



RT Alderman School Council
In-Person Meeting - RTA School
June 19th, 2025
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Ashlin Russel, Lisa McBain, Lindsay Otterson, Stephanie Ross, Kirk Newman, Jennifer Laight, Brenda Lewis, Amanda Steckler, Anirban Gosh, April Sanders, Tracy Roberts,

Minutes	Presenter
Call to Order/Quorum (1 minute) Meeting called to order at 6:36	Ashlin
Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes) - Introduction of attendees and Land Acknowledgement - Recognition of Indigenous History week -	Ashlin
Review/Approval of the Agenda (1 minute) Motion: Jennifer Laight Second: Lindsay Otterson	Ashlin
Review and Approval of last meeting minutes (1 minute) Motion: Jennifer Laight Second: Lindsay Otterson	Ashlin
Principal Report (15 minutes) 1. Welcome Kirk! 2. Updates: a. Bell schedule changes b. Next school year calendar Brenda reviewed the significant amount of activities that are handled by the school staff over the month of June and all the joys from the month as well. Ms Lewis reviewed the Principal's report. Staffing updates are coming in the upcoming WAG. Timetabling - Working to ensure that there is a focus on building community within the school. One of the changes for next year will	Brenda

be a PE team dedicated to PE and not having to also teach other classes.

RT Office will open for the new school year on Wednesday August 27th. This is also when teachers will be back in the building.

Bus routes will be available in August. If your family requires busing ensure that you have registered by June 22nd to ensure your student is considered when the routes are made.

School supplies - Most Grade 5&6 school supplies are provided by the school. For Grade 7-9, a school supply list will be provided online. Your student does not need to come to school on the first day with all their supplies.

Classroom placements will be shared around August 28th. Enrollment numbers are quite fluid until after the summer and as a result classes are not finalized until after the summer break.

Focus the first two weeks of school will be on building the classroom and school community.

New Bell times will be shared in this Friday's week at a glance. With the new school bell times transition breaks have been shortened from 2 min to 1 min and 2 mins have been shaved off lunch hour. There will be a nutrition break added in to Friday from 11:59-12:05 given the later dismissal time of 1pm. Grades 5 & 6 do go out with their classroom for recess.

As a science school, Grade 7 -9 students participate in Career and Technology Foundations (CTF). This is in place of traditional options at standard stream schools. Ms. Lewis reviewed the Clusters that will be offered for each of the grades. The details can be found on the RT website under Teaching & Learning. If a student has chosen to participate in band, they will only participate in half of the clusters offered in a given year.

Discussion from the floor about communications for next year and potential to increase communication from teachers directly to parents. Suggestion to provide review of how to access D2L for families in the fall.

Group Chats - Ms Lewis raised that parents need to be aware of the potential issues with group chats. Many start out as fun ways to connect but the bigger they get the harder they are to manage. Lindsay asked if Digital Citizenship conversations or guidelines are added to communication to families in the fall during meet the teacher. Ashlin raised that with guest speaker Paul Davis coming in January there will be communication to be shared with the school community in the fall that could be used to further introduce this topic to the school community. Ms. Lewis will be sharing some tips for families in the upcoming Week at a Glance.	
Chair Report (5 Minutes) 1. Recap of the year and what's to come! a. New members This year's school council is entirely new members that were elected at last October's AGM. b. Casino - thank you to our over 35 volunteers! Super successful casino. c. New Instagram page sharing school events April and Anirban have been running this for us. All parents are encouraged to follow up @rtaschoolpta d. Reintroduction to in-person meetings This year saw the reintroduction of in person school meetings. e. Ongoing participation in scheduled school events f. Paul Davis i. Booked and coming to present to the RTA community on January 13th, 2026 on the importance of online safety and social networking. www.socialnetworkingsafety.net 2. We are still encouraging families to connect with us: rtaparentsociety@gmail.com or instagram @rtaschoolpta Email address is checked regularly. Please feel free to reach out at any time. Discussion of finding further topics for presentations and speakers at the school and sending out another parent survey to gain further insights on what topics might be of value to the school community.	

Next Meeting Dates: - September 10, 2025 - October 8, 2025 *Annual General Meeting - November 19, 2025 - January 21, 2026 - March 11, 2026 - April 8, 2026 - May 13, 2026 - June 10, 2026	Ashlin
Meeting Adjournment: 7:34pm	