



## **School Council Meeting**

R.A. Riddell Elementary

**Thursday September 25, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Library Learning Commons**

### **Attendees:**

Ms. Sweeting

Mr. Puley

Ms. Smiley

Dayna Ford

Ashley Boers

Sarah Gatopoulos

Jessica White (Today's Family)

Aveen Hussein

Ashley Morales

Sueheir Saddik

Danielle Prouty

Johnathan Peterson

Kristan McFadden

Regrets: Erin Gingras

1. Call To Order at 6:05 pm
2. Round Table Introductions
3. Land Acknowledgements read by Dayna
4. Nominations:
  - Run through positions and responsibilities of each position
  - Chair (Dayna Ford)
  - Secretary (Erin Gringras)
  - Treasurer (Sueheir Saddik)
  - 3 nominations were submitted before the meeting

## 5. Principals Report

- The school years has had a great start and has been positive for all! The easiest it has been in the past three years.
- Re-organization (predictions done in the spring and then re-evaluated in the fall) will happen on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Enrollment is down from 780 students (last year) to 708 student (this year)
- Kinder will drop for 4 classes to 3.5 (one class will go down to 15 students (the half class) and the other 11 students from that class will be dispersed between the other 3 kinder classes.
- Sports Academy is down; this has never happened before. Grade 7 basketball will move and combine with grade 6 basketball. This will impact 18 students.
- Washrooms on the upper level were renovated during the summer break (flooring, Bradley sinks, paint, and install of change table)
- Rygiel has 12 residents moving into their housing buildings (medically fragile). The fencing surrounding the homes has been removed. A new transformer was installed by Alectra.
- Playground had patch work done over the summer. There is a hold on the improvements that were promised by Home and School. It has now become a capital project by HWDSB.
- The downstairs hallway will be having the ceilings replaced next summer. The classrooms will NOT be touched.
- Ridell has been given a full time reading specialist and a Student Success Teacher (for grades 7 and 8). ESL and ELL is available for 3 days a week between 2 teachers. We currently have 4 educational assistants, with one transitional until November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Trip forms are changing. The emergency/medical portion is being removed. The Parent Portal for each student should be up to up to date as this is where the school will pull the information before the trip takes place. This is what the teachers will refer to during the trip.
- Tim Hortons Leadership Program is offered in four classes over a six week period. A letter was sent home to parents in 4/5, 5A, 5B, and 5/6 classes.

## 6. Teachers Report

- Sports Teams-Volleyball teams are finishing tryouts and will begin seasons mid Oct (Jr/Sr boys & girls)
- 3 Pitch-boys had tournaments this week- Jr.Boys won; girls are next week
- XC Team training- Tues & Thurs @ 8am; XC meet at Christies CA October 6

- Intramural Ultimate Frisbee- Gr.6-8; games are at NB
- Dance Team- 3 groups of students- Primary, Jr, Intermediate students taking part; practices during NB
- Terry Fox Run- tomorrow (Friday) goals of raising \$4000 and completing 3500 km (each full lap of the course is about 1km)
- Electives Day (Gr.6-8)- pending approval- October 10; students select an AM activity and a PM activity supervised by all Middle School teachers
- Student Council has been selected- two Co-Presidents & two co-vice Presidents; they are working on some upcoming spirit days (will be shared in Renegade Report)
- Music Helpers/Library Helpers/ Green Team/Announcement Crew all underway
- Sub Day- once per month; pay on SCO
- Pizza Days- Wednesdays- pay on SCO; \$2/slice
- TCBY sales- \$4 pay on SCO; every other Thurs.
- Meet the Teacher/Fall Fair: “Lovin’ Literacy in the Library”- includes Book Fair merch for sale, make-your-own bookmark station, and other Literacy activities for families to enjoy
- No popcorns days (Kernels) this year as the location we were using has closed.
- Laptops for the library will be arriving this week.
- Library shelving has been submitted for approval.
- New fridge in the nutrition room to replace the old one.

7. Pro-Grant

- Fun time that has learning involved and free to all families to join.
- Needs to be submitted by November 21<sup>st</sup>, please submit ideas before next meeting (October) so that we can decide and submit in time.

8. Todays Family Update

- With kinder being down this year there are a few spaces available.
- Six families are on the waiting list for this year and 86 families are enrolled.
- Registration for Winter Camp will open soon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm