



Ordinary Meeting of WCHS School Council

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 @ 6:30 PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS



Agenda

Meeting Facilitator: Karen Savoy, Chairperson

1. Welcome & Call to Order
 - a. Registration of Attendance
 - b. Explanation of voting
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes from April 11, 2024 Ordinary Meeting of School Council
[2024 04 11 General Council Meeting Minutes](#)
4. “Post-Secondary Education”, presented by Mr. Albert Chieng
5. Information re. Dual Credit Opportunities
6. “Post-Secondary for French Immersion students”, presented by Mr. Martin Poirier
7. Students’ Union Update



Agenda



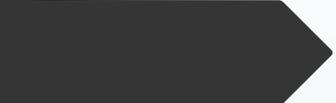
8. Principal's Update and Q&A - Darrin Whitbread, Principal

9. School Council Reports:

- Chairperson Report
- Treasurer Report
- Key Communicator Report
- Volunteer Coordinator Report
- Staff Appreciation Events
- Speaker Series Report
- Celebrate Western and Casino Report

10. New Business

11. Adjournment



Call to order and approval of Agenda

- Welcome & Call to Order
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 - Explanation of voting
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of minutes from April 11, 2024 Ordinary Meeting of School Council



Planning & Process: Post-Secondary

Presented by Mr. Albert Chieng, Guidance Counselor and Learning Leader



Post -Secondary for French Immersion

Presented by Mr. Martin Poirier

Satellite Campus Manager for Campus St.-Jean and
Former Education Director, CBE



Students' Union Update





Principal Update - Darrin Whitbread





Chairperson Report – Karen S.

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

SCHOOL COUNCIL PLANS FOR 2024/25

- GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS - EVERYONE WELCOME!
- COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS
- SPEAKERS
- STAFF APPRECIATION EVENTS
- ADVOCATING ON YOUR BEHALF WITH CBE AND ALBERTA EDUCATION

Chairperson Report (cont.)

STAY INFORMED!

- Attend meetings

School Council will be having four General Council Meetings this school year. Our AGM will be on November 21, 2024 IN PERSON. Please mark your calendars. New Executive will be elected at this meeting.

- Check out our Website

WEBSITE FROM WCHS PAGE:

[HTTPS://SCHOOL.CBE.AB.CA/SCHOOL/WESTERNCANADA/GET-INVOLVED/SCHOOL-COUNCIL/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/westerncanada/get-involved/school-council/pages/default.aspx)

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- Check out our FACEBOOK Page:

SEARCH "WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNITY"

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/2651871125054120/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2651871125054120/)

IF ALREADY IN THE FACEBOOK GROUP – PLEASE INVITE OTHER WESTERN PARENTS TO JOIN

CONTACT US AT: WCHSEXEC@GMAIL.COM

SUPPORT WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Calling all beverage consumers...



 **SKIP**THEDEPOT

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.

WCHS Parent Council Budget 2024-2025

Western Canada High School Parent Council Financial Statement

Statement as of 13/September/2024
Budget until the end of June 2025

Proposed Balance Council Spending

September 13th 2024 \$ 3,521.78

Contributions
Donations/Grant Revenue '24-'25* \$ 500.00*
Parent Contributions Revenue \$ 0

Projected Spending

Council expenses \$ (300.00)
Meeting supplies \$ (200.00)
Bank Fees \$ (100.00)
Registration Fees (ASCA, etc.) \$ (75.00)
Monthly Meeting Expenses \$ -
School Needs \$ -
Other-Grant '23-'24 with req spending \$ (500.00)

Total Projected Spending in '24-'25 \$ (1,175.0)

Projected Closing Balance June 30th 2025 \$ 2846.78

Proposed Balance Staff Appreciation

September 13th 2024 \$ 2,600.29

Contributions
Donations Revenue \$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue* \$ 2000.00*

Projected Spending

Staff Appreciations \$ (2000.00)

Total Projected Spending in '24-'25 \$ (2,000.00)

