

AMC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

PRESENT: Jamie McLean (Principal), Karley Chafee (Staff Representative), Caitlyn Araya (Co-Chair), Chloe Richer (Co-Chair), Victoria Baranow (Treasurer), Laura Mulder (Secretary), Wendy Gibbons, Steve Gibbons, Sarah Drake, Abby Zaitley (Trustee), Amanda Faulkner, Katie Scheussler, Jessica (new), Michelle McIntyre, Rebecca (new), Kori Ambrogio, Jessica Marcellus, Cathy Paton(new), Amy Stott, Lori (new), Jen Pohlman, Steven Rita-Procter, Brad Leitch, Melissa Garay.

ONLINE: Mike McKim, Robbie Paris, Jamie, Jacqueline

Call to Order

Land Acknowledgement

Attendance and Introductions

- Attendees signed in and added email addresses. Everyone introduced themselves.

Housekeeping

Welcome and Introduction

- Introductions, minutes approval, voting, standing items, open table. Caitlyn will send slides to attendees after the meeting.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes approved from June; moved by Caitlyn and all approved (Chloe, Victoria, Wendy, Sarah, Amanda, Melissa, Laura D, Mike). Laura to amend minutes and re-send to Jamie. Laura to email minutes to new families and Jamie will post them on the website.

Trustee Report:

Abby Zaitley

- Local trustees establish policy direction at the Board, and advocate for community members as they move through different channels (Principal, Superintendent, Trustee).

- Abby tries to attend most meetings, but also has commitments at Board meetings and attending other Ward 4 School Council meetings. Abby is one of two Trustee representatives at the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) at the Board.
- There is a School Council support meeting on Tuesday October 14 to meet others, get ideas for fundraising and community events for School Council and Home & School.
- PIC applications open in March, it's a great opportunity to meet other School Council members.
- Follow Abby on Instagram for more information and updates.

PIC update:

Abby Zaitley

- setting expectations for the year, elections, agenda setting, motion to write a letter to Minister of Education regarding Bill 33. Abby encourages us to investigate and understand what the Bill means for individual families.

Standing Reports

Treasurer's Report:

Victoria Baranow

- Final amount for Green Initiative \$528.84 remaining. Unsure of what to do with the remainder; it was allocated 6 years ago for a green initiative. Abby to connect with Jamie about it post meeting.
- Items that we have voted on but hasn't been spent is tracked on the report. Includes Moccasin Identifier.

Principal's Report:

Jamie McLean

- October 6 CC Meet Christie Conservation Area. Wonderful event, warm day, kids were awesome. Buses were delayed.
- Mr Kiley and Mrs Randazzo run robotics club 2:30-4
- Tweak to Popcorn sales: mornings 1/2 floor, afternoons 3 floor and portables. Can popcorn be on School Cash Online?
- October 14 School Council start up at PIC: opportunity for networking, learning how other School Councils work. HWDSB Education Centre, 20 Education Court
- October 16 Grade 1 French Immersion information released
- October 16 Meet the Teacher 5-6:30
- October 10 and 31: Pizza Days

- October 24: PA Day
- October 21: School Council Speaker Series, permit is in
- October 22: Picture Day, retake TBA
- October 23: wear blue and yellow or AMC Gear
- School Improvement Plan to be released November/December
- October 31: Halloween
- AMC Gear: Mrs. Randazzo is organizing AMC gear. Sizing samples for Meet the Teacher night.
- Annual School Fundraising Plan to be completed by the end of the month and send to the Board. The plan breaks down what you want to have done for the school year. Purpose, what they will be spend on, when, who is responsible, expected revenue. "Who" is usually listed as School Council Members. List what you think the event will cost and make a plan for surplus. If you meet your goal before your fundraisers are over, you can amend the plan and inform them of allocation. It's not set in stone, it's accountability and ensuring the money goes back to the students in that school year. School Council should be about supporting the pillars of education, not just fundraising. Question about fundraising at the beginning of the year - a small amount can be surplussed for beginning of year cause. We can communicate to the school community about what fundraisers we have planned. Jamie to email about surplus question.
- Spirit Days have been set for the school year.
- YMCA about locking the front door, that has been done despite chagrin from some parents. The Y was great, most parents are understanding of keeping everyone and the school itself safe. Parents now use the kindergarten doors. One door has to remain open because staff need to stay in the room.

Teacher Report:

Karley Chaffee

- On behalf of staff, progress reports will go home early November. November 21 PA Day set up for interviews. Jamie encourages everyone to attend.
- Someone messed up organization last year, no reorganization this year!
- Teachers were able to take other positions in the board as a remedy for mistakes made last year. Mme Crockett is going to a different school, it was better for her personally. Mme Harvey began on Friday and had a transition day today. FI doesn't have enough qualified teachers. Feedback from families was positive because the teacher was replaced quickly. Reach out if you hear something to find out what is going on. Communication is improved this year.

Teacher Requests:

- Reminder to colleagues to use teacher request forms

Open Items

By-Laws

- Caitlyn motioned to accept the by-laws (Sarah, Michelle, Kori, Wendy, Victoria, Amanda, Chloe, Steven, Laura, Mike). Mike helped to put the by-laws together.

