

**Rockton Elementary School
Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday November 12th 2025
6:30pm**

Attendees: Tanya Brouwer, Kim Albers, Danielle Ciceralli, Robin Tilbury, Bre Paszkat, Jessica Seaton, Tasha Mauer, Lindsay Plumstead, Cassi Brunsveld, Jenny Hutchenson, Niki Gerritsen, Leanne Tovey, Leanne Halford, Ashlie Ferguson, Katey Vermeulen, Jen Hay, Jaime Owens

Approval of Agenda: Leanne 1st approval the agenda and Robin 2nd the approval.

Approval of May 2025 Minutes: Jenny 1st Approval the September Minutes and Jessica 2nd Approval.

Teachers Report- Lindsay Plumstead

School Updates

- Artwork frames have been installed in the hallway outside the library. Frames will soon be labelled with class names and filled with student artwork.

Sports & Clubs

Clubs

- Robotics Club – Tournament scheduled for November 25.
- Corn Hole Club – Currently running.
- Dungeon and Dragons Club – Currently running.
- Comics Book Club – Starting soon.
- Robotics/STEM Club requesting \$1,000 for lockable storage.
- Grade 7/8 STEM classes participating in three teams:
 - Green energy
 - Construction
 - Digital

Sports

- Three-Pitch: 3 teams finished first.
- Sr. Girls & Sr. Boys Volleyball: Both made playoffs.
 - Sr. Girls eliminated tonight.
 - Sr. Boys won and move on to quarter finals.
- Club Request: Mr. Nichols is requesting volleyball poles, estimated cost \$1,500.

School Activities & Events

- Mrs. Tovey sent a Remembrance Day update;
 - Grade 7/8 attended the Lynden Legion and represented Rockton.
 - 8A led the school assembly.
- Student Council will sell cookies in December (\$1.50). Options include:
 - Vegan Chocolate Chip

- Gluten-Free Chocolate Chip
 - Vanilla Snowman Cookies
- Remaining popcorn supply will be sold in December.

Trips

- Kindergarten: Successful trip to the apple orchard.
- Grades 7 & 8: Team-building day at Camp Ki-Wa-Y.
- Grade 6: Trip to RBG completed.
- Grade 5: Planning future trip to Crawford Lake.

Upcoming Events

- Popcorn Sale moved to tomorrow due to Remembrance Day.
- Friday, November 14 – Jersey Day (School-wide Spirit Day)
- November 19 – Kindergarten Crock-a-Doodle Painting Day
- November 25 – Grades 1 & 2 Crock-a-Doodle Day
- Friday, November 28 – Snack Shack and Comfy Cozy Spirit Day
- December 1–12 – Student Council Food Drive
- December 11 – Winter Concert

Student Council Festive Spirit Week

- December 15 – Festive Footwear Spirit Day
- December 16 – Silly Sweater Spirit Day
- December 17 – Holiday Hair or Headwear Spirit Day
- December 18 – Dress-Up Dance Day
 - Includes a dance for Grades 6–8 and snack shack (for whole school)
- December 19 – Comfy Cozy Day

Principals Report – Leanne Tovey

Report Cards & Interviews

- End-of-term report cards will be released **November 18**.
- A few families received them early by mistake; the reports were accurate but not intended for early release.
- **Interviews** will be available **November 20 (evening)** or **November 21**, depending on interview scheduling and teacher availability.
- A link for interview sign-ups was sent out last week; some teachers also emailed their own links.
- Teachers may choose one of three interview blocks:
 - Thursday evening
 - Friday morning
 - Friday afternoon
- Families are encouraged to reach out to teachers with any concerns.

Staffing Update

- **Ms. Comer**, Junior French/Primary Music (LTO), has moved to a **permanent position** at Millgrove.
- The school wishes her well.
- **Ms. Strangway** will take over the position for the remainder of the year.

School Events & Recognition

- Remembrance Day participation:
 - Grades 7/8 represented the school well at the community event.
 - Grade 8s successfully led the school assembly.

School Improvement Plan

- The school improvement plan has been completed and will be shared at the **January meeting**.
- Plan aligns with the Board's multi-year strategic focus:
 - **Literacy:** Focus on reading resources, support systems.
 - **Math:** Emphasis on small-group instruction.
 - **Positive School Culture:** Continuation of monthly character assemblies, character trait focus, student council initiatives.
 - **Indigenous Perspectives & Well-Being:** Ongoing work incorporated into programming.
- Additional assemblies every few months will highlight:
 - Athletics & Clubs
- Guest speakers may be used occasionally at Monthly Character Assemblies (e.g., War Amps presentation at the September Character Assembly).

Fall Open House & Book Fair

- Fall Open House/Meet the Staff was very successful.
- Based on school council feedback:
 - A **book fair** will be added next year to the Fall Open House.
 - Another will occur at the **Spring Open House/Fun Fair**.
- This year only one book fair will run (spring) due to previous booking conflicts.
- Future book fairs are already being scheduled well in advance.

School Foyer Screen

- Front foyer television (currently charging) normally runs all day.
- Managed by **Ms. Bailey**.
- Displays:
 - School reminders
 - Photos
 - Sports updates
 - Announcements

School Council Purchases & Equipment Updates

- **Walkie Talkies:**
 - Discussion occurred last meeting.
 - School funds (not council funds) were used to purchase **10 additional radios**.
- **Gaga Ball Pit:**
 - Currently paused due to mud buildup.
 - Considering turf for the bottom.
- **Kindergarten Purchases (\$1700):**
 - Plasma cars
 - New scooters
 - Blocks

- Tough trays and stands
- **DPA (Daily Physical Activity) Bags:**
 - Every Grade 1–8 classroom received a new DPA mesh bag with:
 - Basketballs
 - Volleyballs
 - Footballs
 - Soccer balls
 - All equipment has been labeled.

