

RancheView School Council meeting minutes

Tuesday, October 17th meeting minutes

6:30pm – 8:00pm

PRESENT

Sharon C.	Fiona G.
Jonathan K.	Michele D.
Rochelle S.	Stacey F.
Natalie T.	Angie P.
Jen H.	Kim G.

Call to Order: 6:31pm – Sharon C.

Welcome & Introductions – Sharon C.

Approval of Agenda: 1st Michele D., 2nd Rochelle S.

Approval of Minutes from September meeting: 1st Rochelle S., 2nd Stacey F.

Business arising from previous meetings:

- School Council emails are no longer provided by the Division; Agreed to create new email for council rancheviewschoolcouncil@gmail.com. Michele to create.

Round Table Discussion

Topic: *Communication Between School and Home and Home and School* – Sharon C.

Discussed the channels of communication available to parents / guardians. Families are encouraged to contact their child's teacher as a first point of contact. The School admin team is accessible if there is a matter to be escalated or an issue left unresolved, but admin will confirm with the family that the teacher has been contacted first.

Issues discussed over social media can and have been screen shot and provided to school administration. If there is an issue to be dealt with, families are encouraged to discuss directly with the school.

How do we as a council communicate with RancheView Community? – Fiona G.

Feedback from parents on Student Led Showcases (SLS) is that it would be easier to communicate with teachers when a date and time is set. At the first SLS last school year there were some families who did not have the ability to ask questions. – Stacey F.

There are also instances of families not being able to get one on one time with the teacher due to other families monopolizing the teacher's time. – Rochelle S.

If a 10 minute chat was set you could speak directly with the teacher to discuss any concerns. The current set up could have your own children as well as other families around during the conversation, which may not be ideal. – Jen H.

Teachers are meant to be a "centre" in the classroom SLS, however some teachers have opted to mill about the room instead but will make it clear that they will commit to speaking with everyone. Sharon will continue to have conversations with teachers regarding how they choose to structure their SLS.

Teachers are open to ongoing communication with families. There could potentially be appointments after school hours at the discretion of the teacher, and this does occur regularly. Consideration does however need to be given on both sides. If there are any issues or concerns the expectation is the teacher and family have discussed either by phone, email, or appointment, prior to SLS. SLS are a means to empower children to showcase their work and allows them to be a part of the discussion. This helps to encourage positive home / school relations. – Sharon C.

Do we find value in the weekly highlights and newsletter? – Fiona G.

Collectively everyone in the room appreciates the communication received from the school. Some teachers also send a weekly email. Sharon will discuss consistency among grade teams with the teachers.

School Council Report – Fiona G.

- ASCA Video: Effective School Councils – viewed by all in attendance
- Executive Positions
 - Instead of having Chair and Vice Chair structure we are looking to have a co-chair to share the position, as well as fill the Secretary role. Secretary will be responsible for taking and distributing the meeting minutes and council communications.
 - Natalie T. nominated by Rochelle S. for Co-Chair; all in favour.
 - Jen H. nominated by Rochelle S.; all in favour.
- Screenagers Event
 - Money has been set aside to set up a viewing. Discussed the value in showing it and ways to communicate the event with parents. Discussed possible school signage. Sharon will discuss with Jen to look into the cost at a possible future sign and cost of renting a sign to use as a trial.
 - Council will pick a date for Screenagers.

Committee Reports

- Fun Lunch – Stacey F.
 - Orders have increased overall this year; Fun Lunch program is going well.
- Teacher Appreciation Meals – Fiona G.
 - A request will go out to the RancheView Community for volunteers to prepare and deliver meals for teachers during SLS. A link to Sign Up Genius will likely go out sometime this week.

Treasurer Report – Michele D.

- School Council funds balance as at October 13th, 2017 is \$3834.44. Cash outflows since the beginning of the school year include payment for babysitting at council meetings, paying for back to school picnic supplies, and payment to vendors for Fun Lunch program.

Fundraising Society Update – Rochelle S.

