



Parents' Association

EST. 1928

**APPLEBY COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, 17 September 2025 at 7:00 PM

ATTENDEES (Regrets – Indicated below with an *)

| Officers Of the Association | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Past President | Kathy Vucic (online) | Treasurer | Monica Malhotra (online) | |
| President | Jane Sahota | Recording Secretary | Sally Collins | |
| Vice President | Jane Manansala Oh | College Shop Coordinator | Sarah Chapman | |
| Communications Officer | Diana Borjakova | | | |
| Executive Committee | | | | |
| College Shop – Tuck Shop | Pam McKenzie | New Parent - Belonging Representatives | Kim Lefebvre | |
| | Emily You | | Helen Curran | |
| | Sarah Bina* | | Rebecca Qian | |
| | Young Li* | | Aman Hira* | |
| Sustainability/Lost and Found | Meghan Amm* | School Spirit Representatives | Susan Shao | |
| | Ashley Xu | | Dave Olujic | |
| | Muge Demirkesen | | Ilyas Borjavok | |
| NISPA Representative | Allison Chambers-Walker | | | |
| Volunteer Coordinator | Weifang Dong | Chapel Guild | Wendy Yale* | |
| Book Return & Sale | Zoe Wang* | | Andrea McQueen* | |
| | Agnes Lim* | | Isabel Finelli (online) | |
| Fundraising Coordinators | Rishika Singhal | Grade Parties & Staff Appreciation | Natalie Salmastlian* | |
| | Leena Grotra | Social Coordinators | Jessica Yin* | |
| Newsletter | Tara Grant | | Maggie Wang | |
| Photographers | Ethan Yang | Grade Representatives | Tina Wang* | |
| | Sophie Liu | | Adrienne Manansala* | |
| | | | Parent of Alumni Representative | Rimi Mohindra |
| | | | | Cindy Xiong (M2) |
| | | | | Bal Chahal (U1) |
| | | | | Helene Grubisa (U2)* |
| | | | Susan Xie (S1) | |
| | | | Vera Zhao (S2) | |
| Campus Life Representatives | Emma Zhang | Sveta Randhawa* | | |

| Appleby College Attendees | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Kathleen Kirkpatrick | Jude Alexander | Patricia Smallbone | Gabby Duffy |
| Fraser Grant | Melanie Snyder | Alec van Nostrand | |

| Other ACPA Guests | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Ashley Pickering | |
| Soraya Mehdi | sorayamehdi@gmail.com |
| Sally Ghaemi | Sally.ghaemi@live.com |
| Rabail Shaikh | rabailmshaikh@gmail.com |
| Elena Dannikova | |
| Lisa Cunningham | |
| Heather Clark | |
| Nina Pasricha | |
| Fortunata Mtenga | |
| Hannah Shin | |
| Joelene Huber | Joelene.huber@gmail.com |
| Kiran Nijjar | |
| Emmanuel & Cecilia Essien | Emmalia_essien@yahoo.ca |

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Jane called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

N/A

SPECIAL GUEST (1)

Fraser Grant attended for Innes van Nostrand

Looking back...

- One of the first children Fraser taught at Appleby College is now a member of the ACPA.
- Showcased a 100-year-old document which highlighted the special features of Appleby School – Regulations – Code of Conduct – \$250 Fees.

The Year so Far

- Welcome Back BBQ – most well attended BBQ.
- Orientation days were very successful.
- First Day including the special tie ceremony.
- Grade Parties – Parent Buddies and ACPA support was fantastic.
- School is now in full swing – Kandalore and Temagami trips underway.
- Leadership team took a retreat to plan the school year in St Catherines.
 - Michael O'Connor left the Leadership Team.
 - Library Changes – seeking to update this as a learning space – kids aren't using reference books in the same way.
- Summer was just as busy at Appleby College with the successful Summer Program.