2025-26 Grants

- PIC Grant \$500 Laura Deboer will help create the T-shirts. 34 shirts ready for big event so parents can identify who is on School Council.
- Vote for reimbursement for T-shirts and blue newsletter paper (all approved).
- PIC PRO Grant - apply for and awarded up to \$1000 for parent engagement, offer resources. Lending Library (parenting, mental health, communication) or Coffee and Connect every first Friday of the month with ice-breakers and different topics (homework support, school refusal). Queen Mary purchased an urn, table cloth and set up at pick up and drop off. It has been a big success. Last year we partnered with Memorial and had a speaker with decent turnout. Collaborate with high school to build a library. Remaining PIC money to spend on library/coffee. Call to community to stock books. Outside/inside? Maybe in Jamie's office. Send a form to parents and purchase based on interest.

Upcoming Dates

- Meet the Teacher October 16, Family Picnic 5-6. Someone asked about pizza preorders. Lemonade for everyone at the booth. Approval for \$25 to print flyers (all approved). Coffee chat? Cait to take off-line and price it out and gather volunteers.
- McMaster Speaker Series Tuesday October 21 and Tuesday November 4. EventBrite to register for free event in gym. Facilities set up the chairs, SC set up projector. Posted online tomorrow. Jill volunteer October 21 Laura to volunteer November 4.
- Movie Night Thursday October 23: Grade 5 students to run concession stand. Volunteers to set up projector and food. Pre-ordering snacks (juice boxes, popcorn, candy) \$350 to feed 150 kids. Projected to make \$750, profit \$400 towards Grade 5 Farewell 5:50-7. Poll on Facebook for movie choice. Bring a blanket/pillow/stuffies/PJs. Queen Mary sold 200 tickets

and it was packed. Pizza at this event is better suited. Tickets at Eventbrite. Cait to get improved numbers and do an email vote.

- Craft Market Thursday December 4: 50 vendors, hope for more this year. 50/50 raffle in the hallway Jamie to check on raffle rules. Silent auction. Timing to fundraiser pickup.

Fundraising

- Three suggestions to choose from for a fall fundraiser:
 - Muskoka Coffee: bags of coffee 20-30% return \$20 bags paper ordering form
 - Mitchell's Soup Co: bags of soup 35% return, online and paper ordering \$99 delivery fee for 250lb of soup, free if less than that
 - Purdy's Chocolate 25% return \$7-40, online - consider Easter instead. Laura to look into peanut free option.

Consider choosing online options; it's easier and less risk. Send home a flyer for reminders.

Muskoka Coffee

Soup: Chloe Cait Sarah Mike Michelle Steven Amanda Kori Melissa Laura

It's a lot to do pick up at the Craft Market. Pick up at Parent interview night. Sarah and Michelle to help.

Cait. Sarah, Michelle, Chloe, Laura on fundraising committee. Motion to approve Fundraising Committee, all approved.

Safety Recommendation

Goal is to be a constructive contributor to the community. Measurements and risk assessment. Formal recommendation to Principal to review and support. Safety concern is that fence is not to code, generally unsafe (degrading, broken pieces).

Proposal is to who built the shed/fence because it wasn't built to code. If it is a known danger and we haven't prevented it we are liable. Approach as a united front to Jamie. Jamie will call Facilities Supervisor tomorrow. Facilities may fix it or it could be the school's responsibility.

Vote to formally recommend Victoria abstained. All others approved.

Open Floor

- Michelle: field with grass - Facilities has filled some. City field has some holes. Jamie to double check. Holes were filled in yesterday.

- White pickup truck on blacktop as kids are coming and going. At the ramp and driving through. Jamie to follow up.
- Rumor about kids not allowed on playground structure. Kindergarten only. One climber has a rating of 5-12.
- Calendar for the year.
- Clothing swap and toy swap around Earth Day April 22 2026. Swap class by class and a donation bin at the end for changed minds.
- Working with Miss Pierroz about the Winter Concert. In person. Discuss with Jamie Two concerts in one day - one person per student. Also virtual. Kinder is always a separate event.
- Halloween Parade on blacktop. 10 minutes after drop off. Start at the top, go through the classes, then out on the blacktop. 8:40 start. No masks or weapons. Jamie to draft a plan and communicate to families. Time sooner rather than later.
- Communicate dates for events ASAP instead of waiting for final forms/confirmation so parents can plan ahead.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TASK
Laura Mulder	Finish and circulate minutes; send June minutes to new attendees/members.
Jamie McLean	Post June meeting minutes on website
Jamie McLean	Connect with staff about Moccasin Identifier stencils
Caitlyn Araya	Circulate by-laws to members for next meeting
Caitlyn Araya	Follow up with Wendy and Grade 5 teachers about Movie Night concession stand.
Jamie McLean	Investigate raffle rules and white facilities truck on blacktop

UPCOMING DATES

DATE	EVENT
October 10	Pizza Day
October 16	French Immersion information released Meet the Teacher Night 5-6:30 Family Picnic 5-6:30
October 21	McMaster Speaker Series
October 22	Picture Day
October 23	Wear blue and yellow or AMC Spirit Gear Movie Night
October 24	PA Day
October 31	Halloween Parade Pizza Day

NEXT MEETING: Monday November 6:30

Meeting adjourned 8:11