

Minutes
Queen Elizabeth High School Council
May 20, 2025, Queen Elizabeth Learning Commons

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Land Acknowledgment – Ellen Parker, School Council Chair

Ellen Parker acknowledged the land of Treaty 7.

2. Round table introduction of parents present. -Ellen Parker

3. Approval of minutes of March 17, 2025- Ellen Parker, all in favour.

4. Approval of agenda for May 20, 2025-Ellen Parker, all in favour.

5. Principal's Update - Clare Haney, Principal

- Lots of great things happening around the school:
 - Bike – a – thon – for The Children’s Hospital (The Summit) on Wednesday– 21 teams currently registered to ride from 9am to 9pm
 - Open House – aimed at our incoming grade 6’s (next year’s grade 7s) and any new students to Queen E for next year – 5-6:30pm – grade 6’s from feeder schools are coming for tours in the morning.
 - Sailing Trip is coming up! Parent meeting was tonight
 - Band trip to Sun Peaks was a huge success – the students won Gold
 - Girls’ Field Hockey team finished 3rd in the league and is in the playoffs
 - Drama play was a huge success!
 - Advanced Placement exams have finished, we had very high participation rates, especially in comparison to larger schools.
- Next year enrollment and staffing:
 - Enrollment numbers are down – projected at 960
 - Significant decrease in high school numbers – trend for the past 3 years since we lost feeder neighborhoods for incoming grade 10
 - We lost fewer GATE students to IB this year, many stayed for the Capstone program, but we have many students in specialized programs and once their yellow bus transportation ends in grade 9 they choose to attend their designated community school.
 - Lower high school numbers have an impact on schedules, choice and extra-curricular for students
 - Administration has been vocal, and CBE is listening so hopefully there will be a change soon.

- We will go down by 4 teaching positions next year but are able to absorb these with retirements and vacancies created by teachers getting new positions at other schools.
- Student Services will be reduced by one Guidance Counsellor next year.
- Several teachers will lose prep time to ensure we run all the classes our high school students need.
- New Principal survey is open (Knights' Notes, and school website) until May 30th – opportunity for the school community to give feedback on what they would like to see in the new Principal.
 - Principal posting closed last week and interviews will likely occur this week. Once a candidate has been hired an announcement will go out to the school community.
- Finally, I would like to thank the School Council for being such great partners with the school. Your support, encouragement and perspective have been a great gift and allowed me to ensure the students at Queen E have the best possible learning environment and opportunities. Thank you!

6. Vice Principal Update-Jason Stroh, Vice Principal

- Grade 9 PATs
 - Exams take place in June. Purpose of PATs: measure student achievement, support school improvement, inform parents and students of areas of strength and areas requiring improvement.
 - PATs are not: a determination of final grades or high school placement, a way to rank students or schools
 - Parent question about attendance after PATs: teachers are at school for students who are not excused for early dismissal. There is no expectations that students need to leave after PATs.
 - Students are prepped during class time for PATs and they are aware these exams do not impact their grades.
- Purpose of High School Exams
 - Assess student learning.
 - Support and reinforce cumulative learning.
 - Prepare for diploma and post-secondary exams.
 - Contribute to final course grade.
 - Promote academic responsibility and study habits.
 - Support teachers in instructional planning.

Band Update-Heather Lei

- Hoodies were purchased and the logo was student designed.
- Team won gold at the highschool festival.

- Band parents requested \$8200 to support the purchase of new uniforms. Band parent are contributing \$2000 to cover the entire purchase amount of \$10,200. Ellen Parker motioned to the support the purchase. Chantal Aksehirli seconded the motion. All agreed. Band parents have agreed to volunteer at the upcoming casino.

GATE Update-Stephanie Labowka

- 55% of the GATE students are remaining at QE and our numbers are healthy.

Council of Student Councils Update-Jennifer Haverhals

- Increased pressure on our current school budget and a current gap between the cost per student and the amount available.
- New walk zones announced.
- All information available on the CBE website-<https://cbe.ab.ca/get-involved/school-councils/pages/meetings.aspx>
- Direct link for the COSC meeting on April 23
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bq6wEvS5XYk>

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next meeting will be September 15, 2025.