

In Attendance

Andrea R. (Principal), Jackie C. (Vice-Principal), Krista T. (Vice-Chair), Reidun T., Cathy B., Jenny S., Sharon S., Aletha B., Yssra A., Reina G., Alicia T.

Welcome and Opening Comments

- Meeting opened by Krista at 6:02 pm
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Traditional Land Acknowledgment

Andrea Riquelme

Principal's Report - Andrea

Open House

- For KD & Middle School
- Very successful, very welcoming experience for potential families
- Student ambassadors shared experiences with respect to student athletes, band, IPP, etc.
- Band played in the band room for families touring school

Registration Lottery 2026/27

- RPS is a school "In Lottery"
- Schools must run a lottery when:
 - They receive more registrations than the available space for a program or
 - For middle and high schools, when they receive more incoming students than they can accommodate
- Priority levels:
 - Priority 1 – students in walk zone and have a sibling already in the school
 - Priority 2 – in walk zone (no sibling)
 - Priority 3 – outside walk zone
- Had to overflow one student so far this year
- Waitlist – If not offered placement, the student is added to our priority waitlist
 - When space is available, parents are called to offer placement
- Registration for lottery – Feb 10, 2026
- Students who are designated to RPS do not need to register

Video Surveillance Technology (VST) Consultation

- RPS qualified to receive new security cameras inside & outside of school
- School needed to provide rationale for why this is needed
 - Involved compiling a list of incidents (e.g., vandalism, thefts) where cameras may have been useful
- Existing cameras will be removed and updated with new electrical cabling and signage installed
- Benefits - enhanced cameras with better resolution, advanced search capabilities, low maintenance requirements
- VST Collection, Use, Access, and Controls
 - Not a replacement for direct supervision
 - CBE – need to balance security/safety with privacy
 - Information is collected under the POPA and ATIA
 - Access to surveillance footage is limited
 - Cameras are not hidden, no audio recordings, not monitored in real time
 - Outside – cameras will be installed along the perimeter of school, pathways, no surveillance of adjacent properties
 - Inside – upstairs hallway, downstairs hallway, gym foyer
- Request for feedback (benefits, concerns, furthers questions)
 - What benefits do you see in upgrading the security camera system?
 - Deterrence – for school community and community at large
 - Accountability
 - Reduce costs for repairs
 - What concerns might you have?
 - Cost – CBE covers the cost
 - Anticipate potential concerns from parents re who has access to video recordings – can be mitigated with clear communication of who has access
 - Does not replace direct supervision
- Next steps – staff consultation, feedback to be sent into VST team
- Anticipate installation to be completed by end of this year/beginning of next school year

Looking ahead

- Report cards – end of February, new date because of the strike
- Transitions – connections with feeder schools
 - Andrea to visit Elbow Park school
 - Band will be visiting Elbow Park as well to showcase the band (date TBD)
- March conferences
 - March 19 (evening) – student led conferences for K to 6, Virtual conferences for grades 7-9

- o March 20 – first aid training for teachers

Classroom Updates – Emily Dockrill

- Grade 1s – adding and subtracting within 10, geometry (naming, sorting)
- Grade 2s – adding/subtracting 2-digit numbers with regrouping
- Science – winter seasonal changes (activities, trees, food, clothing, weather) as well as studying energy and movement pathways (how objects and animals move – fast, slow, up, down, zig zag, smooth, bouncy, etc.). Will culminate in a building project (e.g., a maze project).
- Social studies – connections to the land and how to respect and take care of it, class wrote their own land acknowledgement
- Writing – facts vs opinions, leading into winter animal research

Continuing strong focus on social emotional learning, problem solving, independence and growth mindset

Andrea – would like to plan for students to walk to Elbow Island Park

Chair's Report - Krista

Volunteer Coordinator

- Ysra has offered to step into our volunteer coordinator role
- Purpose of role - to facilitate communication between parents and teacher

Parent Social Fundraiser – Jan 29

- 60 tickets sold so far
- Donations can be made on ticket form
- Staff are also invited
- Andrea to make a presentation which will include how money raised through fundraising is used in the school (e.g. furniture upgrades)
- Sponsored Wishlist items – after items are obtained, communication back to families who donated that particular item
- Minimum \$50 donation to get a charitable receipt

Spring Snow Ball Dance K to 6 – Feb 10th, 5:30-7:30 pm

- Pre-sell tickets – e-transfer vs Zeffy app?
- K to 6 – parent supervision is mandatory
- To replace Halloween dance that was cancelled in the fall
- Alicia and Brooke – organizing
- In order to help foster school spirit, there will be a Rideau branded tuque station
- In the past, families have signed up to run stations and donate items (e.g., water bottles, candy bags, etc.) through SignUp Genius
 - o We could consider this for the Snow Ball dance
- Gift cards for raffle – varying ticket prices depending on size of raffle item
- 2 different admission ticket level costs - \$5 pre-sale, \$10 at the door
- Bathroom access – ideally gym foyer

School need for food supplies/gift cards

- No need at this time

Teacher classroom supplies reminder (\$150)

- More uptake this year

Fundraising Update – Jenny S

Healthy Hunger

- Instagram & reminders in newsletter have been helpful in increasing the numbers of participating students
- Dec 4 - A&W \$ 764.00
- Dec 18 - Little Ceasars \$842.65
- Jan 8 - Edo \$459.20
- Jan 22 - Subway \$623.32

Snack Day

- Start date deferred

Parent Question – is it possible to include kids who cannot afford to participate in Healthy Hunger?

- Yes, additional children can be added under your account

Key Communicator Update

Bulletin board to be installed in front entrance for parent council items

New Business

Community Spirit Celebration

- Put on by Leadership students
- Next Thursday
- A look back at the initiatives they have completed as well as upcoming initiatives

Meeting Adjourned at 7:12 pm

Next Meeting of the Parent Council Association: Feb 18, 2026 @ 6:00 pm (in person)