Have received 5 bids for playground with 7 options

Working with admin to share best of these options with students and parents during the Student Learning Showcase

Balance of funds \$94,316.49

Bottle Drop raised \$1160.80

Vacant board positions - Nominations & Election at next meeting November 2

Upcoming Campaigns

- Fruit Sales through Oct 23
- Gifts of Time during Student Learning Showcases, approx 25 items each night
- Home-Shopping Night - about half vendor spaces filled (vendors are welcome to apply here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/gSMVJChZ9YcgZQ6D3>)

- Movie Event Nov 25 - Coco & Justice League

Administration Report – Sharon / Tracey / Jonathan – presented by Sharon

- Terry Fox day was a great success with bringing in more than \$1100.00 for cancer research
- First Evacuation drill was a success
- We hired a CDA
- Bottle drop with fundraising was a huge success
- Junior A girls volleyball (no boys team due to low interest)
- Grade 6 soccer
- Grade 6 girls volleyball (no boys team due to low interest)
- Good PL- PS/Power Teacher Pro training, outdoor education focus, assessment conversations,
- Stepping Stones- friendship groups created
- Picture day
- Canteen is open 4 days a week

Coming up: Student learning showcase, Book Fair, Remembrance Day Ceremony, Halloween parade,

Trustee Report - Fiona G.

School Board Elections

RVS' 2017-2021 Board of Trustees is now set. At the close of Election Day, Oct. 16, the following trustees were elected in:

Ward 1 – Shali Baziuk

Ward 3 – Jim Forrest, Melyssa Bowen, Todd Brand

Ward 5 – Judi Hunter

These individuals will join Trustees acclaimed in Ward 2 – Patty Sproule, Ward 4 – Norma Lang, and Ward 6 – Fiona Gilbert, to form RVS' governing body for the next four years. Congratulations to all! The official swearing-in ceremony will take place Oct. 24, with the first regular meeting of the new Board of Trustees scheduled for Nov. 2, 2017.

Capital Plan Revision

Alberta Education will consider revisions of board's 2018-2021 Capital plan priorities if submitted before Oct. 15, 2017. Based on the fact that new school construction funding will be provided to school jurisdictions only if the requirements of accommodation needs and site readiness are met, RVS will submit a revised Capital Plan. In the current Capital Plan, the six new school construction priorities meet only the accommodation need, not the site readiness requirement. At this time, there is only one priority from the first budget year – Langdon Junior/Senior High School – that meets both requirements. At the Oct. 5 Board meeting, Trustees approved a revised Capital Plan submission, moving the Langdon Junior/High School to the #1 priority, with a request for design funding for the next three priorities: #2 – Chestermere K-9; #3 Airdrie K-9 (Kings Heights South); #4 Cochrane K-5 (Heartland). Check out the full report, posted on the RVS website under Board/Policies.

2018-2019 Modular Unit Requests

For its 2018-2019 modular requests to Alberta Education, the Board approved the submission of a request of 23 modular classrooms as follows: four new units at Windsong Heights; six units at Heloise Lorimer; six at East Lake; four at Langdon; and, three at Rainbow Creek. Requests for funding approvals under the Modular Classroom Program must be submitted by Nov. 1, 2017. It is expected that the Province will inform Boards as to their allocation by February 2018. Last year, only 40 modulares were allocated across the entire province.

Alberta Education Consultation

With the expectation that the Government of Alberta is going to table amendments to the School Act sometime during the Fall sitting, Alberta Education hosted an opportunity for trustees, senior staff and parent representatives to provide input into potential areas of changes to the School Act. Greg Luterbach, Darrell Couture, Norma Lang and Fiona Gilbert and a school council parent represented RVS and provided input into

topics that included the Ministry's business plans, school fees, student transportation services and fees, age of access, age of entry, education services agreements with First Nations, and joint use/reserve agreements with municipalities. Watch for updates to be reported when available.

New Business

- Facebook for School Council
 - Discussed creation of joint RancheView School / RancheView School Council Facebook page. Sharon will need to be an Administrator of the page. To be discussed further with Council Executive.
- Future Meeting Dates
 - Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. No meeting in December or June. February meeting will be moved to the 27th.
- Class / Grade rep's – to be discussed at future meeting
- Round Table Discussion topic ideas – to be discussed at future meeting

Future Agenda Items

- Learning sessions for parents
- Grade 8 Farewell support
- School Results Report / Education Plan
- Traffic Safety around school
- Allergy Awareness Protocols
- Outside School Sign

Exit Ticket - Prior to leaving, attendees were asked to individually answer the question "If School Council does one thing this year, what would it be?"

Adjournment – Fiona G.

Adjournment 8:14pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 21st at 6:30pm