

General Meeting of WCHS School Council



September 25, 2025 @ 6:30 PM

ONLINE MEETING

Agenda

- Welcome & Call to Order
- Approval of Agenda and Minutes
- “Post-Secondary Education” and “Dual Credit Option” - presented by Tamara McEachern
- Student Union Update
- Principal's Update and Q&A - Darrin Whitbread, Principal
- School Council Reports
- Adjournment



Call to order and approval of Agenda

- Call to Order
- Welcome
 - Welcome to all parents and guardians. Thank you for attending.
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of minutes from April 11, 2025 School Council Annual General Meeting





Planning and Process: Post-Secondary Education and Dual Credit Option

Presented by Ms, Tamara McEachern, Guidance Counselor





Student Union Update





Principal Update – Darrin Whitbread



Chairperson Report

- WELCOME NEW STUDENTS AND PARENTS
- THANK YOU TO THE WCHS ADMINISTRATION, STAFF AND TEACHERS

SCHOOL COUNCIL PLANS FOR 2025/26

- GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS - EVERYONE WELCOME!
- COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS
- SPEAKERS
- STAFF APPRECIATION EVENTS





Chairperson Report (cont.)

STAY INFORMED!

- School Council will be having four General Council Meetings this school year.
- Our Annual General Meeting will be on November 20, 2025 IN PERSON. Please mark your calendars. New Executive will be elected at this meeting.
 - Several positions are open including Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer
 - Future meetings Thurs Feb 26, 2026 and Thurs Apr 9, 2026
- Check out our FACEBOOK Page:
Search “Western Canada High School Parent Community”
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1GU9DtPww7/>
If already in the Facebook Group - please invite other Western parents to join.

SUPPORT WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Calling all beverage consumers...



Will take your bottles and donate them directly to us!

Download the app and donate to us today!

SkipTheDepot is a Calgary based door-to-door bottle collection service that makes refundable recycling and fundraising as easy as 1,2,3

01

Download the app & book a pickup using <https://app.skipthedepot.com/wchspc>

02

Place your bottles outside for pickup

03

The Western Canada High School Parent Council will receive the refund as a donation! This campaign runs year long, so donate based on your convenience.

All funds raised will be used to support parent council initiatives and operating expenses. Please contact wchsexec@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to join us or volunteer with us.

Thank you for supporting parent council!

Treasurer Update- Rhona C.

Western Canada High School Parent Council Financial Statement

Statement as of 22/September/2025
Budget until the end of June 2026

Proposed Balance Council Spending

September 22nd 2025	\$ 3,349.58
Contributions	
Donations/Grant Revenue '24-'25*	\$ 500.00*
Parent Contributions Revenue	\$ 0

Projected Spending

Council expenses	\$ -
Meeting supplies	\$ -
Bank Fees	\$ (100.00)
Registration Fees (ASCA, etc.)	\$ (75.00)
Monthly Meeting Expenses	\$ -
School Needs	\$ -
Other-Grant '24-'25 with req spending	\$ (500.00)

Total Projected Spending in '25-'26 \$ (675.0)

Projected Closing Balance June 30th 2026
\$ 3,174.58

Proposed Balance Staff Appreciation

September 22nd 2025	\$ 3,941.73
Contributions	
Donations Revenue	\$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue*	\$ 4000.00*

Projected Spending

Staff Appreciations	\$ (4000.00)
---------------------	--------------

Total Projected Spending in '25-'26 \$ (4,000.00)

Projected Closing Balance June 30th 2026
\$ 3,941.73

Combined Remaining Balance
\$ 7,116.31

Notes:

1.* \$500 Grant 2024-2025 Revenue from Alberta Education Grant - comes with requirement spending - Not yet confirmed

WCHS Parent Council Budget 2025-2026

Opening Balance Council Spending

September 02nd 2024	\$ 3,521.78
Contributions	
Donations/Grant Revenue '24-'25*	\$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue	\$ 0

Spending

Council expenses	\$ 0
Meeting supplies	\$ 0
Bank Fees	\$ 0
Registration Fees (ASCA, etc.)	\$ 0
Monthly Meeting Expenses	\$ 0
School Needs	\$ 0
Other-Grant '24-'25 with req spending	\$ 0
Other Expenses	\$ (172.2)

Closing Balance Sept 22nd 2025
\$ 3,349.58

Opening Balance Staff Appreciation

September 02nd 2024	\$ 2,600.29
Contributions	
Donations Revenue	\$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue	\$ 6,140.00

Spending

Staff Appreciations	\$ (4,798.56)
---------------------	---------------

Closing Balance Sept 22nd 2025
\$ 3,941.73

Combined Remaining Balance
\$ 7,291.31

Notes:

- The \$500 Grant 2024-2025 Revenue from Alberta Education Grant in the form of a gift card -comes with requirement spending and timeline -Not yet confirmed
- Other expense of \$172.20 was the flower cost to the student funeral.



