Queen Margaret's School
Parents' Association (PA) Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2026

Attendees:

PA Executive
Kevin Bazylinski (Vice Chair)
Taren Phillips (Secretary)
Asti Williams (Community Welfare)

QMS Staff
Heather Bartfai, Director of Annual Giving & Community Engagement
Jemima Monro, Library Technician

Regrets
Neemet McDowell (Past Chair)
Jessica Hargrove (Landry) (Treasurer)

PA Members
Malti D., Catherine R., Laura H

- Call to Order 8:31am (Kevin)
- Territorial Acknowledgement (Kevin)
- Welcome and Introductions
- Attendance (recorded)
- Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2026
    - Asti - approved; Jemima - seconded – all in favor.

Guest Speaker:

Ed Tayor, Head of Digital Innovation

- Ed is the Director of Digital Innovation for Grades K through 12
- He is originally from England and moved to Canada in 2016
- Currently has a daughter in Grade 6 and another that he hopes to have join QMS
- Ed has been teaching since before classrooms had whiteboards, laptops and computer labs, and before kids had iPhones at school. He has seen a lot of change happen slowly over the years with a rapid change in the last year and is glad to be at the forefront of it at QMS

- He is a computer science teacher but isn't interested in seeing kids behind screens all of the time. Aims to find ways to teach technology and digital problem solving without using a screen (for example, in kindergarten where students aren't using devices to support learning).
- Has experience running competitive robotics and has taken teams to the World Championships! The QMS Robotics Team did very well competing last year and will be attending the first tournament of the year this November
- Would like to see Robotics return to the curriculum, as it was before
- Ed is currently teaching AP Computer Science 10-12 and would like to see it open from 8-12. Also currently teaching Physics 11 & 12
- Has been working with AI since the late 90s and is interested in determining when children can use it, when they can't, what it is and instructing teachers when to incorporate it - "When/Without/About"
- The school's AI policy is being drafted and will be presented soon
- Considering using AI platforms that are private and geared towards schools that allow admins to review chats and output. Considering what option is best for the students and the school
- Parent Question: Would the school consider opening a computer lab vs. using personal devices?
    - Computer labs are better for graphics, but less accessible (classes need to travel to the lab, vs. being able to use the tablets to support learning in the classrooms)
    - This academic year, students are using laptops less frequently and only when needed
- Parent Question: What courses do you hope to offer?
    - Aiming to teach Robotics 8 & 9, and Computer Programming 11 & 12
- Kids seem to be very aware of AI and how it is impacting their peers and learning.
- Considering student perspectives in preparing the school's AI policy

Reports

Past Chair: Neemet McDowell (absent, presented by Kevin)

- Neemet wishes to express her gratitude for the volunteers and the PA Exec for helping with the HMF planning team
- Raffle license has been applied for

Vice-Chair: Kevin Bazylinski

- 50 x 6' tables have been ordered for the HMF ($11/table, Special Occasions)
- Santa/Grinch costumes have been ordered - we still need Santa!
- Ninja Slushi machine has been delivered
- Will be discussing final details with Raffle Box
    - They suggest selling ticket packs to increase sales
    - It is too expensive to print paper tickets at the event

- Suggest having iPads with student volunteers on site to assist people who need help purchasing tickets

Secretary: Taren Phillips
- Planning for the HMF is going very smoothly this year and we are fortunate to have a great team of parents and staff working together to make it happen!
- The HMF planning team has aimed to streamline communications with families and simplify the ordering process for pre-order items and raffle tickets by using the PA website as a landing page for all things HMF

Treasurer: Jessica Hargrove (Landry)
- Gaming Account: $529.82
- General Account: $5,803.92

Community Welfare: Asti Williams
- Wrote two new hire cards

For Discussion and Updates
- Nominations for PA Chair (Taren is considering the role)
- Holiday Market & Fair (HMF) happening on Saturday November 28th
  - Weekly planning meetings scheduled for Tuesdays at 8:15am
- Gala Safe Ride Home sponsored by the PA (~$350) - all in favour
- Art Cards (tabled until after Christmas holidays)

New Business
- Spring Basket Making community event/fundraiser at Innisfree (under consideration)
- Fundraising idea: QMS Cookbook (tabled)
- End-of-year Fun Fest
  - Heather will provide possible dates on Fridays from the end of May through June
- PA meeting minutes are posted on the parent portal for reference, and any questions be emailed to gmspac@qms.bc.ca.

Close Meeting
Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 8:30am in Karin Quinn Hall and on Teams
Meeting Adjourned, 9:24am (Kevin)

Encl: PA Chair Role and Description

Duties of the PA Executive

As per the Parents' Association Constitution and Bylaws

Chair

The Chair will:

- Speak on behalf of the Association
- Preside at membership and Executive meetings
- Ensure that an agenda is prepared
- Appoint committees where authorized by the membership or Executive
- Ensure that the Association is represented at school functions
- Ensure that the Association activities are aimed at achieving the purpose set out in the Constitution
- Be a signing officer

To review the PA Constitution, please visit https://qms.bc.ca/parents/