

Mount Albion Parent Council Agenda & Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Cheryl Urbanczyk (principal)
- Judy Davidson (teacher representative)
- Kelli Ridgeway (community representative)
- Taylor Bartels (community representative)
- Liz Roediger (co-chair, treasurer)
- Amy Gray (secretary)
- Jessica Burlie (member)
- Nicole Henzie (member)
- Tamara Jones (member)
- Amrit Sidhu (member)
- Paula Ramdin (member)
- Katherine Saneaha (member)
- Chaniene Jones-Knight (member)
- Chanette Jones-Davis (member)
- Leeann Esposto (member)
- Eric Meloche (member)
- David Scarrow (observer)
- Elisha Paine (observer)
- Joanne Jovanovic (observer)

Regrets:

- N/a

Agenda Item	Time	Notes
Welcome	6:00pm	Roundtable introductions took place.
Elections • Chair • Secretary • Treasurer Other roles • Members • Observers	6:05pm	• Chair ○ Responsibilities include main point of contact for parent council, facilitating meetings, engage with principal, tracking progress with annual plan, liaise with other parent council chair's, manage email account, provide guidance to members and parents, etc ○ Only candidate present was Liz Roediger, therefore assumes the Chair role • Secretary ○ Responsibilities include recoding meeting minutes, working with school secretary to post to school website ○ Only candidate present was Amy Gray, therefore assumes the Secretary role • Treasurer ○ Responsibilities include preparing a treasurer report for each meeting, working with school secretary to obtain finance report, tracking overall master budget ○ No candidates, therefore Liz Roediger will assume the Treasurer role until another candidate comes forward • Members ○ Responsibilities include attending most meetings, voting on decisions ○ Those opting to be members include: ▪ Jessica Burlie ▪ Nicole Henzie ▪ Tamara Jones ▪ Amrit Sidhu ▪ Paula Ramdin ▪ Katherine Saneaha ▪ Chaniene Jones-Knight

		▪ Chanette Jones-Davis ▪ Leeann Esposto ▪ Eric Meloche • Observers ○ Observers can attend meetings and contribute, but cannot vote ○ Those opting to be observers include: ▪ David Scarrow ▪ Elisha Paine ▪ Joanne Jovanovic
Updates • Community representative • Principal • Teacher representative • Chair • Treasurer	6:25pm	• Community representatives: ○ Childcare is full with a waitlist of 600. ○ Submitted a grant to purchase an umbrella for Ms Cooks play area. ○ Planning to install cabinets in kinder rooms to have own space. ○ For before and after care, both school age and kinder are full. This year they expanded to three rooms. • Principal ○ Successful start of the year. ○ There was a reorganization, but it was small scale. ○ The school has 30 more kids than last year, total is 540. ○ November will have secure schools, fire drills, etc. ○ Grade 3 and 6 are doing math PD. ○ More clubs started up this year: ▪ Art club (grade 4 only), chess club (grades 4 and up), robotics club (grade 8) ▪ Robotics club entering competition ▪ Chess club looking for parent volunteers at nutrition break. ▪ ACTION – Cheryl to clarify which nutrition break / timing. • Teacher representative ○ Kids of all ages have been really enjoying the painted lines on blacktop. ▪ Funds were provided by Parent Council. ○ Jr swim team (grades 3 to 5) started. Practice once a week. Meet is Nov 3rd

		○ Intermediate swim team starts in spring. ○ 4 volleyball teams started – 2 junior and 2 intermediate. ○ Cross country for grades 3 to 8 is complete. ○ Meet the teacher night successful, largest turnout to date. ○ Grade 8's involved in announcements, posters and Cougar a la cart (fundraiser for grad). ○ Picture day Oct 29th. • Chair ○ No updates • Treasurer ○ Finance report shows we have approx. \$2,900 left over from last year. ○ Have to verify if funds have been spent for painted lines on blacktop – if so, approx. \$900 then. ○ ACTION – Liz to verify account balance with school secretary.
Items for discussion • Plans for 2025-26 year • Request for data – reporting of violent incidents (including minor) at Mount Albion to HWDSB • Concern raised about holidays being taught in classrooms except Christmas • FAQ's	6:45pm	• Plans for 2025-26 year ○ See below (pages 7-9) for proposed plans of activities and finances, as well as the year-in-review of 2024-25 as a reminder. ○ Liz and Cheryl have discussed coordination between the school and parent council. ○ For the most part the plan mirrors what was done last year as we had great success and can leverage that experience. ○ Would be helpful to have a goal of what the funds will be used on. ○ Ongoing need for technology, library furniture, grade 8 grad support. ○ PRO grant used last year for winter dance. Would like to use for an educational event this year. ○ Official donation letter available to be distributed by anyone. ○ Playground was closed due to failed safety inspection. Request for excess funds to go towards recouping costs to fix. ○ Funds from scholastic book fair last two years is going toward more library books. ○ Suggestion made for a parent council social media account.

