

School Council General Meeting MINUTES

25 Sept 2025 / 18:33 – 18:53 / Virtual Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 18:33

1. WELCOME & ATTENDANCE

-Maude Ramsay, Vice Chair, welcomed all parents. The meeting confirmed the use of Google Meets, noting that audio and video were disabled for attendees, who were encouraged to submit questions and comments via the chat box.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

-Motion to approve by: Annie, Seconded by: Natasha, Opposed by: none,
Motion passed: Yes

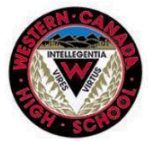
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 10, 2025 ORDINARY MEETING OF SCHOOL COUNCIL:

 2025_04_10 WCHS School Council General Meeting Minutes.pdf

Motion to approve by: Annie, Seconded by: Tina, Opposed by: none, Motion passed: Yes

4. SPECIAL GUEST - PRESENTATION: "POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION" BY TAMARA McEACHERN, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

- **Graduation Requirements:** Students must achieve 100 credits for graduation, including specific core academic and optional courses.
- **Post-Secondary Planning:** Recommended students take five 30-level courses (typically four academic and one option/elective) for academic post-secondary institutions, emphasizing that entrance requirements vary greatly by institution (e.g., UCalgary Engineering vs. SAIT programs).
- **Resources:** Students should meet with guidance counselors for *grad checks* and access their MyPass accounts for academic records and official transcripts.
- **Applications:**



- Alberta Institutions (UCalgary, Mount Royal, SAIT, etc.)
Apply through the Apply Alberta website.
- BC Institutions (UBC, UVic): Use [EducationPlannerBC.ca](https://www.educationplannerbc.ca).
- Ontario Universities: Use the OUAC application center.
- US Institutions: Consider using the Common App. Students must invite their counselor and teachers for references and transcript uploads.
- **Transcripts and Deadlines:** Students do not need to send transcripts to Alberta schools. Official transcripts for non-Alberta schools must be ordered from MyPass. Platforms typically open around October 1st, recommend applying early due to limited program spaces and early scholarship deadlines (some close by early December).
- Presentation on Dual Credits was not provided.

5. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT

-No update

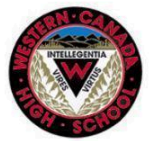
6. DARRIN WHITBREAD - WCHS PRINCIPAL - UPDATE + Q&A

- **School Status:** The student population is large but still under maximum capacity, with a noted increase in English Language Learners.
- **Policy Changes:** Discussed recent policy changes from Alberta Education regarding library books, fairness in sports, preferred names/pronouns, and classroom instruction on gender identity and sexuality.
- **Upcoming Events:** Announced key events including an out-of-province post-secondary fair, an in-province fair, student conferences, an IB information night, fall drama productions, and the Grade Nine tours/open house.
- **International Trips:** Remain on hold for the current school year, with a potential resumption in the 2026-2027 school year.

7. SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORTS

WCHS 2025-09 SC General Meeting Presentation.pdf

- a. Chairperson's Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- b. Treasurer's Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- c. Volunteer Coordinator Report



- See Staff Appreciation Updates in presentation deck
- d.** Special Speaker Coordinator Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- e.** Key Communicator Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- f.** IB Parent Subcommittee Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- g.** Grant Writer Report
 - Nothing to report
- h.** Digital Communicator Report
 - See link to presentation deck
- i.** Celebrate Western and Casino Report
 - See link to presentation deck

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- PARENT COUNCIL PAGE ON WCHS WEBSITE:
<https://westerncanada.cbe.ab.ca/school-council>
- WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNITY FACEBOOK PAGE:
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1GU9DtPww7/>
- WCHS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP WEBSITE:
<https://sites.google.com/view/wchs-school-council-executive/home?authuser=1>

8. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm

The next WCHS School Council General Meeting is scheduled for:

Thus Nov 20, 2025 at 6:30 (in-person)

The WCHS School Council welcomes your ideas, questions and comments!

Contact us at: wchsexec@gmail.com