Calgary Board of Education

Rideau Park School
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RIDEAU PARK SCHOOL



Friday October 23, 2026

KEY DATES

October 26 – 30
Spirit Week!

October 27
K-6 Family Halloween Dance

October 29
Fall Photo Retakes

October 30
Quest Theatre performance (K-6)

Wear your Halloween costume to school!

November 10
Remembrance Day Assembly – Grade 8

November 11-15
Fall Break

November 23 – 27
Scholastic Book Fair Week

November 26
Teacher-led Conferences K-9 evening
Winter Greenery Pick Up

November 27
Teacher-led Conferences K-9 morning

Hello Rideau Families!

Teacher Professional Learning – October 19, 2026

On Monday October 19, our teaching team embarked on a mini-adventure with experts from Alberta Parks. We enjoyed 2 sessions at Elbow Island Park ("The Wandering Island") exploring how we can extend our interdisciplinary land-based practices across our K-9 program. Our facilitators brought their expertise from their typical settings (Fish Creek and Kananaskis Provincial Parks) to show us possibilities in our own community. Taking the time to learn together on and about the land helps us to understand not only the scientific or environmental aspects of place, but also the stories and histories of the people who lived and continue to reside in this area. We recognize through our land acknowledgements and teachings from Elders and knowledge keepers that the Elbow River is part of the greater Mohkinstis region, the traditional Blackfoot name for Calgary, which literally describes the sharp bend where the Elbow and Bow Rivers meet.



With our facilitators, we explored how we can introduce students to scientific and social studies inquiries using the land, plants and animals – along with the contrast of the intense urban environment – as provocations for deeper study.

Halloween Week at Rideau Park School

Thank you to our grade 7-9 leadership students for developing a week of spirited fun as we approach Halloween over the weekend. Students are invited to participate in "Spirit Day" activities each day next week. Here are the themes for the week:

Monday – crazy/fun hair day

Tuesday - Trick or Twin day - match with friends

Wednesday - Freaky Wednesday - students dress like teachers and teachers dress like students (predictions on how many bald caps?!)

Thursday - Throwback Thursday - 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s (Also photo retake day...)

Friday - Costume Day - students can wear their Halloween costumes

A special note about Halloween costumes and activities for October 30:

- Please use face paint, no masks
- Limit excessive gore or scary themes. Remember, we are a K-9 school.
- Please leave very large accessories or pretend weapons at home.
- No inflatables or boxy costumes - you must be able to sit and move around comfortably

We kindly ask that students DO NOT bring candies or food treats to school for sharing with others. As this is still an instructional day, teachers may opt to incorporate some Halloween themed activities into their learning plans.

Additionally, our K-6 students will also be treated to a performance by Quest Theatre on Friday morning at 10:45am. Keep in mind that students will be seated on the floor, so their costumes need to be suitable for that part of the day.

We are looking forward to celebrating our community spirit next week!



Calling all pumpkin carvers!

Calling all pumpkin carvers! A much-loved Rideau Park School tradition is back- our Pumpkin Carving Competition!

Please have your children bring their carved pumpkin to school on the morning of Tuesday, October 27. Before it leaves home, write your child's name and grade on the back in Sharpie so we know who it belongs to!

Winners will be announced at the Monster Mash Dance Party that same evening. We ask that you remember to take your pumpkin home from the dance.

*All age groups are welcome to participate in the pumpkin carving contest - but the dance is only for grades kindergarten-grade 6.

We are excited to see what your family creates!

Warmly,

The Rideau Park Parent Council

Photo Retakes are scheduled for the morning of October 29!

- If your child was absent on or enrolled after September 21 when the school photos were taken, they will automatically be added to the photo retake list.
- If requesting a retake photo for your child, please email Ms Cochrane (jacochrane@cbe.ab.ca) to be added to the photo retake list.

Winter Greenery Fundraiser!

The Winter Greenery & Poinsettia school fundraiser is back for another year. We are pleased to partner with Growing Smiles and DeVry Greenhouse to offer a variety of winter greenery for your home and holiday decorating. We have 6 items listed on the **ordering website**:

- Red and White **Poinsettias**

- Indoor **Tropical** Planter

- 24" **Holiday** Wreath

- Outdoor **Greenery** Arrangement

- 2-gallon Festive **Shrub** (new item for this year!)

The length of this fundraiser is a bit shorter this year. **Last day to place an order is Thursday, November 12 at 12:00 PM.** Order pick up day is Thursday, November 26 from 1:00 - 4:15 PM. As always, all profits from this fundraiser are used for school programming. Thank you for your support.

Place an Order

Reminder - We are a safe, caring and welcoming community...

To maintain a consistent and supportive environment that fosters high expectations for all students, it is important to ensure that families and students are familiar with some key policies and procedures that are in place across the Calgary Board of Education. Namely, please take time to review the following items available on our website:

- **Student Code of Conduct and Progressive Discipline** https://rideaupark.cbe.ab.ca/conduct
- **Personal Mobile Devices- Away for the Day** https://rideaupark.cbe.ab.ca/student-personal-mobile-devices-k-9
- **Scent-Free Environment** https://rideaupark.cbe.ab.ca/health-wellness

Noon Hour Activity Fee – Grade 7-9

Our school has added a $10 fee (annual) to your student's MyCBE fees account. This is a general school-based fee that contributes to a range of optional noon-hour activities that students might participate in. The fee supports the purchase and replenishment of items that are used by students such as: outdoor sports equipment, supplies that are used in teacher-supervised clubs along with games and puzzles available in the Learning Commons. As winter weather approaches, more grade 7-9 students are looking at spending time indoors and we need to ensure that we have materials available for student use that contribute to a positive and welcoming school climate over the lunch hour.

