

**Agenda**  
**Alta Vista School Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 19, 2025 7-9 pm**

**1. Welcome and Introduction (Melissa Extross, Chair)**

9 needed for quorum. (17 voting members). 10 in attendance, quorum achieved

**2. Approval of Agenda**

- motion by Shawn, second by Reuben
- approved

**3. Approval of last meeting's minutes**

- motion by Reuben, second by Shawn
- Approved

**4. Chair's Report (Melissa Extross)**

- Jillian - resignation as Secretary
  - Open call for nominations for Associate Secretary
  - Primary duties
    - Back-up to Jen Cox
    - Duties primarily on the day of or the next day
- **Meeting with Robert Plamondon and Tabussum Khan**
  - Melissa will meet with them next week as they are meeting with Chairs of each Parents' Council
  - Unclear what the topics or the intended outcomes of the meeting are
  - Presented as supports needed to support the student population
  - Topics that Melissa think are important
    - Increase of the EA supports available at AVPS
      - Currently there 6-8 week delay for getting an EA support in the classroom and schools need to essentially prove why the need is there like a case study
    - Better clarity on the EPR being cancelation
      - This includes how they plan on impacting boundaries with regards to still terminating the Alternative program as well as introducing EFI in all schools
    - Budgets
      - With school budgets being cut how are schools supposed to meet basic needs
    - Equity across schools, particularly in our school
    - Question of how to get rid of multi-grade split classes in the English program
    - Questions of where cuts will happen without taking away resources from our kids

- Question of conflicts of interest regarding the supervisor's salary being paid over \$350,000 while under financial austerity
    - Meeting is 6:30pm next Thursday (November 27)
  - Melissa is trying to connect with the other Chairs at the other Alta Vista schools to come in with a united front
- **Update on Mazzola (Heather)**
  - To recap: Mazzola is an option for food delivery of hot meals to AVPS for two days a week. It is a web based system. Both teachers and students can order. There is no deadline to sign up, but they require a 2 week notice. Many schools, like Marie Curie and L'Amoureux use their services
  - They have a foundation that might have money to fund kids who need lunches paid for them
  - Prior to a cancellation, they would contact us to see if we could get enough orders up
  - The donated lunches are probably one of the four options per day
  - Question of whether the Council wants to proceed with setting this up for the school
    - Aim is to run a pilot project from February - June
    - We need a volunteer to run it
    - We want to know if it would bring down our pizza profits. Pizza brings in about \$18,000/year and we want to protect this income

## 5. Administrative Report (Alina Orlea, Principal)

- Not all of the report cards made it home, Alina is following up on what happened
- No date on when they are going to finish the fencing on the primary portion of the yard, we are not sure of the timeline but we are in queue
- Most likely the basketball and pickleball courts will be spring projects
- We managed to fix the bathrooms in the intermediate and junior bathrooms
- Orlando is doing an amazing job painting all of the bathrooms around the school
- Behaviours in the bathroom are being addressed (i.e. throwing wet paper at the ceiling)
- Welcome Christine Papoulias as a permanent teachers
- Ms. St Laurent (grade 3) is on leave, Ms. Tatiana Kapoustina (grade 4) is on leave. We have Mr. Knox, AVPS' Designated Occasional Teacher (DOT), working with the Grade 4s so that they have consistent coverage while Mme Kapoustina is on leave and until a qualified replacement can be hired as she is retiring at the end of this calendar year.
- Progress reports will go out tomorrow and will be a point of discussion with teacher for conferences next week
- Kindergarten teachers focusing on reshaping the program for increased literacy
- We applied for Volt, a program that is used by other boards that is similar to EQAO questions. This would help with alignment between the boards
- We had our first cyber bully assembly with the intermediates. It was a student driven assembly and they designed a skit and about the risks of being online.
- Pebbles and boulder words are a unified approach throughout the whole school to vocabulary of harmful words and how we say them and the impact on other kids.

- Kids in WEB are about to launch their holiday campaign of items for the food bank. Overall there has been a lot of work in the background for high school preparation. November is the open house month for high school
- Concert on Wednesday December 10
- Thursday December 11 is the gifts of giving

## 6. Teacher's Report (Teacher's Representative)

- Update on School Activities
- Kinder
  - Students have been doing "shape hunting" in the playground and in their classrooms to reinforce learning the shapes. They are discussing 3D versus 2D shapes
  - They have also been learning about the 5 senses, healthy eating, and taking care of their teeth and bodies
  - They are reviewing how to properly dress for the winter months and discussing safety in the winter months
  - Kinders did their Halloween parade
  - They participated in Remembrance Day by making their own wreaths and a small presentation
- Primary
  - Grade 1
    - Learning measurements (how many pumpkins long are you?)
    - They learned about sorting seasons
    - They learned about Remembrance Day in an age appropriate way
    - They are learning different ways to represent numbers (like graphing and directional language)
  - Grade 2 & 3
    - Penpals with students are Charles Hulse
    - Ongoing structured literacy activities
    - In math they are learning to move shapes on a grid, compass directions, number talks, and writing their own word problems
    - Exploring numbers up to 1000
- Junior
  - Access to teams that go beyond the school
  - Two grade 7 boys who got to help coach the soccer team this year
  - LDA focusing on executive functioning with a SLP (probably something a good thing to engage more parents about this as it can help all students)
  - They focused on what they already knew and learned about Remembrance Day
  - Grade 6 kids are learning about electricity and circuits
  - Grade 5 worked on properties and changes in matter: highlight to use vinegar and baking soda to inflate the balloon
  - Grades 5/6 working on visual arts and drama
  - Learning about data and they are reading "Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus"

