

November 18, 2025 Dry Grad Parent Committee Meeting Minutes Cariboo Hill Secondary School

Attendees: Katrina Craig (treasurer), Lisa Young (chairperson), James Choo (committee member), Karen Bajwa (committee member), Namita Sahni (committee member) Michael Jozsef (parent observer), Sonia Loretan (parent observer), Julia Craig (grade 12 student and grad council co-chair), Simranjit Kaur (grade 12 student and grad council co-chair), Khoal (observer), and Valancia (observer)

Regrets: Laurie Kravski (communications lead), Meena Mangat (vice principal), and Rahul Haridwar (committee member)

Agenda

Welcome & Introduction

Review of Previous Action Items

1. **Pinnacle Hotel (dinner and dance venue) confirmed as the Dry Grad venue also** (available up to 1am)
 - Hours for combined events: 6pm to 1am
 - School will fund venue, dinner and DJ
 - Dry grad council will fund other entertainment, door prizes, midnight snack, and transportation back to school
2. **Confirmation of Buses:**
 - James Choo contacted Lynch, the bus company, and it confirmed that council can tentatively reserve two buses with a deposit.
 - Lynch will allow cancellation or reduction in number of required buses closer to event date (once attendance numbers confirmed)
 - cancellation deadline not yet confirmed
 - Katrina (treasurer) will arrange for school to release deposit to James so he can make a payment
3. **No extra rental cost for extended dry grad hours at Pinnacle**
 - Katrina will inquire whether there is a potential additional DJ cost
4. **No dry grad fee?**
 - As there is no separate dry grad venue cost, CHSS administration discussing whether dry grad fee will be waived (i.e. refund those who have already paid, make event available to all grads).
 - In the meantime, cash online sales for dry grad tickets paused

Grad Council Update (Simranjit and Julia)

1. Requests/Input for Dry grad – Simran and Julia shared ideas, as follows:

- A casino night set up in the coat room; a caricature artist; a balloon animal maker; and henna or airbrush tattoos; quick and simple games i.e. darts or bucketball games, minute- win challenges, keeping balloons in air, ping pong balls into cups, cup stackings, etc.) and spin wheel challenges.
- Door prizes, based on a post-secondary friendly theme (i.e. appliances, tech gadgets, gift cards, duvet covers, coffee maker, shower caddy)

2. Grad Council Fundraisers

- **Crispy Crème fundraiser – planned for January 2026**
- Council intends to contact superstore (to secure sheltered, weather friendly sales venue)
- soccer fields are also under consideration as sales venues
- **Grad hoodies** should be ready for sale by January 2026; the design was chosen as a group
- **Spirit week** starts tomorrow
- **Semi-formal for seniors** (grade 11 and 12) will be held on January 22, 2025; tickets will be on sale from November 17 through December 5, 2025)

Budget Overview

- Katrina shared a dry grad budget of \$11,700.00 based on the opening balance, PAC donation and projected sales from fundraisers
- budget does not include funds from projected dry grad ticket sales (as cost may be waived)
- \$2000 must be reserved as opening balance for the following year's grad class
- \$1000 is reserved for a scholarship contribution
- budget also factors in costs associated with fundraising (i.e. custodian, snacks for volunteers at bottle drive, appreciation gifts and transportation for parent chaperones).
- Bus cost is \$1100

Dry Grad Council Fundraiser Updates

Purdy's sale (in effect) – Katrina provided update

Clothing and Bottle drive scheduled on Saturday, January 10, 2025 :

- Rahul emailed an update earlier as he was unable to attend meeting

- November 30 is the target date to confirm event availability with both Big Brother and the bottle depot
- Namita reported Big Brother has confirmed the January 10, 2026 event date
- Rahul is awaiting confirmation from the bottle depot

Katrina mentioned that we need to increase fundraising sales and networking for community contributions in order to meet the \$6000.00 target for entertainment and prizes

Katrina reported that the grad council reported Poinsettia sales of \$400.00

Volunteers Needed

Need volunteer to research entertainment and vendor costs

- Sonia Loretan (scamara@shaw.ca) will take this task and report back to dry grad council
- The grad council's wish list is on google drive

Volunteers needed to network with community vendors or small businesses for financial donations and/or door prize items

- Donations are requested via formal donation letters (available on google drive)
- As an example, Katrina shared that in a past year, a community dentist donated an electric toothbrush (which is in keeping with this grad council's post-secondary theme).
- The school accountant has charitable donations guidelines that can be made available to donating businesses
- The funds are donated through the school district and forwarded to the dry grad committee
- Katrina can obtain the guidelines from the accountant if an interested party is recruited
- **There were no volunteers for this task**

Volunteers for Bottle and clothing drive

- Another parent who attended last month intends to help.
- Emails of volunteers for the event collected during meeting: Karen Bajwa - karenc59@hotmail.com; Simranjit kaur- kaursimransk995@gmail.com
- One volunteer has directly emailed Katrina through the dry grad email and their contact info is saved in google drive.
- Students are expected to help – plan is to message grad council to come help
- The bottle drive is a 4-hour event.
- Bottles may need to be collected from people's homes if they have donations but are unable to drop them off.
- Namita had questions on logistics and planning.

- Katrina intends to connect Namita with the previous year's organizer/s
- Students to circulate flyers for the clothing and bottle drive event in the week of **December 15, 2025**
- Namita and Rahoul will arrange to print flyers, which will be distributed in the neighborhood by grad council, likely in the week of December 15 (last school day over lunch or end of day).

Next Steps/action items

- Katrina will ask the school for final cost on dry grad portion
- James will ask for bus contract (two large buses as long as they are agreeable to amend last minute or i.e. 10 days in advance) James to obtain contract and have it signed through Ms. Mangat
- Katrina to ask the accountant to confirm with James and herself once school has paid the contract
- **Group agreed to hold a December 16 meeting (and not defer until January 2026) in light of the January 10, 2026 bottle drive event planning**
- Katrina will email Sonjia the grad council wish list for door prize and events research and asked that Sonjia provide update by **January 16 (or December 16 if possible)**
- **Next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2025 at 7am**
- contact email drygrad.cariboo@gmail.com.