

Ramsay School Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Thursday September 18, 2025 – 6:30 PM

Location: Ramsay School

Attendance:

Executive	Educators	Members
Hillary Echtner (Chair)	Principal Shane Turner	Veronica Hansen (Parent Association)
Sarah Dmytryshyn (Past Chair)	Assistant Principal Traci Peterson	
Sam Hester (Secretary)		
Anna Vouladakis		
Brelyn Shannon		

1. CALL TO ORDER (Chair, Hilary Echtner):

- Land acknowledgement provided by Hilary Echtner, 6:31 PM
- Members present: as noted above
- Approval of agenda
 - o Motion to approve: Anna Vouladakis
 - o Seconded: Sam Hester
- Approval of minutes
 - o Motion to approve: Sarah Dmytryshyn
 - o Seconded: Anna Vouladakis

2. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Principal Shane Turner and Assistant Principal Traci Peterson)

a) Ramsay School enrollment: currently 278 students

Ramsay School had planned for at least 300 students, based on last year's enrollment of 344 at the start of the year.

Lower enrollment this year as a result of multiple factors, including:

- 10,000 immigrants to Canada last year; only 3,000 this year
- Rent increased in the downtown
- Students moving to alternative programs
- Younger students staying at daycares instead of starting kindergarten

Implications for the school:

- Following CBE guidelines, a reduction in classroom staff is necessary.
- Ms. Boone will move to another school.
- Ms. Boone's Grade 1 class will be filled by Ms. Mandin, who will also teach music
- Ms. Macleod will teach PE for Div 1, and FSL
- As a result, no literacy or math support outside the classroom

b) School update

- We now have four buses; the schedule is working well
- Some classrooms have changed location within the school, since last year
- Recess and lunch times, and entrance/exit plans, have been shifted to accommodate the new school times
- Upcoming residencies: Alien Inline Skating, Oct. 27-Nov. 5; Bollywood Dance April 6-9.
- Upcoming events: Terry Fox Run; Open House; National Day of Truth & Reconciliation; Hallowe'en Activities & Parade; Remembrance Day Assembly; School conferences
- Volunteer registration has changed: Volunteers must register through CBE

c) General updates

- School forms are needed for students missing two weeks of school or more
- Discussion of implications of recent Alberta Ministerial Order (Standards for the Selection, Availability and Access of School Literary Materials) and Education Amendment Act, 2024:
 - Parental notification and consent of preferred names or pronouns
 - Parental notification and opt-in for subject matter dealing with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality
- Attendance, Fun lunches, School focus/School Development Plan

d) Funding requests

- Field trips, classroom supplies, art, library, music, residencies, other (clubs, fish tank)

3. SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS (Hilary Echtner)

a) Events:

Fun lunches & snacks; fall activity; skating social; spring dance; end of year activities

b) School Council projects:

-Tree planting project

Sarah Dmytryshyn: We have a quote for eleven trees (\$12,000/tree); funding discussion is needed. The tree planting strategy should consider plans for the new playground.

-Playground committee

Motion to stand up a playground committee with Teresa as the lead
(Hilary Echtner; seconded by Veronica Hansen)

- Messaging for families to let them know about the plans for a new playground
- Matching grants are available; Principal Turner can advise

-Gaga ball pit

Motion for Sarah to investigate the cost of an outdoor gaga ball pit; Sarah Dmytryshyn, seconded by Anna Vouladakis

4. PARENT ASSOCIATION UPDATE (Veronica Hansen)

- Parent Association will have a full board, who will take up their positions at the P.A. AGM, scheduled for September 24th (online).
- Parent Association raised \$80,000 (casino) and \$69,000 (Stampede Parking)

5. NEW BUSINESS

- “Dare to Care” anti-bullying workshop: a workshop for students and parents? (funding available for programs directed at parents)
- School safety patrol? The AMA program is being phased out, because there are no officers to lead it. Ramsay School crossing doesn’t meet eligibility for patrollers.
- Discussion: How are after-school programs chosen to operate at CBE schools?

6. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Brelyn Shannon, seconded by Anna Vouladakis
(8:00 PM)