

Abbeydale Parent Society  
320 Abergale Drive N.E.  
Calgary, AB T2A 6W2

August 9, 2023

Hello Parents of Abbeydale Elementary,

My name is Phillip Lounsbury and currently I am the President of the Abbeydale Parent Society and Council. For those of you who are new, welcome to Abbeydale Elementary and those who are returning, welcome back for the 2023/24 school year!

Wanted to let you all know that although a small and mighty parent council, we're needing your help as we have the majority of our executive on their last year here at the school and will be needing some new faces to join us in order to keep the council going to support our students, teachers and school.

As a council, we typically support Jaydon and the staff of the school put on activities that help with the learning experience, field trips, extra technology, and equipment. We do this through volunteering and different methods of fundraising with the major fundraising event every year and a half being our AGLC supported casino fundraiser.

We know that the casino may sometimes cause controversy over using this type of funding to support students, but these events typically provide us \$75,000 or more to utilize over 2 years and reduce the amount of fundraising we would need to do every year (without this funding stream, and with our current spending, we would have to do a fundraiser every month during the school years).

Also, so you all are aware, at the end of last school year, we found out from the CBE that the countdown is on over the lifespan of our existing playground. We are at the starting point of the replacement process as we have about 5-7 years left on it before it will need to be retired and replaced.

So, I have two asks of all of you, the first is that as parents within the school, you all have a seat open to you at the table of parent council and would be honored to have you join us in the monthly meetings that we put on. Secondly, we'd like your input on what you'd like to see in a new playground and ways to help fundraise for it so we avoid having a situation like what happened a few years back in the neighborhood where we have no playground for our students.

We post the dates of upcoming meetings with Jaydon's Week Ahead emails. If you'd prefer a more direct line of communication with the parent council, please email [abbeydaleschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:abbeydaleschoolcouncil@gmail.com) and we will directly keep you informed of upcoming council events.

I look forward to meeting all of you throughout the school year and hope to see you at parent council,

Phillip Lounsbury  
President  
Abbeydale School Parent Society and Council