

RancheView School
School Council Meeting Minutes
September 17th, 2019 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Present Jen H, Diane, Sharon, Tracy D, Amy, Lindsay H, Rochelle, Stacey, Janet, Jocelyn.

1. Call to Order: 6:37 p.m. - Jen H
2. Welcome and Introductions: Jen H
3. Approval of May Minutes:
 - a. 1st – Amy
 - b. 2nd – Lindsay
4. Approval of September Agenda:
 - a. 1st – Lindsay
 - b. 2nd – Amy
5. Review of Financial Report:
 - a. reviewed 2018 – 19 report and discussed areas of increase:
 - Camp Jubilee Busing = \$1,350
 - Gr 8 farewell = \$500
 - Sign Rental = \$2,016
 - Staff Year End lunch = \$600
 - August back-to-school = \$500
 - Staff Wellness = \$300
 - b. Added Grade 8 sweatshirts = \$1,000
 - c. Motion to Approve 2019-20 budget (total = \$6,266)
 - 1st – Lindsay
 - 2nd – Amy
 - d. Motion Carried
6. Chair Update:
 - a. welcome back activities - purchased cookies, tea and coffee from Guys for just under \$500. The day was well received by students and parents.
7. Admin Update:
 - a. Back to school - there's been a smooth start up given our growth. Feeling good within the community of 848 students.
 - Just hired 6th grade 1 teacher which makes: five - kindergarten teachers, six - grade 1, 4 ½ - grade 2, 4 ½ - grade 3, three - grade 4, 3 ½ - grade 5, 3 ½ - grade 6, and five - 7 and 8 combined.
 - New portable is coming for, fingers crossed, end of November / middle December for the grade 5 class that is currently using the Learning Commons. The school is also using the drama room for the grade 6 class.
 - With growth, transportation has added a sixth bus starting next Tuesday.
 - Crossing guards started this week. It is a lot on staff. Can't use students because of complexity of street corners, adult is still required. This is an

ongoing traffic program problem; therefore, we need to bring ideas to our October meeting and possibly have parents help.

- b. There will be two 3-way conferences this year: November 27th and 28th and April 1st and 2nd.
 - c. The fence for the playground has been given over to RVS grounds. They were at the school today looking at it.
8. Committee reports
- a. Trustee Report
 - **Welcome and Welcome Back** -School Councils are such an important part of our education system. They are so important that it is a requirement in the Education Act that all schools have a School Council and RVS Board of Trustees is committed to being part of each school council as a way to connect with and hear from parents. We believe that school councils enhance student learning by engaging parents, staff and community members to advise the Principal and the Board on matters concerning school improvement planning. The Division views each School Council as a means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning.
 - **School Start Up** - The 2019/2020 school year is underway and off to a great start. RVS has welcomed over 900 new students across the jurisdiction, which is about 300 students more than anticipated, which brings enrolment numbers to about 25,562 students (as of Sep 3). This number will continue to fluctuate throughout the month and official numbers will be calculated as of September 30th. This is an important date as provincial per student funding is calculated based on this official number.
 - **Meeting with the Minister of Education** - The Board met with Education Minister Adriana LaGrange on Mon Sep 16th as part of her commitment to meet with as many school boards as possible throughout the legislative summer break. After a tour of RancheView School, the Board had the opportunity to discuss with the Minister our top three advocacy priorities of equitable access to funding, new schools for growing jurisdictions, and a provincial review on inclusion.
 - **Budget** - As reported earlier this year, the Government of Alberta will table the provincial budget sometime in the Fall so final funding amounts are not known at this time, which makes it extremely difficult for the division and schools to properly allocate resources as we don't know what resources we will have once the budget is announced, likely in late October.
 - Keeping with the budget theme, the GOA has released the recommendations from the MacKinnon Report on Alberta Finances and included in the 26 recommendations on how to curb government spending, there are two that directly impact K-12 education. <https://www.alberta.ca/mackinnon-report-on-finances.aspx>

- **Education Act and New Regulations** - With the implementation of the new Education Act and corresponding regulations (replacing the School Act), effective September 1 all Alberta schools are now following a new set of rules and guidelines. While similar in a lot of ways, there are differences, and these will be addressed over the coming months by the Board and our administration by reviewing and adjusting current policies and procedures where needed to make sure that we are in alignment with current legislation.
- **Transportation** - Transportation and bussing are always hot topics at the beginning of the school year and maybe more so this year as we are seeing more the impacts of changes to services levels as we have looked to manage the transportation portfolio. This has resulted in adjusted bell times, longer rides for some, shorter ones for others, and busses running at full capacity wherever possible. RVS transportation is working very hard to adjust routes and timings as needed. As an FYI, between Aug 15 and the first day of school, RVS transportation received over 1000 new registrations for bussing. The new transportation regulation allows boards to again charge fees for those choosing to ride the bus. For RVS, the Board approved its transportation fee schedule for the 2019/20 school year on April 4, 2019, in accordance with the then legislated School Act – Student Transportation Regulation and continues to gather information about the impact of the revised regulation.
- **Feedback Requested - School Calendars** - RVS is asking for parent feedback on draft school calendars for both 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. All parents should have received an email outlining highlights of the calendar and providing details on how to provide feedback. Deadline for providing feedback is Oct 11, 2019. More information can be found at <http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/news/draft-calendar-feedback-wanted>
- **Looking Ahead** - The next Board meeting takes place on Thursday September 19th which will also include the annual Organizational Meeting of the Board. This is the time when the board elects/appoints members to serve as Chair, Vice Chair, various Committee memberships and Board representatives for the year.

b. Fundraising report

- July 31 balance just over \$8,600.
- Playground construction fencing was removed, which completes this project
- Ongoing and Upcoming campaigns – fruit/apple sales will be from Oct 4 – 25. Bottle drop will be Oct 18 and 19.
- Next meeting is Nov 7 at 7pm. We expect to have received the casino funds and to distribute some to the school for various projects at that time.

- As always, we encourage parents and community to connect with fundraising committee: facebook.com/rancheviewfundraising, www.rvsfs.ca, info@rvsfs.ca, fundraising tab on RancheView School website.
- c. Fun lunch report
 - Subs are going up in price.
 - Added chocolate chip cookies to subs and crazy bread to pizza orders
 - The boot restaurant changed ownership, therefore, went with pizza hut for pasta.
 - The first round of ordering closes on September 26th.
- 9. New Business Matters –
 - a. potluck for November 27th and 28th.
 - b. Joint Council joint school board council meeting November 7th 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- 10. Adjournment: 7:57 p.m. - Jen H

Next Meeting: October 15th, 2019 6:30-8:00pm