

MINUTES  
**RancheView School Council**  
September 20, 2022, 7:00 pm  
RancheView Learning Commons (Library)

*Present:* Tina P (Chair), Lynette LePan-Smith (Principal), Fiona Gilbert (Trustee), Lesley J, Annika P, Jocelyn K, Jennifer B, Shyla G, Annie Claude T, Katrina C, Sarah L, Rochelle S, Kelly Campbell (RancheView Staff), Tamika Villeneuve (RancheView Staff)

*Regrets:* Jaya D (Vice-Chair), Cody Kempster (Assistant Principal)

1. Call to order by Tina P at 7:05pm
2. Welcome and Introductions round table prior to call to order.
  - a. Election for vacant board position: Secretary
    - i. Annika P self-nominates, seconded by Jocelyn K, all in favour
    - ii. No other nominations. Annika P is 2022-2023 secretary
3. Motion for Approval of Agenda by Annika P, Seconded by Katrina C, all in favour
4. Motion for Approval of May 17, 2022 AGM Minutes by Sarah L, Seconded by Lesley J, all in favour

5. Financials

- a. After 2021/22 commitments and actual costs, there is approx \$3,400 on hand
- b. Additionally there are funds from the Read-a-thon

Total raised:	\$13,846.84
Spent on iPads (2):	\$812.40
Spent on Chromebooks (21):	\$8,647.80
Given to School Council:	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
Remaining from Read-a-thon:	\$2,386.64

6. Business arising from minutes

- a. QUESTION: If not fundraising, what is the purpose of school council? ANSWER - Tina P: Advocacy and awareness of what is happening within the school beyond the classroom, such as school wide groups and events. ANSWER - Fiona G: Required by legislation provincially to primarily connect parents to admin to trustee, serve in an advisory role. School Council does not make many decisions, but gives information to the admin and trustee to inform their decisions.
- b. New curriculum is rolling out in younger grades, also the 3 grade 6 classes, but not the gr 7 combined class. Teachers individually volunteer to pilot curriculum, it is not a school wide decision.
- c. Tina P continues to work on sign updates

7. Administration Update

Thank you to parents for attending this evening. This has been a busy start up, but without the questions surrounding Covid policy, so that part has been easier. As of September 20, there are 652 students from Pre-K through Gr8, but more are still registering. We have 33 teaching staff including 2.5 learning support staff, a full time literacy and numeracy teacher, full time elementary music teacher, .75 middle school music & band teacher, a full time middle school phys ed teacher and a .5 time primary phys ed teacher. Gr 6 band has over 60 participants, gr 7 & 8 band has only 14, this program was impacted greatly by pandemic limitations. December 19 & 20 will be holiday music presentations.

In addition to teaching staff, there are 16 support staff, including learning assistants (still hiring 3 more), 2 CDA (Child Development Advisors), 2 office staff, 1 learning commons facilitator currently on leave, but a temporary facilitator will be here for the next 6 weeks, 1 divisional technologist and 5 caretaking staff.

New this year is the 'Zen Den' a regulation room, to be accessed by students who feel they need to learn more self regulation, students can request to use the space or staff can send students to use it, this is a short

term space 5-10 minutes, not a reward or consequence, staffed by Cody Kempster, learning support teachers, and CDAs.

Both the 'Zen Den' and hiring of a 2nd CDA came from the previous consultation with staff, students & parents towards the School Workbook. This Workbook guides professional learning (PL) for staff. Feedback from parents tonight will be directed to the school Action Team of staff that creates the Workbook.

Thank you to Cody Kempster for organising the back to school BBQ and the staff that helped cook 800+ hot dogs. The Healthy Hunger lunch program funds covered the costs.

New onsite this year is the Pre-Kindergarten Program, with 8 students in the morning, and 11 in the afternoon, they have 3 staff, one teacher and 2 learning assistants, and will have in class supports such as OT, PT, SLP.

Bell times have changed for this year, lunch is shortened to 40 minutes, 20 min to eat and 20 min outside. The elementary grades have morning recess, and the middle school grades have a short locker break then an intentional DPA (Daily Physical Activity) time with their classroom teacher.

