

Centennial High School Council Meeting (CHiSC)

Meeting Minutes - Date: Wednesday, Sept 24, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Learning Commons

Present Attendees:

Jennifer Eriksson - President School Council Chair and Parent Society Chair
Melinda Gombert- Vice Chair School Council and Parent Society
Lena Chalmers - Secretary for School Council and Parent Society
Kim Hills - Key Communicator
Joe Sturgeon – Principal
Brian Clark - Teacher Rep

Courtney Heppner, Kim Hills, Deanne Wheeler-Relstad, Katrina Fraser, Brian Martin, Remco Kleinlugtenbelt, Lena Chalmers, Nahid Elias, Rustam and Yulia Pashaiev, Karen Hudson, Heather McAra-Tinkler, Stephen & Erin Lloyd, Lotte Verhagen

- **Meeting called to order 7:04 pm - Welcome and Introductions.** Attendees are asked to sign in with their name and email address.
- **Review of Agenda** - Thank you to everyone in attendance.
- **Approval of Minutes as presented from Wednesday, May 28, 2025. Motioned by Melinda, seconded by Katrina. All approved.**
- **Standing Business** - Principal Report
 - This has been a healthy school council that I've had the privilege to work with. Thank you all to everyone in attendance, new and old parents.
 - Communication - If you have questions please reach out.
 - If you click on the name of the teacher on our website it will take you to their email address.
 - A lot of high schools have moved away from meeting the teacher night - it is important for us to have a community in the school and have a face to the name. A parent is able to see the teacher with an initial connection. We want parents at the school for the open house, meet the teacher, etc.
 - Please reach out, we are happy to do it.
 - Teacher, learning leader, assistant principal, then principal.
 - Possible teacher strike - Times have changed, politics have changed. We don't know what will happen. ATA agreed with TEBA on the next offer. Now teachers will be voting to strike. There wouldn't be any remote learning offered. We don't know what will happen to D2L access, but teachers will not be expected to input any new materials.
 - Club Rush - 30 clubs set up in the Gym. A lot of Grade 10 students were able to see a wide variety of interests offered (101 Staff with diverse interests). Encourage Students to get involved
 - 60 students for Model Nations
 - 50 signed up for Rock Climbing (can't accommodate that many)
 - 40 students for Principal Advisory Council
 - Women Empowerment Club - 2nd year
 - International Trips - Last year CBE paused any international trips (except for pre-planned ones). The moratorium is being continued into this school year -

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there won't be any trips. Hopefully international trips will be back in the future. CBE implemented this because of the possible risks.

- Legislation Changes - CBE has to comply regardless of feelings
 - Fairness in Sport - Female Sports - students have to submit a form confirming they were assigned female at birth. We didn't get these formed until after teams were picked. Coaches were provided the forms to submit. We haven't experienced this yet.
 - Library Resources -books cannot have explicit sexual imagery on the shelves. Centennial had 2 graphic novels that were needing to be removed.
 - Opting in for Human Sexuality - Parents now need to opt into Human Sexuality classes (CALM or psychology classes). If parents don't opt in then other programming would need to be provided.
 - Students under 16 that want to change names/pronouns the school would need to inform the parent/guardian and get their consent. If older than 16 they would need to inform parents but wouldn't need their consent.
 - If these changes were made in Junior High the decision is grandfathered in and Centennial doesn't have to notify parents.
 - Students are still supposed to be allowed to use the changeroom that they feel comfortable with.
 - We will default on the safety of the child, but we will not break the law.
- Currently we have 1798 students - projections were 1797.
 - Joe staffed for 1801 - \$199,000 - Money is tight \$230,000 under
 - Costs about ¼ Million to run a school a year.
 - We get \$4538/student.
 - Portables coming in - they are already staffed. 6 teachers would float.
 - Asked for 40 desks, 40 chairs, teacher desk, chair and smartboard.
 - Last year spent \$100,000 on CTS equipment
 - Fees - unfortunately we charge some fees because we just don't have the money.
- Data - Well Being, Report Card Marks, - we are doing tremendously well. We are well ahead of the CBE high school average diploma results.
 - A bit more traditional with our grading marks. Our discrepancy rates is less than 1% for diplomas vs. class marks.
 - Exams are non-toxic stress that are a piece of showing what you are learning but not the whole picture.
 - We have a very happy staff and students according to data.
 - A lot of this information is on the School Development Plan
- **Questions from the Floor**
 - Is there public data comparing Centennial to other high schools? Joe will look into this. He can also share the screen at a future meeting.
 - Bathrooms - students used to hide in cubicles but now they just do it anywhere. If students are caught vaping on school property they are

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suspended and parents are notified. Students are searched if they are caught. Some of the new schools in Edmonton have all gender individual bathroom stalls with a door which solves this problem as each student has their own space. One of the admin team is out and about in the halls all the time and is walking into the washrooms. Teachers are cutting down on letting students leave class early, and letting kids go during class.

- Phones - one student reported not having a text book in class and needed to use their phones to access a text book (despite the no phone rule).
- Joe likes to have textbooks in every student's hand, some classes are working on getting more text books. Joe will also look into this.
- Social Studies - Grade 10 text book has pretty outdated information. How long until textbooks are replaced with updated information. High School Curriculum is allegedly changing in a few years. No schools have invested in updated text books in the last few years. The books cost a lot of money. CBE has urged high schools to stop using text books. JCS and a few others were no text book schools. Social Studies by nature Ebs and Flows, you could have a history book, and then the rest of the course could be adjusted and changed. Economics, globalization and the cold war are essentially facts, but so many other things change.
- IPP - Quiet Testing Space - went to a testing center with 15 other students. This room was just as distracting as the classroom.
 - Separate Space accommodation doesn't mean own space - we don't have the space or the adults. Assistant Technology can be used in the same space with others needing accommodations. Math/Science Test center can be accessed after schools if needed and can be arranged through Leslie Ruault this might be a bit quieter then during the day.

- **Review of the Roles Available**

- **Governance Model - Town Hall Model**

- Everyone in attendance can vote on the decisions that we make. Open to all parents, and interested community members. Made collectively by those in attendance. Quorum in 5.

- ***Nominated - Jennifer Eriksson as School Council Chair. Elected by Acclimation***
- ***Nominated - Melinda Gombert as Vice Chair. Elected by Acclimation***
- ***Nominated - Lena Chalmers as Secretary. Elected by Acclimation***
- **The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm Motioned by Melinda and seconded by Courtney. All approved.**

If any questions or concerns are not addressed, email: centennialhsparents@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates: Meetings are booked for the last Wednesday of the Month

- **October 29, 2025**
- **November 26, 2025**
- **January 28, 2025**
- **February 25, 2025**
- **March 18, 2025**

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- April 29, 2025
- May 27, 2025