

Ramsay School Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Thursday January 22, 2026 – 6:30 PM

Location: Remote

Attendance:

Executive	Educators
Hillary Echtner (Chair)	Principal Shane Turner
Sarah Dmytryshyn (Past Chair)	Assistant Principal Traci Peterson
Sam Hester (Secretary)	Ms. Paradis
Brelyn Shannon	Ms. Mandin
	Ms. Kavanaugh

As well as the above participants, the remote meeting had the following attendees:
Holly Isaman, Matt Meldrum, Mediya Husen, Kamal

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: Sam Hester
 - o Seconded: Sarah Dmtryshyn
- Approval of minutes
 - o Motion to approve: Hilary Echtner
 - o Seconded: Sarah Dmytryshyn

2. Greetings & introductions from Principal and Assistant Principal

3. GRADE ONE TEACHING TEAM UPDATE

Ms. Kavanaugh - Land-based learning: Community walks (natural and manmade landmarks; identifying shapes; sketching the class tree); scavenger hunts; upcoming field trip to Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area

Ms. Mandin - Social Studies: Learning about communities; Tradition Boxes create a sense of respect and getting to know each other across our differences.

Ms. Paradis - Literacy: UFLI Program is a helpful framework for learning phonics. Practice is important, and can be done at home. CBE guidelines suggest 5-10 minutes of reading/day, but no assigned homework. UFLI has been used in the curriculum for just a couple of years.

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

a) School Updates

Assessments/Reporting: Some assessments have been pushed back to later dates (across all CBE grades and schools) due to the job action in October.

Report Cards:

Available through MyCBE on February 24

Similar to last year's format

Changes to Kindergarten report cards

IPPs: Reviewed in February and in June

Student Learning Conferences: March 19 & 20

-Ms. Davis has returned from Mat leave

-Lunch Supervisor Ms. Nafisa has left on a Mat leave

-Grade 1/2 Assembly, likely date February 25th

-CBE Family Literacy Week (January 27-February 2): Suggested Olympic-themed activities!

-Out-of-school care: Issues are being looked into; the program remains in place and plans to continue; future issues should be brought up to the out-of-school care organization; Principal Turner & AP Peterson also welcome input from families.

b) Events

Book Fair – March 16-20

Volunteers with police clearance are needed

Bollywood Residency – April 6-10

Activity Day – June 23

Grade 6 Farewell – June 24

Fun lunches & snacks

5. SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS (Hilary Echtner)

2026 Events

Skating Social: Will proceed if weather permits! Skate Shack has been secured, so skating equipment will be available. A video made by Ramsay School parent Imad Yassine from last year's successful Skating Social was shared.

Spring Dance: planned for April

Parent-led initiatives

Playground committee update:

Teresa Chan is leading the playground committee and will update in the weeks ahead. Currently looking into grants and getting quotes from vendors. Teresa and Principal Turner met with CBE staff member who looks after playgrounds, and learned that the current playground should be in good enough shape to stay in place until it is time to install the new playground.

Council of School Councils update: Well-attended, many first time attendees. Good explanations of the roles of trustees. Presentation by Education Matters. Opportunity to meet and join a group chat with other School Council members from other wards.

6. PARENT ASSOCIATION UPDATE

-Casino: We are looking into next fall for our next casino fundraiser. Most of the documentation is already submitted to Alberta Gaming.

-Our budget was approved.

-Funding to provide all new students with Ramsay School T-shirts on an ongoing basis was approved unanimously.

-Our next meeting is coming up in February.

Question about upcoming Parent Association meeting: who can attend?

Open meetings planned for March 25th and June 10th.

Question about budget: what is available for the School Council to spend?

Parent Association budget shared with the group. There are still funds available for additional items as needed. Parent Association will follow up with the budget available to School Council.

Sarah Dmytryshyn will follow up with tree committee to suggest a 2 or 3 year plan.

Discussion: Grade 6 graduation activities:

The Beach has been booked for the morning of June 24th; Clarify budget for celebration items. Recommendation to put together a parent group to organize Grade 6 end of year celebration.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion around the following questions:

Potential to invite our trustee to a future meeting.

We have a \$500 grant that has to be spent by the end of May on a parent-led activity.

Potential to partner with another school to have a joint event.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Sam Hester (7:50)