Projected Closing Balance June 30th 2025 \$ 2600.29

Combined Remaining Balance \$ 5447.07

Notes:

- 1.* \$500 Grant 2023-2024 Revenue from Alberta Education Grant - comes with requirement spending - Not yet confirmed
2. We will hold an eTransfer campaign to raise funds for Staff Appreciation around November 2024

Treasurer Report 2024-2025

WCHS Parent Council Budget 2024-2025

Opening Balance Council Spending

September 03rd 2023 \$ 3,943.28
Contributions
Donations/Grant Revenue '23-'24* \$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue \$ 0

Spending

Council expenses \$ (225.75)
Meeting supplies \$ (124.35)
Bank Fees \$ 0
Registration Fees (ASCA, etc.) \$ (-71.40)
Monthly Meeting Expenses \$ 0
School Needs \$ 0
Other-Grant '23-'24 with req spending \$ 0

Closing Balance June 30th 2024 \$ 3521.78

Opening Balance Staff Appreciation

September 03rd 2023 \$ 3,115.86
Contributions
Donations Revenue \$ 0
Parent Contributions Revenue \$ 3090.00

Spending

Staff Appreciations \$ (3605.57)

Closing Balance June 30th 2024 \$ 2600.29

Combined Remaining Balance \$ 6,122.07

Notes:

1. The \$500 Grant 2023-2024 Revenue from Alberta Education Grant in the form of a gift card -comes with requirement spending and timeline -Not yet confirmed
2. In June 2023 we used the last available cheque, we ordered a new set of 50 cheques at a cost of \$124.35 - expected to last for the following several years in September 2024
3. Council made a banner to aid in raising awareness during school events at a cost of \$225.75 in September 2024 - expected to be used for many years

Treasurer Report 2024-2025



Key Communicator Update - Osaro E.

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 21, 2024 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 2024 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. Meetings are scheduled throughout the school year, with two meetings planned for the 2024-25 school year.

June 2024 COSC Meeting:

- CBE received an additional \$85M in funding compared to last year. The total CBE budget is \$1.6B, which includes Alberta Education funding, fees, and other revenue sources.
- Hundreds of new staff were hired.
- Enrolment was projected to exceed 147,000 students, an increase of 9,000 from the previous year.
- The CBE plans to use \$2.6M from operating reserves to balance the budget.
- Student fees, such as for transportation, noon supervision, and supplies, remain at the same levels as last year.
- To view videos of COSC meetings, click <https://cbe.ab.ca/get-involved/school-councils/Pages/meetings.aspx>



Volunteer Coordinator Report – Ruby B

- ❑ Thank you to everyone who has filled out the WCHS School Council Executive Questionnaire - 2024-25 to let us know of your interest in volunteering.
- ❑ Information was shared in June and will be shared again in September.
- ❑ 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 - Ruby B

December Staff Appreciation Event: 5 day event

- ❑ The event begins with decorating the Staff room with a festive theme
- ❑ Dec 15-21st : Breakfast and Luncheon funded by e-transfer and food contributions
- ❑ Vendors included COBS, Urban Fare, Jerusalem Shawarma, and Parkside Cafe and Sushi

This is truly an initiative that can be enabled only by teamwork.

Thanks to ex-Western parents Veronica and Jeannie, for their support to this event year after year, the sub-committee (Jeannie, Grace, Kim, Rhona) and all the parents who supported this event by sending food, e-transfers, helping decorate, laying the spread and cleaning up.



