



## MINUTES

School Council Meeting

R.A. Riddell Elementary

Thursday September 19, 2024, 6:30 p.m., Library Learning Commons

### Attendance

- Ms. Sweeting
- Erin Gingras
- Sarah Gatopoulos
- Dayna Ford
- Ashley Morales
- Danielle Prouty
- Stacey Quinn
- Maria Romain
- Deirdre Springstead
- Connie Nkala
- Brooke Beney
- Jessica White
- Saeedeh Ghasem
- Charlene Elliott
- Lara Mager
- Sabina Marrone

1. Call to Order at 6:36pm
2. Land Acknowledgment read by Erin
3. Elections for 2024/2025: Chair – Dayna Ford; Second – Sarah  
Secretary – Erin Gingras; Second - Deirdre
4. Principal reports from Kelly Sweeting  
-**Welcome**  
  
-**Staff report** – JK - 47 registrations less this year

772 student population

Re-Organization:

may need to reduce one kindergarten class during reorg  
currently 32 classrooms total

Grades 1-8 – Reorg may effective maybe grades 1,2,3. Those classes are capped at 20 students.  
Any reorg in these areas will be minimal.

Reorg date October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Parents affected will be notified via letter. School community notified  
via Sunday Renegade Report.

Portable will be open and ready October 3<sup>rd</sup>

-Superintendent – Adnan Shabaz

Came for a visit. Discussions for some internal renovations and updates were had. More info  
to come on that.

- PA Day September 20, 2024

Agenda for teachers – compliance activities: Anti-sex trafficking; Hate prejudice and bias  
training; Human Rights; Reimagining wellness HWDSB program. Community building –  
climate and culture.

New literacy screener for JK-Grade 2 students. 15 mins each student. Tests their literacy  
knowledge. Used to target *planned instructions* for students to fill in any gaps.

End day with Workplace Safety re-certification.

Celebrations – PPM128 device policy (Cell phone ban)

Students are more focused;

Noticeable feeling within the school;

Younger students are playing together outside;

Older students are more engaged. Older students are playing a lot more games; collecting  
acorns, man-hunt, soccer, volleyball, flag football;

Infractions: Notices are given and the phone is taken away and put in a lock box in the office.

Lock box has 32 spots, student name can be labelled and tracked. Student picks up phone at  
end of day. 3 phones taken so far.

Staff are also modelling the no phones visible behaviour from first bell to last bell.

Starting Monday – social media is being blocked via School wifi per HWDSB.

Changes to Lunch time for grades 7 and 8s

Senior grades are allow out once a week, unless they have a signed note from the  
Parent/Guardian that they are allowing the student to go out/home for lunch. Last year there  
were problems with students going out including at the plaza at Garth and Garrow.

- Grade 7 - Tuesday; and
- Grade 8 - Thursday
- Student must have note each time with date and signature to say where they are going.

- Attendance is taken when they return.

PRO Grant – up to \$1,000 – parent engagement

- Due by November 22, 2024
- Ideas to be discussed at next meeting
- Last year was Jump 2 Math.

5. Teacher Report - Ms. Smiley

Library has been cataloguing 350 new books;

We can accept donations but they have to be vetted by the Board; any we cannot use are kept in a bin for students to take home and keep.

Library books will be available for take home on October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Intermurals

Sports Teams- Jr Girls & Boys 3-pitch and Sr. Girls & Boys 3 pitch; tournaments are next week Sept. 23-26

Volleyball tryouts are happening started this week and next week

Jr.Swim Team- first tryout was Tues.

Flag Football- Gr.6-8 during NB#2

Lunch Monitors- grades 5-7 two students per class up to Gr.3/4

Music Helpers- gr.7&8 help Mr.Rayment in the AM

Dance Team tryouts- Gr.4+; first tryout this Wed.

Cross- Country- Gr.6-8 Tu & Th 8am; Gr.3-5 at NB#1 Day 3&5

Student Council elections today- we have 2 Co-Prez and 2 Co-Vice-Prez

Pizza Days- starts on October 2- pay online; \$2/slice

Popcorn sales- Kernels- pay online; \$2.50/bag

Terry Fox Run- Sept.27 @ 1:40pm

6. Jessica White – Today’s Family - Before and After

26 kinders; 45 school age (up to 13yrs old)

- A few afternoon kinder spots left
- School age program is full
- Long Waitlist
- Hoping to staff more to open waitlist.

7. Next meeting October 17, 2024 at 6:30pm.

8. Adjournment and commencement of Home and School meeting at 7:32