ROYAL OAK SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our mission is to foster the well-being and effectiveness of our school community and to enhance school learning.

Royal Oak School
"Leading and Learning"

Royal Oak School Council

Meeting
Nov. 4, 2026 @ 6:30pm
MINUTES

Attendees:

Michelle Ryskamp, Principal	Erin MG, Co-Chair	Tavia F.
Todd Faunt, Asst. Principal	Jasmeet S.	Tiffany M., Key Comm. & Sec.
Jenny Regal, Ward 1 Trustee	Kam S., Fun Lunch Coord.	Young R., Treasurer
Andrea G.	Leila S., Fun Lunch Coord.	
Bethany S., Volunteer Coord.	Lily K., Co-Chair	
Carolyn B, Special Events	Rachel D., Spirit Wear	

A. Welcome & Call to Order at 6:31pm.

B. Principal's Presentation

a. Acknowledgement of the Land
b. Gratitude: Thank you to Council & Fundraising for funding Elder Priscilla Paul's visit, Carolyn & volunteers for Halloween Dance, Safety Team for pylons, Fun Lunch volunteers, and Global Monster Project volunteers.
c. Grade 1 Team Presentation
    i. Inquiry-focus: students explore and ask questions; read, explain, and solve; build subject knowledge; creates purpose
    ii. Global Monsters project: students collaborate, share, ask questions, make shared decisions and problem solve
        - Part of a global project
        - Collaboration across 5 classes
        - Cross-curricular learning: science (measurements, models, building), literacy (reading books, writing descriptions, and planning), and math (measurements, 2D and 3D shapes, voting, tally marks), etc.
d. Student Updates
    i. Current Enrollment: 582 (+8 since Sept 30)
e. Upcoming Events (also see 'Week Ahead' Emails)
    i. Remembrance Day Assembly Nov 10
    ii. School Assembly 'How do Stories Connect Us?' – Nov 20
    iii. School Conferences & Scholastic Book Fair: Nov 26 & 27

iv. Jeff Stockton Storytelling Residency Nov – Dec; family wrap-up event Dec 10

Guest Speaker Q&A - Jenny Regal, Ward 1 & 2, Board of Trustees

a. Provincial advocacy
   i. Surplus: Jenny's team met with the education minister in Sept. to advocate for more schools
b. Class sizes
   i. Classroom caps fall under two-tier/central bargaining between the ATA and the government, with little Trustee involvement
   ii. Teachers' strike in Oct 2025 (51,000 teachers) – classroom complexity; class size and salary were the last two items bargained
c. Safety concerns over permanent daylight savings time/more darkness in mornings/lower pedestrian visibility in crosswalks
   i. Permanent Standard Time" – Board is not advocating
d. Board priorities and challenges
   i. Priorities: (1) sustained funding; (2) Class Complexity Teams (CCTs)
   ii. New school construction behind by 10–15 years
   iii. Increased enrollment post-COVID now stabilizing
   iv. Over-legislation: transgender girls/sports, flags, book pulling, etc.
   v. After the school year starts, no new provincial funding is given for additional student enrollments.
e. Busing and Reduced Lunch/Recess Times
   i. ROS shortened break times due to busing schedule which gives students less time for eating lunch and playing outside
   ii. Busing is underfunded
   iii. Need to advocate for a metro busing formula
   iv. Changing/reducing mandated instructional hours falls under Provincial legislation; talk to MLA
   v. Issues: busing for new communities and no schools being built. The Oct 6 Board meeting covered why it takes so long and the need for the government to invest in infrastructure; available online.

C. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

a. Previous minutes: https://royaloak.cbe.ab.ca/school-council motion to approve by Erin, seconded by Rachel. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.
b. November Agenda: motion to approve by Erin, seconded by Rachel. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

D. Chair Report - Erin & Lily

a. No meeting in December
b. January meeting will include Grade 2 Presentation

E. Treasurer's Report – Young

a. Current balance of $9,271.10, a decrease of $923.53 from the last statement.
b. We paid out $109.74 for volunteer appreciation gift cards, $249.84 for Meet the Teacher staff appreciation treats, $108.31 for fun lunch supplies, and $56.35 for safety team pylon locks.
c. We earned $0.06 in interest, $239.24 from Subway fun lunch, and $245.03 from Saucy Bread fun snack.
d. For spirit wear since the last report, we're sitting at a profit of $282.67. For the Halloween dance since the last report, we had expenses exceeding revenue by $1,166.29 but still have not seen the ticket sales come in from Healthy Hunger.
e. Halloween dance ticket and pizza sales are still outstanding. Kam will share updated HH sales information: approx. $3,600 in sales.

F. Committee Updates

a. Spirit Wear - Rachel
    i. 78 orders, 113 items (same as last year)
    ii. Profit of approx. $250 (Spirit Wear is not a fundraiser)
    iii. Orders packaged in bins for teachers
    iv. Website to reflect current inventory
b. Key Communicator - Tiffany
    i. COSC Meeting Oct 22
        i. ASCA membership – Tiffany will follow-up
        ii. ASCE $500 grant available – will be sent out in next week to all schools for use
    ii. School Council Handbook
        i. Need to verify commercial links in school communications
    iii. Newsletter - Nov sensory room/casino feature; Dec new learning enhancements & volunteer thank yous
c. Fun Lunch - Kam
    i. Nov 6: Kernels Fun Snack
    ii. Nov 17: Subway Fun Lunch
    iii. Dec 8: Panago Fun Lunch
    iv. Jan onward: changing snacks; looking for more ideas for lunch
    v. January schedule will be out at the end of November
d. Events
    i. Halloween Dance - Carolyn
        i. Approx. 600 people attended; need to confirm gym size/capacity (contact the City)
    ii. Jacket Racket - Lily
        i. 12 large bags
    iii. Teacher Conferences (Nov 26)
        i. Jenn cooking

iv. Fresh Fruit Friday (Dec 4) – Carolyn & Lily
v. December Teacher Appreciation - Individual or Team interested in planning?
    i. Let Lily know if interested in leading

G. Funding Requests

a. Fresh Fruit Friday - $450 – approved. Motion by Young, seconded by Rachel.

H. Volunteer Updates

a. Volunteer Summary
    i. 49 volunteers through serving on school council and at 7 events
b. Upcoming volunteer opportunities
    i. Fun Lunches & Snacks
    ii. Scholastic Book Fair: Nov 26-27; Nov 19 parents can sign-up for volunteer positions
c. Volunteer of the Month: Nazia A

I. Open Positions

a. Special event committee volunteer opportunities
    i. Board game night TBD (Jan last year)
    ii. Open to other interests/ideas
b. Secretary Position

J. New Business & Additional Parent/Caregiver Concerns

a. Safety – pedestrian almost hit last week. Request for more Hug & Go volunteers; volunteer capacity in mornings may be an issue.

K. Next Meeting - January 6, 2027 at 6:30pm. No meeting in December due to the casino fundraiser.

L. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm.