



Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Date	Thursday, April 9, 2026
Time	7:00– 8:30 PM
Location	Library Learning Commons
Details	General Meeting
Executives in Attendance	President Andy Capesinio Secretary Winsome Rauch Treasurer Rehan Siddiqui Grade 9/10 Rep Phong Hoang (zoom) Grade 11/12 Rep Stacey Parson
Staff in Attendance	Jennie Bell, Principal Mike DeWitt, Counselor
Parents and Guests	Emeritta Perez Besarta, Tina, Jasmeh, Summer

1 Welcome and Introductions

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

2 Careers Program Student Presentation

Students Bessa, Jasmeh, and Summer, along with Counselor Mr. DeWitt, presented on the Hairdressing Apprenticeship program

- Students talked about strong counsellor support in ensuring graduation requirements are met
- Program runs February–February as a full-time apprenticeship model
- Students begin with mannequin practice before progressing to client work in a professional salon setting
- Emphasis on technical skills, interpersonal communication, and professionalism (including dress code such as wearing black)
- Students earn hairstylist certification and may progress to Red Seal certification through additional technical and workplace training
- Program includes significant apprenticeship and client-hour requirements (approx. 300 hours)
- Graduates often move directly into employment; some participate in events such as the HairX provincial show
- Trades pathways also highlighted at Abby Sr and in partnership with University of the Fraser Valley, including automotive, welding, electrical, and heavy-duty equipment operator programs.
- Programs are in high demand, with waitlists at UFV. Early course planning beginning in Grade 10 is important

3 Principal's Report – Jennie Bell

Overall school operations are running smoothly.

- Incoming Grade 9 enrolment is slightly lower than expected (about 280 vs. typical 310), while other grades remain strong at 350+; registrations continue to come in.
- Waitlist systems are in place for Grades 10–12 due to capacity constraints, including for the Soccer Academy; international student intake for the Soccer Academy has been paused, with in-district enrolment continuing.
- Leadership update: Michael Schmidt (from Hansen) has joined as Vice Principal. Brent Schroeder is Acting Principal at ATS
- IB leadership training estimated at \$3,000–\$4,000 per administrator and district support is being explored.
- Cellphone policy changes have significantly reduced tardiness and improved student flow.
- Security concerns were raised following break-ins to vehicles at the back of the school, including theft and vandalism; improvements are planned for lighting and camera systems.

4 Principal Q&A

Question raised regarding the \$6,000 Dry Grad fund and how it is allocated for event deposits and expenses.

- Administration clarified that the fund supports a range of costs, including inflatables, hypnotist, magician, and other event activities.
- In some years, additional fundraising is required to maintain or supplement the budget.
- There was also an \$89 liquor branch contribution; not the sizeable contribution that it used to be.

5 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the February general meeting were approved as posted.

6 President's Report

Andy reported attending a memorial service for a grade 12 student and representing the PAC at the district budget presentation, where Abby Sr the only PAC in attendance

7 Treasurer's Report

- Winsome Rauch applied for 2026 PAC Gaming Grant on April 7. Our confirmation number is 3529EA4F
- Co-treasurer needs online access

MOTION: Reallocation of Basketball Equipment Funds

That \$2,000 from Basketball Equipment Request #12 be reallocated to purchase

- Magnetic jump board
- Reversible practice pinnies
- Sticky pads
- Molten basketball equipment.

Abbotsford Senior Secondary PAC
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MOVED: Winsome Rauch, SECONDED: Stacey Parson, APPROVED

MOTION: Reallocation of Debate Club Funds

That the remaining \$300 in Debate Club funds be reallocated toward the purchase of yoga mats to support the development of a new yoga club initiative.

MOVED: Stacey Parson, SECONDED: Winsome Rauch, APPROVED

8 DPAC Report – Winsome Rauch

- DPAC is undertaking a Constitution and Bylaw review and is inviting members to submit suggestions via email
- Volunteers are being sought for the Nominations Committee, with upcoming nominations for DPAC executive positions
- Upcoming DPAC meeting (April 23) will include a post-secondary planning presentation by Michelle Robertson
- “Feel Better” books will be distributed to parents for May 11. Sign up for the presentation on abbotsforddpac.ca

9 Dry Grad

Volunteering at a few more 50/50 nights at the Centre is bringing in \$100 per volunteer.

Discussed dry grad planning challenges, particularly regarding venue layout for the hypnotist performance and poker activities.

10 Staff Appreciation

Discussion postponed to May meeting.

11 Open Floor

12 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Next meeting: Annual General Meeting - Thursday, May 14 at 7 pm