The Year ahead

- Diplomas of Distinction continues.
- Grades 9-11, Immersive Program kicks off this Summer the week after exams, for those not on Experiential Trips.
 - Teachers have until this week to submit their proposals – then the school will create a catalogue that students can pick from, for example Fishing, Hiking.
- Internships plugged – please support getting students an experience a work.
- Wellbeing focus continues – launch of new vision/model and KPIs
- Conformed that no phones are allowed in the Middle School during the school day. Grade 9 will be next.
- Vaping Sensors are in all bathrooms, rolling out anti-vaping programs. Flagged that some vapes look like highlighter pens.
- Friday Night Lights Event planned again for next year.
- NEW event: Choir, Choir, Choir Event – through United Way – fundraising event
- AI Speaker program in development.
 - “Flint” is a “walled garden” – aimed at Middle School but will be rolled more broadly.
- CAIS Accreditation – February 2026 – Appleby College always uses this accreditation process to look for areas of improvement. The investigation covers every aspect of the school. The internal report is being written now, and the 3-day comprehensive review will follow.
- Facilities
 - Cockwell Hall is in construction, this year the school is looking into the design of the innovation space so that what is introduced is future proofed.
- The Gala – very important – very exciting.
- Summer Read – “Never Enough” by Jennifer Breheny Wallace – recommended to parents – being read by faculty and employees. Possible book chat in the future.

SPECIAL GUEST (2)

- **Melanie Snyder, Director of Development – Blue Dog Challenge**
- Summarized the role of the Development Department at Appleby College.
 - Fundraising – reinforce revenue sources - \$52.9M – always working to be transparent about the Appleby College Revenue expenses.
- Appleby College has been a registered Charity since 1967.
- Fundraising model – Annual Campaign (includes Planned giving), Personal Outreach and Travel, Major Gifts, Events and Stewardship.
- Annual Campaign explained: The Appleby Fund is being rebranded as the “Blue Dog Challenge” – seeking to scale down the complexity whilst being able to have meaningful and immediate impacts. This is pure philanthropy!
- Honouring our Donors: using the Donor Wall etc.
- ACPA records from the 29 August 1990.
 - 223 gifts made since totalling \$3,164,90. Monies raised go towards:
 - Undesignated.
 - Bursary – needs based financial assistance.
 - Capital – Centennial Classroom, AWB and Cockwell Hall.
 - Look out for all the recognition of the ACPA around the campus!

SPECIAL GUEST (3)

- **Alec van Nostrand ('19) showcasing the Blue Dog Challenge!**
- The Blue Dog Challenge seeks to inspire a movement of generosity and school spirit.
- It lasts from November 24-28, 2025.
 - It will be participation driven and measured by Grade.
 - Parents will also get a participation credit.
- Donations from July to the end of December 2025 will count, including Gala tickets.
- All donations from the S2 grade – will go towards their Graduate Family Gift.
- The Winning Grade will receive a custom plaque in AWB – and allowed a grade specific dress-down day.
- Goals of the challenge:
 - Increase the number of donors within Appleby College.
 - Seeking to raise \$650,000 through the Annual Campaign.
 - Raise awareness.
- November 24th, 2025 – Virtual Launch, drop off celebrations, tying in with Giving Tuesday on December 2nd
- Grade Reps have already been engaged
- ACPA Members – asked to support with digital presence and support
 - Looking for volunteers – look out for information

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Jane Sahota welcomed everyone, including the participants joining via Zoom.
- Thanks to everyone who continued to support the ACPA over the Summer – including creating the ACPA Video which was played in the meeting.
- Back to School Activities – thanks to everyone who worked over the Summer to get us ready for the first weeks of school.
- Gabrielle Duffy is now a permanent member of the team – congratulations.

Upcoming Events

- Homecoming: 3 October
- Apple Pie Day: 8 October
- Walkathon: 16 October – this is the Appleby College version of the Terry Fox Run – last year we raised \$90,000 for community donations
- Parent Camp: Kandalore 20 October
- MS Sports Day: 21 October
- Boarder Break: 22 October
- Pink Day with Multiple Sports: 22 October
- ACPA Book Club: 28 October

General ACPA Logistics:

- Every week you will get an email from Diane asking for updates to the ATW – reminder to all parents to read this important email.
- WhatsApp groups are now set up for all the grade groups – please go via Kathy Vucic to add information to these groups.
- ACPA Tent now available – make request to use this tent via Dave (and Jude).
- Bulletin board is also available outside the College Shop.
- Volunteers need to be properly vetted.
- If you ever get an email from Jane – asking for gift cards – these are likely phishing emails.
- You can search the Appleby Website to see all the information about the ACPA.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kathy: 4 dates for the Book Club being planned this year – authors coming to the events with a Q&A – Meeting dates and books will be released soon. There will also be snacks.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- If you haven't received your name tags, please contact Jane.
- On Tuesday 23 September at 230pm please meet outside the Health Center if you are free to help with clearing out the ACPA Storage. If anyone has shelves that can be donated, please reach out.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Nothing to report

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT

The ATW updates will be requested every week. ACPA Instagram becoming more active this year – we need followers and support – the QR code is under review. Please reach out if you have any ideas or suggestions – like Tik Toks etc.