Grade 6-8 CTF courses have started, aside from band which is the full year, these will run in 3 terms of 12 weeks each and include creative arts, robotics, coding, outdoor leadership, fine arts and more.

Sports are beginning, Jr A Girls and Boys Volleyball try outs next week, there will be 4 tournaments.

There is a gift for those who attended the meeting, GLOW KIDS by N. Kardaras, highly recommended, other schools have done a parent book club with the CDAs, unfortunately, this is not precedent setting, there will not be gifts at every meeting.

RVS Divisional Assessments this year, these are tools to support learning, used division wide and helpful when students move to other schools within the division. Staff can view within their Powerschool portal, but not all is shown on parent view. Previously, many staff used some or all of these, now they are required by the division and there is the tracking and record keeping within Powerschool.

- i. ELL - assessments for English Language Learners in all grades, flagged in School Engage by parents, or by staff after conversations with parents. These students are typically learning English as a second or third language and not the primary language spoken in the home
- ii. MIPI numeracy assessments, grades 2-8
- iii. Fountas & Pinell literacy assessments (reading levels), grades 1-8
- iv. CC3 - literacy assessment - provincially directed to evaluate pandemic learning disruptions, grades 2-3
- v. LeNS - literacy assessment - provincially directed to evaluate pandemic learning disruptions, grades 1-2
- vi. Alberta Ed numeracy assessment, grades 1-3
- vii. SOS-Q - social and emotional well being
- viii. PAT for Gr 6
- ix. Annual RVS survey for 4 year plan

#### 8. Report from Board of Trustees – Fiona Gilbert

Thank you, and appreciation for parents taking time to attend. As trustee, role at School Council meetings is primarily to listen. In RVS the board has committed to be present at School Council meetings, bringing reports from a divisional perspective and from the provincial lens as well such as province wide surveys from Alberta Education, or updates to curriculum.

Rocky View Schools is a growing district. This year growth has been slightly more than anticipated, around 4%, and is fluctuating daily during September. Updated numbers will be shared in October. Growth is fabulous but does bring challenges, primarily space for students. RVS is forecast to be over 100% capacity division wide in 2026, including the Bow Valley High School expansion. Division grows by approximately

1000 students annually. The BVHS project may be complete for 2025. There will be Cochrane area discussions around boundaries again this school year as the division receives the former Holy Spirit site back. The facilities department is currently evaluating the building to better understand what work and cost would be involved, and what the options could be for its use.

There are staff shortages in all areas, especially in transportation.

From a provincial perspective, there will soon be a new Premier, and that may lead to a change in Minister of Education. After that, there will also be a provincial election in May. It is hoped that public education and the need for new school buildings to accommodate growth would be part of the conversations at election time.

QUESTION: Does Cochrane have 'shovel ready' sites should the RVS requests for schools to be funded is granted? ANSWER: Yes. There is a small, potential K-5 site in Heartland – currently 2<sup>nd</sup> on the request list from RVS to the province, and another larger site is nearly ready near Bow Valley High School which would be for a K-8 school.

#### 9. New Business

- a. Lynette L-S - about Healthy Hunger - shares this is overseen by the Gr 8 Farewell Committee, and funds raised are for things to benefit whole school, such as the bike rack near the Gr 1 and 2 doors, the back to school BBQ.
- b. Lynette L-S - Thanks to Courtney C who oversaw breakfast program re-launch last year, is now moving out of province. New volunteers are welcome, please contact Cody Kempster or Lynette L-S. QUESTION: What is the time commitment? ANSWER: Courtney was previously at school from 7:15-8am, M/W/F. There would be some certifications needed to bake and prepare food more cost effectively than the packaged items used last year, this process was underway for Courtney last year.
- c. If you have items for future agendas, please contact Tina P, a new email address for school council will be in the highlights once it is set up.

10. Next Meeting: October 18, 2022 Learning Commons (Library), 7pm

11. Meeting Adjourned by Tina P at 8:19pm