Student Leadership Programs

- **Recess Guardians (Grade 5):**
 - Students volunteer in assigned shifts.
 - Equipped with whistles and safety vests.
 - Program will be reviewed; students may choose to continue or opt out.
- **Bus Patrollers:**
 - Mixed results: some students are very responsible, others need more support.
 - Program continues to develop in coordination with bus drivers.

Holiday Support Programs

- **Strabane Optimist Club Hampers:**
 - Provide \$200–\$250 in food items (e.g., turkey, vegetables).
 - Last year supported six families.
 - Names are due by **December 1**.
 - Please contact **Mrs. Tovey** if you need support or know a family that needs support.
- **Lynden Toy Drive:**
 - Families may shop from donations or request discreet drop-off bags based on children's ages/interests.
 - Please contact **Mrs. Tovey** if you need support or know a family that needs support.

Treasurers Report

Pizza Program (2025–26)

Pizza payments received this year: \$14,528.62

- The account is currently positive, but **weekly pizza payouts are still ongoing** through December.
- Final balance will decrease as remaining invoices are paid.

Fundraisers

Pumpkin Fundraiser

- Revenue received: **\$638.00**

Spirit Wear

- Revenue to date: **\$600.00**

Mabel's Labels

- Revenue to date: **\$53.74**

Sub Day Program

- Revenue received so far: **\$9,420.25**
- **Sub day payouts still need to be made** through the end of December.

Overall Financial Position (2025-26)

- **Current total balance: \$25,221.40**
- Note: This balance **does not yet reflect** all upcoming pizza and sub day vendor payments through December.

Chairs Report

Pizza Program

- The program is running smoothly overall with no major issues.
- A concern has been raised about students eating other students' pizza when slices are left unattended on desks.
 - Teachers are asked to remind students not to touch food that does not belong to them.
- Students involved in sports/clubs will be asked to collect their pizza before going to their activity to help reduce mix-ups.

Sub Day Program

- Sub days continue to run well with no issues to report at this time.

Water Bottle Fundraiser

- No updates at this time; nothing new to report.

School Spirit Wear

- Orders are online only.
- Order deadline: November 17.
- Reminder emails were sent to families.
- Expected delivery: Early December.

Fundraising Plan

Subcommittee Update:

- A Fundraising Subcommittee meeting was held in early October.
- In consultation with Leanne and following the School Council Parent Guide, the subcommittee is permitted to continue, but all fundraising proposals and allocation of funds must be presented to the full Council for approval.
- The subcommittee has developed a recommended list of fundraisers for the year. These have not yet been shared publicly, as they must come to Council first.
- Note for next year: Consider starting the subcommittee process earlier so recommendations can be brought forward before November.

Completed Fundraisers

- Pumpkin Fundraiser - completed

- Spirit Wear – completed
- Water Bottle Fundraiser – completed

Proposed Upcoming Fundraisers

1. Movie Night
2. Poinsettias
3. Little Caesars Pizza Kits
4. Spring Open House/Fun Fair (Silent Auction)
5. Spring Plant Sale
6. Pizza Days (continuation)
7. Subway Days (continuation)
8. Cobs Bread Fundraiser
9. Gift Card Fundraising
 - Operates similarly to Mabel's Labels.
 - Can remain open for any duration throughout the school year.
 - Families purchase gift cards online for everyday spending (groceries, gas, gifts, etc.).
 - A percentage of all purchases is returned to the school as fundraising revenue.

Proposed Allocation of Funds (Discussion Items)

The Fundraising Subcommittee identified several priority areas where raised funds could be allocated throughout the 2025–26 school year. These recommendations are presented for Council discussion and approval.

Potential Funding Priorities

- School Club Items
Support materials, supplies, and resources needed for various student clubs.
- Turf for the Gaga Pit
Installation of proper turf to improve safety and usability.
- Music & Arts Support
Funding for equipment, instruments, art supplies, and program enhancements.
- Trip Subsidies & Transportation
Financial support to reduce field trip costs and assist with bus transportation.
- DPA (Daily Physical Activity) Bags
Supplies to support student participation in daily physical activity programs.
- Grade 8 Graduation
Contributions toward year-end celebration, awards, and related expenses.
- Music Bags
Classroom-specific supplies to support music instruction.
- Natural Playground
Continued improvements to outdoor learning and play spaces.
- Volleyball Nets & Poles
Replacement or purchase of equipment needed for school sports.
- Turkey Skate
Funding to support this school-wide seasonal activity.
- Chromebooks & Technology
Investment in technology to support classroom learning and student access.
- Multi Sport Post (for playground)

Decision

- Voted: YES for the Fundraising Plan (unanimous)

School Cash Online – Ongoing Donation Postings

- Council reviewed whether to continue offering the two open, ongoing donation options on School Cash Online:
 1. Nutrition/Snack Program (Mondays & Fridays)
 - Last year, approximately \$1,200 in donations was received to help support the snack program.
 2. Trip Subsidies
 - Last year, this option generated approximately \$1,000 in contributions to help reduce the cost of field trips for families in need.
- Council discussed the value of keeping these donation options available throughout the year, as they provide consistent support for programs that directly benefit students.

Decision

- Voted: YES — Council approved continuing both donation postings on School Cash Online for the 2025-26 school year.

Next Meeting Dates:

Thursday Jan 15th at 6:30pm

Wednesday May 20th at 6:30pm