



RT Alderman School Council  
In-Person Meeting - RTA School  
September 10th, 2025  
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

## MINUTES

**Attendees:** Ashlin Russell, Lisa McBain, Lindsay Otterson, Jennifer Kidd, Stephanie Ross, Kirk Newman, Jennifer Laight, Brenda Lewis, Kari Iwaniuk, Gokula Krishnan, Andrea Proude, Beverly Binning, Pam Popik, Cara Poluja, Sivij Chappa, Sreenivas Chappa, Crystal Schatz,

Minutes	Presenter
Call to Order/Quorum (1 minute) at 6:23pm	Ashlin
Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)	Ashlin
Review/Approval of the Agenda (1 minute) Motion: Jennifer L Second: Jennifer K	Ashlin
Review and Approval of last meeting minutes (1 minute) Motion: Lindsay O Second: Stephanie Ross	Ashlin
<b>Principal Report (15 minutes)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome Kirk</li> <li>2. School Updates</li> </ol> <p>Ms. Lewis reviewed the Principal's Report. Key points are summarized below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gr. 5 = 4 classes</li> <li>• Gr. 6 = 4 classes</li> <li>• Gr. 7 = 6 classes</li> <li>• Gr. 8 = 5 classes</li> <li>• Gr. 9 = 5 classes</li> <li>• One extra home room compared to last year. ~700 students. School is at capacity.</li> </ul> <p>Change to staffing from last year with 3 full time PE teachers and 2 part time PE teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 new staff members at the school</li> <li>• 3 support staff</li> </ul>	Brenda & Kirk

Athletics has begun including Cross Country, Soccer and Basketball.

Student Fees have started to be added to CBE Powerschool. Parents to check back often to ensure timely payment. As part of the Science Alternative Program, all grades will participate in ~10 field trips - both in school and out of school. Fees will be charged per experience and the annual total should be expected to be ~\$200. These are considered non-refundable. There is a waiver process should families be unable to afford the fees and are encouraged to reach out to the office if needed.

Optional trips include athletics, band trip, Gr. 9 Kananaskis, Overnight experiences, Gr. 9 Heritage Park.

Students are not able to graduate with unpaid fees.

Big Ideas for 2025-2026:

- Building strong connections with Maple Ridge
- School-wide STEM Challenges
- Buddies
- Pep Rallies
- Science Fair Committee
- STEAM - Mr. Lee is working with all grade teams as an art specialist within Art and CTF
- Showcasing CTF - showcasing the various CTF streams

Student Learning and Student Development Plan:

- Teachers are currently working with students on diagnostic testing with all students to identify gaps and strengths which will be used to plan and adjust instruction to meet student needs.
- If there are major concerns, teachers will reach out but otherwise testing is just for teacher planning

Discussion around how parents can support children at home:

- Read with your children - read anything - and ask questions about what you've been reading
- Play games and puzzles that involve numbers
- Have open conversations with teachers

Huge Thank you to Ravens families for raising \$8,613.25 for school

furniture through the cheque writing campaign held last June.

Financial request to be discussed at the Parent Association mtg:

\$8,000 - Paper (including Journals, construction paper), etc.

\$8,000 - Technology (including cars, laptops, ipads, robotics)

\$5,000 - CTF & Fine Arts (including music, art and Band)

\$1,000 - STEM challenges and Science Fair supplies

\$1,000 - Library

Total = \$19,0000

Where is the school at for Technology:

- Each grade team has a cart of computers and there is also a library sign out cart.
- Each grade 5 and 6 class has 2 extra chromebooks per classroom.
- Every child will be assigned a number and always receive that same computer each time to be able to track damage to the computer. Looking to manage current trends on social media like the current tiktok trend to light laptops on fire. In June, 24 laptops were destroyed.
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Future state:

- iPad for each class
- 6/7 and 8/9 will each get an extra computer cart
- Grade 5/6 has requested an extra 2 computers per classroom rather than an extra full cart per grade.

Discussion on the potential for a group order option for parents who might like to purchase their child their own laptop. To be discussed by Parent Association.

Question regarding classroom enhancement fund:

- Last year a specific amount of money was approved for each classroom.
- While Ms. Lewis believes the money is useful, she found that last year she had to follow up with the teachers to ensure they were actually spending the money.
- Jennifer Kidd indicated that the good spending from that money was for larger projects like the Tie-Dye project which

<p>would instead be brought forward to the Parent Association as individual projects.</p>	
<p><b>Chair Report (5 Minutes)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recap and what's to come!           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Open House - September 25th               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Planning to have a welcome back BBQ at this event with hot dogs and chips</li> <li>ii. Estimated cost of \$830</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. New Instagram page sharing school events - Follow us @rtaschoolpta - share with your friends!</li> <li>c. Reintroduction to in-person meetings</li> <li>d. Ongoing participation in scheduled school events - such as the open house, scavenger hunt and meet the teacher</li> <li>e. Paul Davis               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Booked and coming to present to the RTA community on January 13th, 2026 on the importance of online safety and social networking. <a href="http://www.socialnetworkingsafety.net">www.socialnetworkingsafety.net</a></li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li>2. We encourage families to connect with us: <a href="mailto:rtaparentsociety@gmail.com">rtaparentsociety@gmail.com</a> or instagram @rtaschoolpta</li> </ol> <p>Next meeting will be the AGM. The meeting will be in person only and if the schools are closed due to strike action the meeting will be moved online. Decision will be made prior to strike action and will be communicated prior to that date.</p> <p>There are two vacant roles - Fundraising coordinator and Communications coordinator - that the current council would love to see filled.</p> <p>Also open to parents supporting the council in whatever capacity they are able to.</p>	<p>Ashlin</p>
<p>Next Meeting Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- October 8, 2025 <b>*Annual General Meeting</b></li> <li>- November 19, 2025</li> <li>- January 21, 2026</li> <li>- March 11, 2026</li> <li>- April 8, 2026</li> <li>- May 13, 2026</li> <li>- June 10, 2026</li> </ul>	<p>Ashlin</p>

Meeting Adjournment: 7:56pm	
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