

Queen Victoria Elementary School

School Council Meeting Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 6 pm **Meeting Minutes**

1. Land Acknowledgment

2. Welcome/Introductions

3. Role of School Council (Mr. White)

- advise principal on any matter
- support student success planning goals
- place students' interests first
- encourage parent and community involvement
- promote positive attitudes toward public education
- provide input to the principal or board on any matter

Council has supported students and the school community in various ways, including

- running the nutrition program
- leading fundraising initiatives
- engaging families through different types of engagement events at the school
- supporting graduation/special events

4. Staff Report (Ms. Francis)

Ms. Francis provided an update on various activities and initiatives taking place at Queen Victoria, including:

- swim team (Grades 3 to 5) - practices at Central Memorial; meet on October 29
- junior and senior volleyball - season starting soon
- cross country team - meet October 9 at Christie Lake Conservation Area
- Games Club - grades 1-3; school library; nutrition break
- intermediate student survey about their interests
- Terry Fox Run - September 25
- Photo Day - TBA
- Orange Shirt Day - September 30
- Spirit Wear - orders due October 1 and arrive end of October

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Meeting Minutes

- first Sub Day - September 26 - funds go to support the Speech and Language Breakfast Program and class trips
- McMillan Fundraiser - after Halloween; raises funds for end-of-year Kindergarten events or improving Kindergarten outdoor learning materials
- Indigo Adopt-a-School Fundraiser - September 5 to October 5; funds raised go directly to QV to purchases books; \$9000.00 raised so far

5. Principal's Report (Mr. White)

- Mr. White introduced Mr. Whaling, Vice-Principal.
- Mr. Whaling noted how welcoming and warm the whole Queen Victoria community is.
- **Mr. White highlighted the following areas:**
 - HWDS's Mission - *to ensure every student experiences a sense of belonging and engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential and build their own future.*
 - QV will continue to focus on the "every student" aspect , providing strategic support for every student learning and focusing on engagement and belonging.
 - HWDSB's Values - *compassion, dignity, trust, joy*
 - HWDSB Strategic Directions - *upholding human rights, safety & well-being; providing equitable quality education; collaborating with students, families & communities; building a sustainable education system; reinforcing Indigenous educational wellness & reconciliation*
 - Board Improvement Plan (five goals) - *improve literacy achievement for every student; improve numeracy achievement for every student; preparedness for the future for every student; engagement for every student; well-being of every student*
 - QVSC school goals are aligned with the Board Improvement Plan and have not changed; school staff will be digging deeper to support student success and achievement (e.g. high impact instructional practices (HIIP) in mathematics teaching and learning).
 - QV staff has done an incredible job creating a culture of care and culture of improvement.
 - QV students are underperforming in math and literacy for various reasons.

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Important Dates

- QV Open House/Meet the Teacher: October 16, 5 to 6:30 pm
- Individual Education Plans (IEPs): October 16
- Reorganization
 - Friday October 3
 - If a child will be affected by reorganization, their family will receive a letter on Tuesday September 30.
- School Council Meeting Dates for 2025/26 (provided by Mr. White)
 - September 25, 2025 – QVSC Elections
 - October 16, 2025 – Fundraising Plan
 - November 20, 2025 – Student Achievement Update
 - January 15, 2026 – School Improvement
 - March 12, 2026 – Student Achievement Update
 - May 21, 2026 – Fundraising Actuals; End-of-Year Planning

Notes about reorganization

- Ministry of Ontario caps primary classes at 20 students.
- Smaller classes mean more teacher time for each student.
- Queen Victoria enrolment increased this year by 90 students (from 590 to 680).
- This means three new classes will be opened and many changes will be made to other classes so that QV is in compliance with Ministry regulations.
- The increase in enrolment also means the creative use of limited space at QV.

6. Queen Victoria School Council Elections

Due to limited interest, a simple sign-up process was used for both the selection of executive and voting members. No elections required.

***Please see next page (page 4).**

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Executive Members (also voting members)

Co-Chair: Jamie Stinson

Co-Chair: Jessica McKee

Treasurer: Leanne Stephenson

Secretary: Rebecca Costie

Voting Members

Liz Andrykew

Patricia Godfrey

David Halls

Darrien Hudgins

Tim Jones

Shannon Mattorocci

Kate Melville

Darren Myles

Karissa Selvey

Amanda Storms

Jack Young

Leana Walker