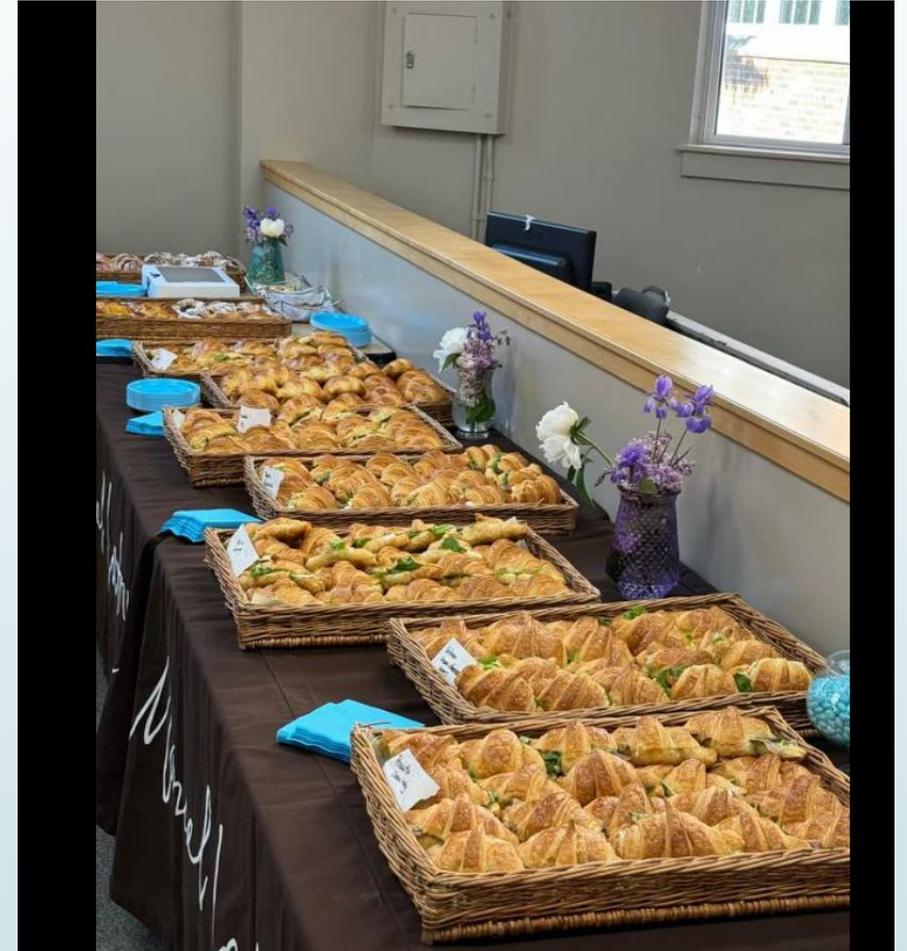
Staff Appreciation Events - Ruby B

June Staff Appreciation event :

- ❑ Year-end thank you event for the staff.
- ❑ “Allegro Cappuccino” - a Barista on site, treats from Manuel Latruwe, and vegan treats from Cinnaholic.

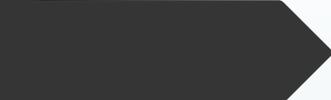
This event was made possible by the sub committee (Jeannie, Kim, Helga, Natalia and Donna)

Thank you to all the parents who donated their time and funds to make this event happen!



We are planning on organizing two staff appreciation in events in 2024-25.

If you are interested in contributing to it, please fill out our survey through the [WCHS School Council Executive Website](#)



Speaker Series Report – Natalia S.

- 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; and in the spring, everything you need to know about graduation.
- Our school trustee, Susan Vukadinovic, attended our March meeting and may host a town hall at the school in the Spring.
- 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

- The 25th annual Celebrate Western Online Auction Fundraiser will be held from November 24th to December 1st.
- Celebrate Western is one of the school's most important fundraisers providing funding to fine arts, athletics and over 50 student-led clubs and organizations.
- Last year, the auction raised over \$29,000. This year, we hope to reach \$30,000.
- 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!



Casino Report

The Casino will be held on Friday January 31 and Saturday February 1 2025 at Pure Casino Calgary.

Please put these dates in your calendars. Volunteers will be needed!



Adjournment

QUESTIONS – PLEASE CONTACT US AT: WCHSEXEC@GMAIL.COM

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- NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Annual General Meeting on November 21, 2024
 - **This meeting will take place IN PERSON AT WCHS. Details will be in the invitation.**