



RT Alderman School Council

Hybrid Meeting

September 16, 2026

6:00pm - 7:00pm

Minutes

Attendees:

In person: Ashlin Russell, Lisa McBain, Lindsay Otterson, Jennifer Laight, Mary Jane Armitage, Kirk Newman, Crystal Schatz, Jessica DeVreeze, Cara Polijan, Danyelle Kaluski, Roz Wilson

Online: Nicole Ouellet, Christy Bretch, Tracy Roberts, Shannon Orian, Jessica Farrow, Jolina Palmer, Meiti Yang, Zhang Yu, Zhijuan Quio, Esther Eng, Shweta Kaushik, Meena Nasr

Meeting Minutes	Presenter
Call to Order/Quorum (1 minute) Meeting called to order: 6:02pm	Ashlin
Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)	Ashlin
Review/Approval of the Agenda (1 minute) Motion: Jennifer Kidd Second: Jennifer Laight	Ashlin
Review and Approval of last meeting minutes (1 minute) Motion: Jennifer Kidd Second: Jennifer Laight	Ashlin
Principal Report (30 minutes) 1. School Updates - Mr. Newman expressed gratitude for funding that was approved by Parent Association in June and brought a cardboard saw for those attending in person to try out. Cardboard saws will be used in the Architecture CTF this year. - As of Sept 16th, currently 704 students with 26 homerooms: 6 Gr.5 5 Gr. 6 4 Gr. 7	Mr. Newman/ Ms. Armitage

○ 6 Gr 8 ○ 5 Gr 9 ○ 35 Teachers and 14 support staff. ● While the additional funding from the government allowed for smaller class sizes in Grade 5 and 6 it did not provide funding for additional resources. The school has 1 EA working 15 hours for the whole school and the resource teacher is now teaching gym for one period each day. ● Meet the Teacher is on Sept 24th. Same format as previous years. Teachers will hold two information sessions (5:30-6:15; 6:15-7pm) where they will share an outline for the year, expectations for the year and how to get in touch. These are not individualized meetings. ● At 7pm on the same night there will be a high school information session in the gym. 2. Understanding D2L and Powerschool ○ Ms. Armitage reviewed the two main ways to follow your child's education. ○ Powerschool is the main way to see assignments and grades. Assignments should appear in Powerschool as soon as they are assigned. There is an app version as well but functionality is not as good as the web version. Schedules are also available in Powerschool. ○ D2L - For Grade 7, 8 &9 - to use login as your child, each class has a calendar, assignments and resources. Students should be checking this every day. The app version is called Pulse but the app functionality is not as good as the online version. ○ For Grade 5 and 6, teachers may use Google Classroom more than D2L. ○ If students have any issues with passwords, they can speak directly to their teacher. ○ Teachers will review at meet the teacher what they are using for their classes. 3. Communication with Teachers ○ Emails are a great way to communicate with teachers ○ Expect a response in 1-2 business days, if you are not receiving a response, escalation is to Brenda or Kirk ○ Call the school for emergent situations ○ When leaving early or absent - email the office with the teacher on copy	
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4. Digital Citizenship

- Grade 5&6: All personal mobile devices go in to the locker at the beginning of the day and can be taken out again at the end of the day
- Grade 7,8 &9: Same as Grade 5&6 with the exception of being able to take the mobile device out of their locker at lunch time when they go outside.
- All students are allowed to bring their own laptop for use in the classroom. The school is increasing focus this year on the proper use of this technology for learning.
- Administration shared the consequences of improper use of devices in a separate email that was sent out to all parents.

5. Athletics

- Soccer, Cross Country and Basketball are up and running
- Grade 6-9 are welcome to participate
- Return athletic forms sent out by Tyler Schroeder to ensure your child can attend tryouts for any of the sports throughout the school year
- Question regarding why students are not mandated to change for Grade 7-9 for gym.
 - i. Practice has changed over the years due to issues in the change room, time lost for changing, too many students changing at the same time, requirements for monitoring of the change rooms.

6. Transportation

- Please direct your transportation questions regarding stops etc to CBE Transportation. Decisions are not made at the school level.
- If there are issues on the bus, those can be brought to the attention of the school.
- Question around pick up chaos at the school and if the school has addressed this in the past:
 - i. It has been addressed in the past. Behaviour change has been seen for a day or two or the week. Additionally challenged on the street because there are two schools on the same street.
 - ii. Worst issues are jaywalking and u-turns in front of the buses.

iii. Can put in a request through 311 to have a bylaw officer come out. iv. Other options include reaching out to the city councillor for support. 7. Truth and Reconciliation Commitment will be posted by Sept 29th which will also be Orange Shirt Day at RT Alderman. 8. Upcoming Events: - o Terry Fox Run - Monday Oct 5th 9. Questions: - o How is Yearbook run? It is a club run by Ms. Shuffler with support from other teachers. Johnstons provides support to the club around formatting and layout.	
Chair Report (5 Minutes) 1. Meet the teacher BBQ - o Looking for volunteers to help with handing out hot dogs and chips at Meet the Teacher. - o A sign up genius will be going out shortly. 2. Casino - o December 17th and 18th - o Will need several volunteers including back ups. A sign up genius will be sent out. 3. Ideas for school residencies, opportunities and learning sessions for students and families - o School had Paul Davis attend last year and present to students and parents - o Looking for input and ideas from parents and students - o Alberta Education grant of \$500 that can be used towards a speaker - o Suggested that ensure whatever is planned would be for the students 4. Communication: We encourage families to connect with us: rtaparentsociety@gmail.com or instagram @rtaschoolpta	Ashlin
Next Meeting: ● October 14, 2026 - AGM	Ashlin
Meeting Adjournment: 7:23pm	