



Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Date	Thursday, October 9, 2025
Time	7:00– 9:00 PM
Location	Library Learning Commons
Details	General Meeting
Executives in Attendance	President Andy Capesinio Secretary for Winsome Rauch Treasurer Rehan Siddiqui Grade 9/10 Rep Phong Hoang Grade 11/12 Rep Stacey Parson Grade 11/12 Rep Barbara Landa McAuliffe
Staff in Attendance	Principal Jennie Bell, Teachers Greg Kidd and Mary Pearson
Parents and Guests	Amanda Thiessen, Urmila Surabathula, John Surabathula, Violette Labiche

1 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Andy Capesinio called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, read Land Acknowledgement and welcomed special guests. Quorum met.

2 Student Presentation – English 11 Peace-themed Embroidery Project “Peace Blanket.”

This presentation showcased a student project inspired by novel “All Quiet on the Western Front”, in which students created embroidered blankets symbolizing peace. English teacher Greg Kidd, Learning Commons teacher Mary Pearson, Grade 12 student Violette Labiche presented the project involved researching Nobel Peace Prize winners and expressing individual visions of peace through art. The completed blankets were donated to a veterans’ organization.

3 Principal’s Report – Jennie Bell

Classroom Engagement: Admins continue weekly classroom visits to connect with students and teachers.

Pro-D & Indigenous Education: September sessions focused on Truth and Reconciliation; staff took part in a Blanket Exercise. Materials are now available in library to sign out for classroom use.

Staffing & Support: District finalizing student data and addressing EA staffing. ISP Help Centre remains temporarily closed; student support continues.

Academic Focus: Focus on supporting students below grade level and preventing teacher burnout through training and program adjustments.

4 Questions & Discussion:

4.1 EA and Volunteer Support:

Inquiry about allowing volunteers to assist teachers or ELL students if no additional EA is available. If one-to-one reading in elementary schools is allowed, could we do the same in secondary schools? Clarification requested on whether uncertified EAs could be an option or whether a volunteer could oversee the ISP help centre.

4.2 Emergency Preparedness:

Questions about the school's emergency preparedness plan. Admin noted a controlled, class-by-class student release once it's deemed safe, with staff roles assigned and procedures being implemented.

5 2025-2026 Budget

Secretary Winsome Rauch read the proposed DPAC Budget for 2025-2025.

MOTION That that we adopt the budget as presented and authorize the treasurer to spend within its limits. MOVED: Winsome; SECONDED; CARRIED

- Winsome to send Stacey a copy of past funding response letters.
- Stacey, Brigitte, or Rehan to check with Kal about whether teachers should submit receipts directly to PAC or through the school
- Jennie will send email to parents explaining SchoolCash contributions

6 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 11 general meeting were approved as distributed.

7 President's Report – Andy Capesinio

The transfer of signing authority for Andy and Rehan is scheduled for September 12.

8 Treasurer's Report – Rehan

Treasurer Rehan Siddiqui presented reports and spoke on the closing bank balances as of October 9, 2025.

General Account: \$3533.46

Gaming Account: \$2007.50

The reports were received and filed.

9 DPAC Report – Winsome Rauch

Winsome Rauch reported the following

- DPAC will be doing a Constitution and Bylaw review – looking for committee members
- Bussing remains an issue for the district

10 Executive Positions

10.1 Treasurer and DPAC Representative positions

Since the May AGM, the executive appointed Winsome as DPAC Representative and appointed Rehan as another Treasurer. Both appointments were checked against PAC bylaws.

MOTION: That the membership ratify the executive's decision to appoint Winsome Rauch as DPAC Representative and Rehan as Second Treasurer.

MOVED: Winsome Rauch, SECONDED: Stacey Parson, CARRIED

10.2 Grade 9/10 Parent Representative

Urmila Surabathula nominated John Surabathula and was seconded by Barbara Landa McAuliffe. John Surabathula was declared Grade 9/10 Parent Representative for the 2025/2026 school year by acclamation.

10.3 Vice President

After a call for nominations, the position was declared vacant.

11 New Business

11.1 Staff financial requests

Staff have started to submit requests. These are due September 26.

11.2 Parent SchoolCash contributions

MOTION: That the Abbotsford Sr PAC set up a SchoolCash option for parents to contribute to the PAC

MOVED: Stacey Parson, SECONDED: Brigitte Wimmer, CARRIED

11.3 Staff Appreciation:

Scheduled for a Friday in November, avoiding Remembrance Day Assembly Coffee Cart for first block. Winsome will send out planning document to the parents who offered to help and include Terina.

12 Open Floor

13 Adjournment

MOTION: to adjourn, MOVED: John Surabathula, SECONDED Winsome Rauch. CARRIED
The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 7 pm