

Minutes
Queen Elizabeth High School Council
September 15, 2025 Queen Elizabeth Learning Commons

Meeting called to order at 7pm

1. Land Acknowledgment - *Presented by Ellen Parker*

Ellen Parker opened the meeting with a land acknowledgment.

2. Introduction of School Council and Booster Association -*Presented by Ellen Parker*

Ellen Parker introduced the existing members of the School Council and Parent Society. Current vacancies were noted. She also described the role of the Queen Elizabeth School Council and Booster Association. A quick 'get to know each other' sharing took place

3. Introduction of New Principal - *Presented by Ellen Parker*

New Principal, **Jennifer Edmondson-Neily**, was welcomed and introduced to the school community.

4. Principal's Update - *Presented by Jennifer Edmondson-Neily*

- **Welcome and Introductions:** Jennifer shared her excitement about joining QEHS and thanked the school community. She shared her previous experience as a school leader and the journey she had been on to get to this point.
- **Highlights from School Start-Up:** Enrollment for all grades 7-12 is at 945 and still growing as more families move into the community. A new whole school theme has been introduced to the students and teachers called 'Walking Together' which will be intertwined through all curriculum areas. Key areas of school development include, how the children are citizens in the school as well as wider community, relationships they have with others and assessment and feedback in learning.
- **Review of "Parent Communication Cheat Sheet":** Jennifer shared a document that has been put together to support parents with communication with school. Document was reviewed by the Parent Council.
- **Parent Engagement Discussion:** Three key questions were posed to gather parent feedback. Discussion followed for each:
 1. **Parent Voice & Engagement:**
 2. **Partnership with Council:**
 3. **Communication Effectiveness:**

Parents split into three groups and below is the feedback from the discussions.

Queen Elizabeth High School School Council Feedback- September 15, 2025

Gathering Parent Voice to Improve Partnership, Connection, Student Achievement and Student Well-Being

How is information about school events and changes to school programs and routines being communicated to parents? How effective in this communication and what suggestions do you have to improve communication?

- Knight's Notes (3)
- Knight's Notes moving to Friday is helpful. It allows parents to review over the weekend.
- Teacher weekly updates.
- Could we text messages to schools?
- Update all events on the school website.
- I love QEHS communication!
- Big changes should have there own message, not just embedded in Knight's Notes
- Could we distinguish between Jr high and sr high Knight's Notes?
- More information for grade 7 parents needed.

How can the school best partner with school council to improve student achievement and well-being?

- We need more parent council members.
- Survey response results are low at QEHS
- Council partners with the school to provide resources. These resources support achievement and well-being
- Communicate with parents to attend council meetings
- I would like the school to support my child with navigating sensitive topics with school legislations and politics.
- Calendar invite with the meeting link.
- Share survey results with parents and inform parents of upcoming surveys
- More emphasis on social/emotional learning and social skills.
- Zero tolerance for bullying
- Citizenship in the school and community.

In what way(s) does QEHS support parent voice, connection and engagement? In what way(s) can we increase parent voice, connection and engagement?

- Host "adults only" events (wine mixer)
- Family picnic- food trucks
- Barrier can be the distance some students live away from the school (GATE students)
- Communication Cheat Sheet is helpful

4. Presentation of Casino Financials - Presented by Kathie Robert

Kathie shared a summary of current casino financials. She explained how these funds support extracurricular and enrichment activities, including in the previous year, new band uniform, climbing wall pads and EAL books as examples. Casino fundraiser for 2025/2026 is to take place on October 12 and 13 at the Pure Casino Calgary. This is our only School Council fundraiser and additional volunteers are needed for a variety of roles. The money raised are used to pay for a variety of resources and programs throughout the whole school. Discussion took place regarding how to encourage more people to sign up.

Casino Funds

Cash in Bank at Sep7	\$	76,327.08
Pending Receipts	\$	4,000.00
Pending Disbursements	-\$	46,963.77

Updated Casino Cash \$ **33,363.31** *to be disbursed by May 2027*

Queen Elizabeth Parents Educational Booster Association
BALANCE SHEET
As of August 31, 2025

Assets

Casino Account	\$	76,327.08
Booster Account (non-Casino funds)	\$	22.98
Receivable from GATE Parents Association	\$	4,000.00
Total Assets	\$	80,350.06

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities

Reimbursement to QEHS (GATE Expense)	\$	4,000.00
Booster Reimbursement to QEHS	\$	40,212.78
DHH Reimbursement to QEHS	\$	2,750.99
Total Liabilities	\$	46,963.77

Equity

Opening Balance	\$	89,213.72
Net Income	-\$	55,827.43
Total Equity	\$	33,386.29
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$	80,350.06

Queen Elizabeth Parents Educational Booster Association
PROFIT AND LOSS
September 1, 2024 - Aug 31, 2025

INCOME

Casino Deposit	\$	29.50
Donations - GATE Parents Association	\$	4,000.00
Donation - DHH	\$	1,100.00
Deposit Interest Received	\$	39.37
Total Income	\$	5,168.87

EXPENSES

Band Uniforms	\$	8,200.00
Climbing wall pads	\$	30,264.34
DHH Activities	\$	3,850.99
Field Trips	\$	2,000.00
Resource Materials/Supplies	\$	1,066.39
Writer In Residence	\$	7,000.00
Fridge	\$	2,641.41
Equipment (woodworking, document cameras, GPS Units)	\$	5,960.39
Bank Charges	\$	12.78
Total Expenses	\$	60,996.30
NET INCOME (LOSS)	-\$	55,827.43

5. School Council Elections - *Led by Ellen Parker*

Call for volunteers was made to fill the following vacant roles:

- **Parent Council:**

- Council Secretary – *Vacant*
- GATE Representative – *Vacant*
- Member-at-Large – *Vacant*
- **Booster Association (Parent Society):**
 - Chair – *Vacant*
 - Members-at-Large – *Vacant*
 - Two Auditors to review financial reports – *Vacant*

Council secretary: Ellen Parker nominates Lisa Kelly as, seconded by Chantal Aksehirli (Leslie offered support to get started). All in Favour.

lisakelly78@icloud.com

Booster Club Chair: Leslie Street nominated Peter Freeman as. Seconded by Ellen Parker. All in Favour

consciouswood@gmail.com

Stephanie Labowka was nominated by Ellen Parker seconded by Chantal Aksehirli

Any others Volunteers were encouraged to express interest.

7. Questions from Attendees

Open floor for questions. Topics included:

- Upcoming events
- How to stay informed on council activities
- Suggestions for improving school-home communication

Meeting Adjourned: 7.53pm

2025–2026 School Council Meeting Schedule

- **November 17, 2025**
- **January 19, 2026**
- **March 16, 2026**
- **May 19, 2026**

All meetings will be held in person at the Learning Commons, with an option to attend online via Microsoft Teams.