LAST CALL! - Winter Concert Decoration Donations

As we prepare for our upcoming **Winter Concert**, we are hoping to create a beautiful and festive winter atmosphere for our students and families!

We are looking for **donated or gently used winter-themed decorations** that we can use to decorate the stage and music spaces. We are especially interested in items such as:



- Snowmen or snowmen decorations (like pictured, NOT inflatable décor)
- Large decorative snowflakes
- White or clear **twinkle/fairy lights**
- Winter greenery or frosted branches
- White, silver, or winter-themed decorations
- Hanging decorations or ornaments with a **winter theme**
- Other decorations that help create a **magical winter atmosphere**

We are hoping to keep the decorations **winter-themed rather than specifically Christmas-themed**, so that our concert environment feels welcoming and inclusive for all of our students and families.



If you have any decorations that you would be willing to **donate or lend to the school**, please contact **Ms. Koshynsky** at KaKoshynsky@cbe.ab.ca. Donations can be sent to or dropped off at the school.

Thank you for helping us make this year's Winter Concert a special experience for our students!





Reminder - Gym Strip and Spirit Wear – Summarized Designs

All students in Grades 7 to 9 are required to change into a gym strip for PE classes. We suggest the following for a Junior High gym strip:

- *Summarized Designs* will be our supplier for our **Rideau Park School spirit wear again** this year and for any replenishments to your student's PE "wardrobe". This new vendor complements our fall offering of gym strip by making Rideau Park **"R" logo t-shirts** and other active wear gear available throughout the year.

Secure online ordering and payment are available at:
https://www.myschoolzone.ca/rideaupark

An overview of all our gym strip and spirit wear options are available on our website:
https://rideaupark.cbe.ab.ca/merchandise





Rideau Park Parents Association – School Council Update



Thank you to our School Council and Rideau Park Parents Association (RPPA) for working tirelessly to enrich the learning environment at Rideau Park School for all students.

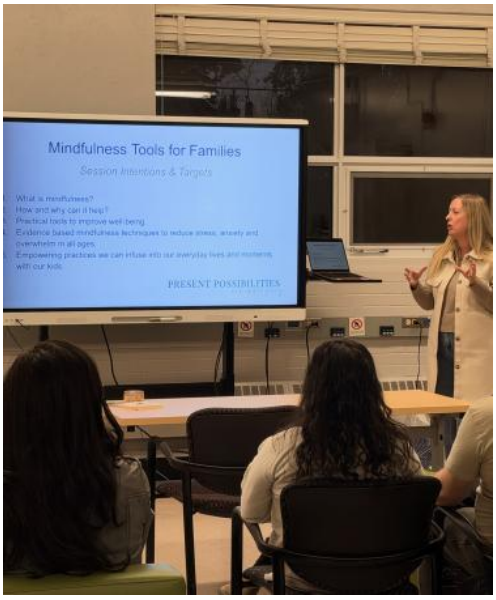
We look forward to welcoming returning and new attendees to our School Council & RPPA meetings.

2026-2027 Meeting Schedule:

- Nov. 18 – In person 6:00pm
- Jan. 20 (Virtual): 1:45pm
- Feb. 24 – In person, 6:00pm
- Apr. 21 (Virtual): 1:45pm
- May 19 – In person, 6:00pm (AGM)

Thank you for a week of mindful practice....





Thank you to our Rideau Park School Council team for funding our mini well-being residency with Amber Pavey of Present Possibilities.

All students enjoyed sessions that were developed with their age and stage of life in mind. We also experienced a very well-attended parent workshop on Tuesday evening where we explored practical, evidence-based mindfulness tools to enhance resilience and social-emotional awareness, address anxiety and overwhelm, and navigate perfectionism. You can learn more about Amber at https://www.presentpossibilities.ca/about-amber-pavey-wellness-educator

Hot Lunch Returns for 2026-2027 - Healthy Hunger is Back!

Parents, do you want to support Rideau Park School AND pack one less lunch every other week?

Healthy Hunger, hosted by the Rideau Park School Council and Parent Association, offers delivery of lunches to the classroom every other Thursday!

Our next Fun Lunch will be held Thursday, November 5, 2026.

- Orders must be submitted on the Saturday BEFORE the lunch
- Order lunch by lunch, or multiple dates in advance

Visit www.healthyhunger.ca to order your student's lunch and support our school!

Volunteers Needed!

We need parent volunteers to help organize lunches and deliver them to classrooms. It's easy, anyone can help, and the time commitment is usually just 30 minutes!

Sign up to help here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044FA4AD2FA3F9C25-65125505-healthy

Lunches Coming Up:

Nov 5 - Mary Brown's Chicken
Nov 19 – Mucho Burrito

Last call for volunteers!!! – Casino Fundraiser, November 5-6, 2026

This is a critical fundraising event for Rideau Park School and our turn has come up once again to infuse much needed dollars to enrich and enhance programming/resources for our students.

Where: Elbow River Casino
Hosted by: Rideau Park Parents Association
Dates: Thursday November 5 and Friday November 6, 2026.

Link to sign up:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4DA4A72AA4FF2-64600096-elbow

No experience is needed, everyone gets trained on site and meals are provided. Please consider signing up to contribute to our biggest fundraiser of the year.

We appreciate you and your support!

Sincerely,



Andrea Riquelme
Principal, Rideau Park School
IG: @principalriquelme @cbe.rideaupark Website: https://rideaupark.cbe.ab.ca/