Key Communicator Update

Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA)

- ASCA is a provincial organization that represents parents on school councils to engage with Alberta's Education Ministry.
- ASCA offers guidance, school council training, and advocacy, serving as a collective voice for school councils across the province in discussions with the provincial government and education stakeholders.
- We attended the ASCA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 27, 2025 where school councils vote on key advocacy issues. While councils provide their input, the ultimate decision rests with the government.
- For the results of the 2025 Advocacy Resolutions see <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-general-meeting>



Key Communicator Update (cont.)

CBE Community of School Councils (COSC)

- COSC facilitates engagement at the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) level.
- COSC is comprised of school council chairs or designates from all CBE schools, members of the Board of Trustees and representatives from CBE administration.
- Through COSC, the CBE can focus on effective, two-way dialogue with school councils about school and student learning issues.
- COSC meeting dates for the 2025-26 school year will be set by the Board of Trustees following the Oct. 20, 2025 municipal election.

IB Sub-Committee

- Actively work with administration to enhance the school's college application support
- Hosted the 'Post Secondary Application Information Session' on Thursday Sept 18, 2025 as part of the 'Meet the Teacher Night'. This session was open to all families, not only those with students in IB.
- Continue working with the school on how to introduce the IB program appropriately to students and parents, especially future students.





Volunteer Coordinator Report

- Thank you to everyone who has filled out the WCHS School Council Executive Questionnaire - 2025-26 to let us know of your interest in volunteering.
- Volunteers are vital to our school's operations, and without your assistance, many activities would not be possible.
- Please visit the website provided for detailed information on the available volunteer positions within the executive and at the school. You will also find a brief survey on the website to indicate your volunteer interests [WCHS School Council Executive Website](#)
- You can also email us directly at wchsexec@gmail.com

Staff Appreciation Events

December and June Staff Appreciation Event

- Funded by parent donation via e-transfer and food contributions
- December: Provided breakfast for four days and lunch for three days for the entire staff. Everything from baked goods to salads to hot breakfasts and lunches and so much more!
- June: Year-end thank you event for the staff. “Allegro Cappuccino” - a Barista on site, treats from Manuel Latruwe, and vegan treats from Cinnaholic.
- Staff members were extremely grateful, and we received very positive feedback.
- This is truly an initiative that can be enabled only by teamwork.



Staff Appreciation Events

- Thanks to Western parents Kim Anthony and Autumn Holding who co-lead the staff appreciation event, along with sub-committee members and all the parents who supported this event by sending food, e-transfers, helping decorate, laying the spread and cleaning up.
- We are planning on organizing two staff appreciation in events in 2024-25. Co-chairs are Kim Anthony and Amina Jomaa.
- If you are interested in contributing to it, please fill out our survey through the [WCHS School Council Executive Website](#)





Speaker Series Report

- School council works with WCHS staff to provide a speaker at each of our General Meetings. Topics typically include the post-secondary process; dual credit and work experience programs; school trustee, and in the spring, everything you need to know about graduation.
- Alberta Health Services no longer makes presentations at the school, but offers FREE virtual sessions on child and adolescent health. For a list of their current and upcoming presentations see <https://community.hmhc.ca/sessions/>. You can also sign up for their newsletter.
- If there are any topics of particular interest, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can drop your suggestions during this meeting in the chat; comment on our Facebook page: Western Canada High School Parent Community; or email us at: wchsexec@gmail.com.



Celebrate Western Report

- Annual Celebrate Western Online Auction Fundraiser - held end of November to early December.
- Celebrate Western is one of the school's most important fundraisers providing funding to fine arts, athletics and student-led clubs and organizations.
- Last year, the auction raised over \$22,000.
- **CAN YOU HELP?**
 - ❖ Do you or your business have any items, gift baskets, gift cards or services to donate to the auction?
 - ❖ Are you able to volunteer?
 - ❖ Please email celebratwesternauction@gmail.com

Thank you!

Adjournment

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 WEBSITE AND VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP WEBSITE:

<https://sites.google.com/u/1/d/160whSwv87aUE1Gf6UZML-JrZBjc-AL19/preview>

UPCOMING PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday Nov 20, 2025 - Annual General Meeting (In Person)

WCHSEXEC@GMAIL.COM

