Calgary Board of Education

**Rideau Park School**
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RIDEAU PARK SCHOOL




**Friday October 16, 2026**

## KEY DATES

**October 19**
PL Day- No School

**October 20**
Parent Presentation w/ Present Possibilities 7:00pm

**October 21**
School Council and RPPA – Virtual at 1:45pm

**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

**November 11-15**
**Fall Break**

## Hello Rideau Families!

### Traffic Safety and Soon to Diminish Morning Light!

The days are gradually shortening with morning light diminishing. I would like to take this opportunity to ask families to reflect on their morning travel plans and student safety when driving, walking or rolling to school, especially as we enter the new routine of permanent "Alberta Time", meaning that we will no longer "fall back" to daylight savings time.

A quick review of online date and time calculators shows that by mid-November our sunrise will shift to 9:00am, progressing to a peak of 9:39 am in late December and January. This means that for a prolonged period during the winter season students will be travelling to school in (near) darkness. As a driver, visibility is far more challenging during twilight hours so this poses a real hazard for our students within walking distance, or students travelling to bus stops.

I am raising awareness now as I have already witnessed and received some feedback on the unsafe habits of students travelling through the community. Concern has been raised about students crossing streets without adequately checking that traffic has stopped. We also see many youths walking and viewing their personal devices instead of being attentive to the environment around them.

Please take this time to review your child's travel plans and think about what you might practice or encourage your child to do when darkness lasts further into our morning and arrival time at school.

### 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.

### 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

### 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.

Our next meeting will be VIRTUAL **and will take place at 1:45pm on Wednesday Oct 21.**

**The meeting link is:**

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join:** https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/237581692546412?p=lBrmNonPUlYJYU46dX

Meeting ID: 237 581 692 546 412

Passcode: qV3rG7uV

**2026-2027 Meeting Schedule:**

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

**Join Us on October 20th: Mindfulness Tools for Families**



Join us for a special Parent Council presentation with Amber Pavey of Present Possibilities.

This workshop is designed to help families and school communities strengthen connection and improve well-being. Parents will explore 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

**When:** Tuesday, October 20 at 7 p.m.

**Where:** School Learning Commons

Snacks, beverages and time to mingle with other parents will follow. All parents are welcome!

**Register HERE**

**Need childcare so you can attend? We've got you covered.**

RPS junior high students will provide babysitting in the gym during the workshop. Your younger children can have fun and connect with older students while you take part in the workshop.

**During the week of October 19**, Amber will also be exploring these themes with students in age-appropriate ways. The parent presentation will help you understand what your child is learning and give your family shared tools and language to continue the conversation at home.

**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, October 22, 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:**

**Oct 22 –** Little Caesar's Pizza
**Nov 5 -** Mary Brown's Chicken
**Nov 19 –** Mucho Burrito

**Save the DATE – 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/