		○ ACTION – Ms Davidson to source teachers for ideas to put fundraising dollars towards. ○ ACTION – Liz to contact school secretary to understand how raw roots smoothies were offered at the school. ○ ACTION – Liz to email parent council members to identify volunteer for each activity. ○ ACTION – Cheryl to look into how parent council can use social media for better outreach – legalities. • Request for data ○ In September, Liz requested access to data regarding reporting of violent incidents at the school. ○ Request is still pending. ○ ACTION – Cheryl to follow up on request for access to violence data. ○ Cheryl clarified that there are three types of reporting: ▪ Employee incident report – student to adult. ▪ Human rights and hate based report – everyone. ▪ Ministry safe school report (i.e., incident bad enough to lead to suspension or expulsion) – student to student. • Concern raised about Christmas not being celebrated in classrooms. ○ Board perspective is that schools are secular. ○ Education in classrooms is to understand and share all traditions. ○ Some students and families have offered to teach about their traditions. This is always welcomed. ○ It's Cheryl's understanding that Christmas is being included, the extent may depend on the teacher. • FAQ's ○ Cheryl suggested developing FAQ's to common questions raised at parent council. ○ Will be a side project, and parent council input will be sought.
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Principal request for parent council advice		No items
Decisions - Is there agreement with plan for 2025-26 - Use of 2024-25 funds for play structure repairs and improvements	7:05pm	2025-26 plan - Vote: Majority approved the plan. - Play structure repair - Cost was approx. \$4,000 to fix the play structure and re-mulch. - Vote: Majority approved using balance of 2024-25 funds toward repair.
Wrap up Summary of action items	7:10pm	ACTION – Cheryl to clarify which nutrition break / timing parent volunteers are needed for chess club. ACTION – Liz to verify account balance with school secretary. Is it \$2,900 or \$900. ACTION – Ms Davidson to poll teachers for ideas as to what to put fundraising dollars towards. ACTION – Liz to contact school secretary to understand how raw roots smoothies were offered at the school. ACTION – Liz to email parent council members to identify volunteer for each activity. ACTION – Cheryl to look into how parent council can use social media for better outreach – legalities. ACTION – Cheryl to follow up on request for access to violence data.

Draft Plan for 2025-26

Month	School	Parent Council
September		
October	Open house (Oct 9)	
November	Parent-teacher interviews (Nov 20/21)	Fall fundraiser
December	Holiday concert (Dec 18)	Candy grams (December 15, 16?)
January		Winter family dance (January 23, 24, 30, 31?)
February		
March		Parent Reach Out (PRO) event
April		Spring fundraiser
May	Open house / Scholastic book fair (May 7)	
June		Fun fair (June 4 or 12?)
	Spirit wear fundraising (fall) Grade 8's fundraising for grad (all year) Mabel's labels fundraiser (all year) Pita Pit (all year) Pizza (all year – starting in October) Milk (all year – starting in November)	Factory Shoe fundraiser (all year) Raw Roots (all year)?

Draft Budget for 2025-26

Revenue		Forecast	
Factory Shoe	\$	500.00	
Fall fundraiser	\$	3,000.00	
Candy grams	\$	1,000.00	
Family dance	\$	2,000.00	
Spring fundraiser	\$	500.00	
Fun fair	\$	4,000.00	
Parent Reach Out (PRO) grant	\$	900.00	
Parent Engagement Grant (PEG)	\$	500.00	
Total	\$	12,400.00	
Expense		Forecast	
Candy grams	\$	500.00	
Family dance	\$	2,000.00	
Fun fair	\$	5,000.00	
PRO event	\$	900.00	
School donation	\$	4,000.00	
Total	\$	12,400.00	

2024-25 Year-in-Review

Parent Council 2024-25 Year-in-Review

What a memorable and fun-filled year together! To recap:



Fun fair – More than 400 people signed up and the rain let up just in time for a fantastic turnout to enjoy a live bubble show and DJ, ambulance and tractor, face painting, arts & crafts, Harvey's BBQ, frozen treats, cotton candy, silent auction and more! Thank you to community participants, volunteers and generous donors who helped to make this largely free event for all families possible.



Family dance – More than 200 people attended and danced to a live DJ, captured photo booth memories, and ate and drank yummy treats such as samosas, slushies and cake pops!



Candy grams – More than 2,800 candy canes and chocolate kisses were sold and over \$600 raised!



Factory Shoe fundraiser – So far we've raised \$140 and we'll continue on as this fundraiser is year-round!



Big Box of Cards fundraiser – 149 boxes were sold and more than \$1,600 raised!

With funds raised this year, parent council will:

- Support the grade 8 grad by providing funds for a photo booth and celebratory cookies from parent-repreneur Kaitlin's Cookies, and
- Donate the remainder of the almost \$2,000 to support the school's needs!

Special thanks goes to the office staff (in particular Josie Pagliaro), Ms Davidson and Principal Urbanczyk and Vice Principal Assadian for your collaboration and endless support.



DID YOU KNOW?

- < 2% of the Mount Albion parent population are involved in parent council
- Meeting minutes can be found here:
<https://bit.ly/4ehH9vb>
- "The purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of parents, to improve student achievement and increase accountability of the education system to parents."