfe (vice chair), Leanna Baker (communications officer), Amajot Kaur (volunteer coordinator) and Genvieve Swallow-Cheng (volunteer coordinator)  
**VASPFS:** Anne Harding (president), Greg Hallihan (vice chair), Mike Morganton (Treasurer), Harleen Vosselin (VASPFS), Beatrice C (member), Melissa (member)  
**Regrets:** Laura Karl (secretary), Kristina Groves (outdoor learning committee)  
**Members at Large:** Carolina, Erin, Larisa Steigerberger, Laura, Melissa McNeil, Olivet, Sandra S

Agenda Item		Speaker	Discussion
<b>1. Welcome and Administration</b>	1.1 Introductions	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Round table introductions</li> </ul>
	1.2 Review and Adopt Agenda	Meg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to adopt by Meg</li> <li>● seconded by Amy</li> </ul>
	1.3 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes	Meg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to adopt by Meg</li> <li>● seconded by Amy</li> </ul>
<b>2. Invited guest speaker</b>	2.1 Middle school presentations	Principals, Michael Cutler and Sebastian Picard	FEO changes coming to next year – ability to grow the French program.

		<p>Branton: CSI and ACCESS class for special education were added this year. This year there was a lottery for late entry French immersion (grade 7). All grade 6 students from Varsity Acres School will have a spot.</p> <p>It takes a village to educate and support students and therefore middle school ask that parents continue to collaborate as partners.</p> <p>Branton: no school bus, so using public transportation, parents driving, carpools, walking/ride bikes. Can reach out to principals</p> <p>Question about safety from parents, and any plans given the incident at Tumbler Ridge:</p> <p>Safety is paramount. CBE offers learn to ride sessions before the start of the school year for parents and students to practice using public transportation.</p> <p>FEO uses sign out, sign in and hall passes to account for where students are and several safety protocols from the CBE are in place.</p> <p>Safety and care of students is a top priority for CBE. In addition to providing one on one connection with students, administrators and teachers are monitoring students closely for changes from baseline behaviour, observing for risk, and will reach out to families and bring in specialists as needed. Additional training for violence intervention is provided to staff.</p> <p>Question about body breaks and movement beyond gym class for this younger population in middle school:</p> <p>FEO: 7 blocks/day 47-48 mins each. There are A and B days which provide predictability. Physical education is daily and there is a 10 minute nutrition break in the morning.</p>
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<b>3. Principal updates and reports</b>	3.1 Principal update	Brooke	<p>Report cards available. Recommended to download the report card as these are erased online during the summer months.</p> <p>Reminder that you can pay your school fees while you are in the CBE account.</p> <p>4 formal reporting opportunities - 2 parent teacher conferences, and 2 report cards.</p> <p>Informal opportunities are always welcome by reaching out to your child's teacher. Also recommended to look through Grade Book for students in grade 3-5, weekly</p> <p>Folk le Folie came to the school today to kick off Carnival and it was another wild success. They have been booked for next year.</p> <p>Winter Carnival occurring next week Mar 2-6.</p> <p>Thank you to the parent/guardian community for signing up to volunteer - thank you to Genvieve for organizing.</p> <p>Olympics theme this year as suggested by the learning outdoor committee. The Carnival committee has worked hard this year to make the event cohesive.</p> <p>School store opened March 1, 2026</p> <p>How did the lottery turn out this year?</p> <p>Some families will apply for admittance to a number of schools, while some students will be waitlisted. Guardians have 10 days to make decisions before numbers and waitlist can be better</p>
	3.2 Staffing update	Brooke	<p>Third EA has been hired on a permanent basis to support students with special needs.</p> <p>Mme Forbes is currently on an LOA, Mr Edwin Batley will be filling in.</p> <p>Mme Metivier will be doing the parent teacher conferences for Mme Jen's class.</p>
<b>3. VASPFS Fundraising Society Updates and Reports</b>	3.1 Treasurer's Report	n/a	Not available, to be provided at the next meeting.

	3.2 Parents Fundraising Society's Report	Anne and Greg	Casino: 5 sports to still fill. 2 cashiers and a 1 banker, as well and 2 backup for Monday night shifts. Movie fundraising night: Feb 26, 2026 6-8pm to celebrate the new AV system. Movie: Inside Out Forecasting that we will fill all 150 spots. 4 volunteer spots are still needed. Volunteer link added to the showpass website. Annual public performance license has been obtained.
<b>4. School Council Update</b>	4.1 Grant money discussion	Meg	Narrowed down to two options: a parent directed talk about supporting children with anxiety, or a presentation to parents by Elder Sakokato. Will put this forward to the group at the next meeting.
	4.2 Playground committee	Greg and Brooke	Will be proceeding with an application to the parks foundation. There are plans to engage with students as well as promote awareness of the playground. In addition to grants, the team will be looking for volunteers to write up grant proposals. Education matters website: separate playground button. The team is working on creating and applying for different pools of money. The Varsity community association will be starting big renovations fairly soon. Varsity voice newsletter may be an option, as well as other community newsletters, to raise awareness about the playground.
	4.3 Outdoor learning committee update	Brooke	Plans for Carnival have been made. Urban forest and tree planting with grade 4's Planning what to do with the Loose parts program supplies in the shed. Would like to organize a couple of events before the end of the school year. Christina Groves will follow up at the following meeting.
<b>5. Other business and adjournment</b>	5.1 Adjournment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Meeting adjourned at 8pm</li> <li>● Proposed by Meg</li> <li>● seconded by Amy</li> </ul> <p>Next meeting April 22, 2026</p>

<b>Contact Information</b>
<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:vasc.exec@gmail.com">vasc.exec@gmail.com</a>

**Mailing and Office Address:** VASC c/o Varsity Acres School, 4255 – 40th Street NW, Calgary, AB T3A 0H7

**Varsity Acres School (VAS) Web Site:** <http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/VarsityAcres/Pages/default.aspx>

**Varsity Acres School Council (VASC) Web Site:** <http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/varsityacres/get-involved/school-council/pages/default.aspx>

**Facebook:** Varsity Acres School Council (VASC) (this is a closed group, accessible by request / invitation only)

**Twitter:** @VarsityAcresSC