- Junior Boys and Girls attended regional tournaments. We will have two teams representing AV at the regional tournament in December
- Intermediate
  - Cross country team thanks AVPC for the bus. Many students placed high enough in the race that the team was able to go to the boards
  - Goal ball workshops were introduced to the grades 7 & 8 from a new student who is visually impaired. All students covered their eyes to play
  - There is a request for a donation for some materials for donations (Stephanie will send an email to Melissa about making a request on the Facebook page)
  - Anti-bullying assembly
  - Record number of students try out for volleyball
  - On November 25th, the grade 7 & 8 students will have the chance to try rowing
  - Skating is starting soon and the new SPARX machine will be used to sharpen the 50 pairs of skates
  - Cooking club has grown in popularity
  -

## 7. Treasurer's Update (Kathy Wrye, Treasurer)

- Financial update
  - Current account balance is over \$58,000
  - We have raised net revenues of almost \$4,000 this year (Mabel's Labels, Snow Out Blow Out, movie night, welcome BBQ)
  - Melissa reported that Farm Fresh had raised almost \$1,000
  - Movie night last month had lower than expected profits due to start up costs and low attendance. Second movie night is this Friday
- Review and discussion on Funding Requests
  - Big budget meeting is in person in October
  - We have about \$10,000 of requests for this month
  - Motion to approval the following items for a total of \$10,535; bringing total approved teacher/school requests to over \$17,000 for the year:
- Activities, Clubs, Field Trips
  - Scientists in Schools (grade 4s): \$500
  - Cooking club: \$375
  - Indigenous club: \$50
  - Scientists in Schools (grade 1s, term 2): \$750
  - Wild Bird Centre (term 2): \$400
- Music, Art, Culture
  - Anti-bullying magic show: \$460
  - Luv2Groove (kinders & primary): \$2,175
  - Masabo presentation (term 2): \$3,225
- Equipment & Materials
  - Sensory tables for kinders: \$1,150

- Grinding stone for skate sharpener: \$125
- Stationary bikes: \$1,325
  
- Motion approved, no one opposed

## 8. Committee/Event reports and updates

- Farm Fresh Fundraiser (Melissa)
  - Raised just under \$1000 with this fundraiser
  - Grade 8 students will be helping again this year to get the shipment into the school
  - Melissa and three volunteers will be sorting the bundles and getting them ready for pick up on Monday afternoon
- Gifts of Giving (Elizabeth/Heather)
  - Volunteers needed
  - Two-day process (event on December 11). We need volunteers for set up and volunteer shifts
- Chili Night (Sara)
  - Volunteers needed
  - Chili donations needed
- Purdy's, reminder to get orders in by November 26 (?)

## 9. Discussion items and New business

- Motion to strike (create) Grounds Renewal Committee
  - No one opposed, motion approved
  - Jen Cox will lead the grounds renewal
  - Jen Cox to provide a blurb to Alina about the establishment of this committee
- ETFO Union Rep Presentation (Lee Mason-Brown)
  - A pamphlet through the legal system about violence in each classroom
  - This is not to say that violence is out of control in AV, but this is a tool for the parents
  - This is also available online
  - This gives parents stats about growing violence in classrooms, gives their kids talking points
  - <https://etfohealthandsafety.ca/site/workplace-violence/action-on-violence-toolkit/>
- 67s Hockey Fundraiser (Francis/Aaron)
  - Last year we brought in a few hundred, expected a few more this year
  - Aiming for February 7, 2026
  - Communications to start in December, Francis will email the details
- Thoughts on a location for the December Social
- Reminder:
  - Family Movie Night is November 21, 2025 (Lilo & Stitch)
  - Book Fair is November 26-28, 2025
  - Chili Night is November 27, 2025 (coincides with Parent/Teacher conferences)

- PD Day on November 28, 2025
- Gifts of Giving is December 12, 2025
- Coordinators needed for the following events:
  - PRO Grant event (must apply for grant by January 10th)
    - This is money given to us by the board to run an event in support of certain topics
    - The primary goal is parent and community member engagement
  - Silent Auction Coordinator (May)
    - We are still looking for someone to lead this
  - New food program Coordinator for Mazzola (ASAP, for February start date)
    - We are looking for someone to lead this

10. Next meeting: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 (In Person)  
Melissa will send a survey about location for social