



Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Date	Thursday, November 13, 2025
Time	7:00– 9:00 PM
Location	Library Learning Commons
Details	General Meeting
Executives in Attendance	President Andy Capesinio Secretary Winsome Rauch Treasurer Rehan Siddiqui Treasurer Brigette Wimmer Grade 9/10 Rep Phong Hoang Grade 9/10 Rep John Sarabathula Grade 11/12 Rep Stacey Parson Grade 11/12 Rep Barbara Landa McAuliffe
Staff in Attendance	Principal Jennie Bell, Teacher Ryan McWhinney
Parents and Guests	Students Meerab K, Miguel P Diana Maupome

1 Welcome and Introductions

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

2 Abbotsford Secondary School Athletics Overview

Ryan McWhinney, the Athletic Director, provided an overview of the school's athletics programs. He highlighted the current and upcoming sports seasons, including BC school sports and various clubs. Ryan mentioned the success of some teams, such as the senior boys soccer team winning the Eastern Valley Banner, and the introduction of new programs like golf. He also discussed the PE Leadership program and intramural sports, emphasizing the school's commitment to providing athletic opportunities for all students.

The meeting highlighted the significant role of the PAC in supporting various sports at Abby Senior, particularly in managing costs for equipment and uniforms. Two multi-sport athletes, Meerab and Miguel, shared their experiences, emphasizing the discipline, confidence, and community engagement gained through sports. The school boasts a diverse sports program with 328 athletes, 25% of the student body, and 45 coaches, including staff members who coach multiple sports. The discussion also touched on the availability of sports-specific PE classes and the positive impact of sports on students' personal growth and academic performance.

3 Principal's Report – Jennie Bell

The school celebrated its 70th anniversary with a Heritage Wing exhibit highlighting notable alumni. November literacy and numeracy assessments were canceled due to a strike and rescheduled for January. Staffing remains a challenge, though most vacancies are filled, and course planning for next year is underway. Behavioral concerns have led to some student transfers, and safety issues persist, particularly during commutes near Ravine Park and 7-Eleven. The school liaison officer continues prevention efforts. Discussion included reintroducing Pre-Diploma 9 classes, managing enrollment targets, and addressing space and facility constraints as enrollment grows.

4 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October general meeting were approved as distributed.

MOVED: Stacey, SECONDED, CARRIED

President Andy Capesinio acknowledged the work Parent Rep Stacey Parson did to communicate the decisions to the staff.

5 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Brigitte prepared summaries of account transactions and reported ending account balances as follows

General Account: \$4773.46

Gaming Account: \$28,007.50

The reports were received and filed.

MOTION: That the PAC approve the re-allocation of Funding Request #5 (Volleyball Field Trip) to support the basketball class and teams, as UFV has changed the event from a volleyball game to a basketball game.

MOVED Winsome, SECONDED, CARRIED.

MOTION: That the \$1340 raised through SchoolCash be used for new drums for Drumline,

MOVED: Brigitte, SECONDED, CARRIED.

This brings the total amount for drums to \$2840. Brigitte to write cheque to Clayburn Middle from the PAC General Account.

6 DPAC Report – Winsome Rauch

Winsome Rauch reported the following

- DPAC will be doing a Constitution and Bylaw review – looking for committee members
- Fraser Health Nurse will do a presentation on vaping at the Nov 27 DPAC meeting.
- Register for the following events on abbotsforddpac.ca
 - Online "Bullying" presentation Monday, February 23 with Dr. Deborah MacNamara

Abbotsford Senior Secondary PAC
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- “Study Smarter, Not Harder” Wednesday, April 8 with Terry Small
- Book Exploration of “Feel Better” May 11 with Dr. Shahana Alibhai; register before January 15 to receive a free copy of the book.

6.1 Dry Grad

Discussed ways the PAC could better support Dry Grad planning. It was suggested that a Dry Grad manual or binder be created to assist future committees, as materials are often not passed on year to year. The binder would include items such as a donation request letter, a checklist of initial steps, timelines, and information about all-night Dry Grad events. If developed, the binder would be held by the PAC President and returned to PAC at the end of each Dry Grad season.

Members noted that some Dry Grad committees are not aware they can request funding support from PAC. Challenges such as booking entertainment and adjusting event dates due to facility availability (e.g., moving this year’s event to April 24 due to Bateman) were also discussed.

The group discussed financial management options, including whether Dry Grad funds should continue to be held by the school or instead by PAC. It was noted that PAC may hold funds for Dry Grad, provided this is done in accordance with PAC bylaws and provincial guidelines. A suggestion was made to allocate up to \$2,000 for immediate needs such as deposits and small purchases.

It was agreed that this arrangement would be reviewed annually, and that clear documentation of processes and financial handling could be maintained for future committees.

7 Staff Appreciation

Coffee Cart Staff Appreciation happening tomorrow. Set up will happen after the PAC meeting. Barbara will check staff room after the event.

8 Open Floor

No other business to discuss.

9 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 15, 2025 at 7 pm