COLLEGE SHOP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered at the shop, we have already earned – \$40,000 in 2 weeks in sales. \$6000 was taken in one day at the welcome back BBQ. There are multiple Dads shifts too, and we also have grandparents who support the shop.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUSTAINABILITY / LOST & FOUND

\$6000 collected already. We are still accepting gently used items. There is a room near the tuck shop to look for lost items.

TUCK SHOP

Middle Schoolers are keeping the tuck shop busy. For information, Okhees opposite the school has officially closed.

NISPA REPRESENTATIVE

First NISPA breakfast meeting is being held on Monday 22 September.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

We have over 250 parents and grandparents on our volunteer database. Appleby College is reinforcing the requirement for all volunteers to have a criminal record check. The criminal record declaration is required to be signed every year and needs to be sent to Gabby.

BOOK RETURN AND SALE

Very successful book return stall was set up at the Welcome Back BBQ. Financial report will be shared next time.

FUNDRAISING

- Apple Pie day on 8 October – please order your pies. We are only making 700 pies.
- 400 sold already – price is \$20. Shorter daytime shifts are being organized.
- 5 October – help is needed to bring in the food stuffs from Longos – 4 x cars/vans are needed at 9am. More information about Grad Rings and Appleby College Jewelry will be shared next time. Shout out to Longos for their significant support of the Apple Pie Day.

CHAPEL GUILD/ TREE TRIMMING

Nothing to report

GRADE PARTIES/ STAFF APPRECIATION/

Thanks for everyone's support so far, especially at the Grade Parties. If you as a parent want to give feedback, please pass it on for next year.

SOCIAL COORDINATORS

The Welcome Back BBQ was a huge success – thanks to everyone. Special thanks to Muge who stepped in to support. Thanks to Sodexo for the food.

ACPA NEWSLETTERS

ACPA Newsletters come out 3 times November, March and June.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

There are always photographers around the ACPA and school events. Capturing memories and sharing them.

NEW PARENT AND BELONGING REPRESENTATIVES

4 people on the team have so far been involved in the new parent luncheon and buddy evening. There are 3 Open Houses coming up 1 October (1830-2130) 18, 25 October (1000-1400).

SCHOOL SPIRIT REPRESENTATIVES

The team will continue to support the various arts and sports events during the school year. At Homecoming there will be a "Spirit Zone" – a picture background and popcorn machine will be made available. Volunteers are needed in the morning and afternoon (1000-1400). The team are keen to get more Dads involved!

CAMPUS LIFE REPRESENTATIVES

Boarder Breaks start on 22 October at 2100. Need support with set up, decorations and food donations.

PARENT OF ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE (new)

This is a new ACPA role seeking to communicate with Parents of Alumni, so that they can continue to participate in the Appleby College Community even after their children have left the school.

GRADE PARENT REPS (new)

Each Grade has a representative – if you want to post something in the WhatsApp group, please contact Kath Vucic first.

GALA UPDATE

- **Elena Dannikova - One of the Gala Co-Chairs**
- After 7 years, The Appleby College Gala is back (the last one was held in 2019) and being held on Saturday April 25th – in the AWB Double Gym. The theme is "In the Night Garden."
- Money raised will go towards Financial Assistance, Wellbeing and Cockwell Hall.
- There are Sponsorship opportunities.
- Live and Silent Auction Items being collected. Top Auction item Sellers in 2019 were Trips and Exotic Destinations – any ideas or offers of help to be sent to Michelle Marsden. 40% of our 540 tickets are now sold. There is a Gala section on the Appleby College Website.

CLOSING

The motion to adjourn was made by Weifang Dong and seconded by Sally Collins.

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Collins', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Sally Collins, Recording Secretary: _____

Approved by:

Jane Sahota, President: _____