

# 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 Council Meeting December 3rd @ 6:30pm MINUTES**

### **Attendees:**

Michelle Ryskamp, Principal	Nadine Duque, Assistant Principal	
Grade 1 Team: Laura Harrison, Gabby Murray, Chris Mercer and Heather Sigurdson (Learning Leader)		
Erin G, Co-Chair	Glenda H, Co-Chair	Laura O, Treasurer
Carole W, Secretary	Rachel D, Spirit Wear	Tiffany M, Key Communicator
Lissa S	Marion O	Carolyn B
Colleen K	Miranda G	

### **Virtual:**

Carmen C

### **1. Welcome & Call to Order at 6:33pm.**

### **2. Principal's Presentation**

- a. Acknowledgement of the Land
- b. Grade 1 team presentation:
  - i. Grade 1 Literacy "Comprehension is the Goal". Writing to express ideas (creative construction, pictures, traditional paper and pencil), sharing ideas and building vocabulary.
  - ii. Grade 1 Math: patterns and a sense of what numbers mean, measurement, geometry (spatial reasoning) and statistics & probability (simple data and chance). Inquiry to pull the curriculum together, this month is "How do we live and learn together?" by looking at human constructed landmarks and natural features. This project encourages creative thinking for the question "What does Calgary need?"
- c. Gratitude: Thank you to the School Council and families for providing the meal for teachers on Conference night, to Glenda and the Fun Lunch volunteers, to Bethany for volunteer coordination and to the Fresh Fruit Friday volunteers.
- d. Staffing Updates:
  - i. New facility operator
  - ii. Additional EA time

- iii. Grounds Project: fences came down and gravel was poured today, we are awaiting a railing for the stairs and backfilling soil (when the weather improves). The project is nearing completion!
- e. Student Updates
  - i. Student Advisory Group: facilitated by Ms Ryskamp and Ms Duque with 2 students/class, first meeting in November focused on Spirit Day brainstorming and how students feel a sense of belonging at ROS with ideas on how we can improve on this.
- f. Upcoming Dates:
  - i. Dec. 4, 2025: School Spirit Day – Festive Clothing Day
  - ii. Dec. 4, 2025: School Council's Family Dance 5:30-8:00pm
  - iii. Dec. 8, 2025: Photo Re-take Day
  - iv. Dec. 11, 2025: School Spirit Day – Holiday Head to Toe
  - v. Dec. 12, 2025: Wonder Hour #1, 11:15am-12:15pm
  - vi. Dec. 19, 2025: Pajama Day
  - vii. Dec. 20 –Jan. 4, 2026: Winter Break
  - viii. Jan. 5, 2026: Classes Resume
  - ix. Jan. 7, 2026: School Council Meeting at 6:30pm
  - x. Jan. 12 –23, 2026: Gymnastics Unit in PE

### **3. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes**

- a. Previous minutes: <https://royaloak.cbe.ab.ca/school-council> motion to approve by Miranda, seconded by Rachel. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.
- b. December Agenda: motion to approve by Laura, seconded by Glenda. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

### **4. Chair Report - Glenda & Erin**

- a. Thanks to Tiffany for the Community Newsletter report
- b. Winter Dance - we will be collecting non-perishable food items at the dance

### **5. Treasurer's Report - Laura**

- a. Current balance of \$8,420.42, a decrease of \$536.97 from the last statement.
- b. We paid out \$676.61 for the Winter Dance facility rental and \$126.79 for student conference teacher appreciation pizza.
- c. We had a net profit of \$266.43 from the Panago fun lunch.

### **6. Committee Updates**

- a. Fun Lunch - Glenda
  - i. Subway Lunch (Dec 16)

- ii. Cobs Bread
- iii. Pretzels
- iv. Panago
- v. Subway
- b. Hug & Go - Candis - no updates
- c. Events
  - i. Winter Dance - Dec 4th: 515 tickets sold so far (out of possible 800) which is incredible due to the last-minute planning needed to get this dance going. Signs will be placed at the ROS front doors to remind everyone that the dance is at WD Pratt School.
  - ii. Board Game Night - January 29th - Lissa suggests one night, 2 shifts (5:00-6:30 and 7:00-8:30 to allow time for turnover) to allow for all students and families to attend, due to limited gym capacity. The Concession Stand will be open. "Bring Your Own Board Game" or puzzle. Tables and chairs will be set up in the gym. Board game prizes are available by raffle. Option to have a game trade. Suggestion to ask the "Buy Nothing" community group for donations. Ticket price will be kept low to make this event as accessible as possible, but to cover the cost of the gym rental, such as \$2/family.

## 7. Funding Requests

- a. None at this time.

## 8. Volunteer Updates

- a. Volunteer Summary & Thank You's - **Thank you to the 30 volunteers that helped out with our 4 events in November** - Fun Lunch, Photo Day, Staff Appreciation Potluck, and Book Fair. **At these events there were 10 people who volunteered for the first time this year!**
- b. So far this year we've had 51 volunteers at 8 events!
- c. Upcoming volunteer opportunities
  - i. Fun Lunches - sign up live for December; coming soon for new year.
  - ii. Winter Dance Dec 4 - sign up live - still needing help with Concession. 20 out of 26 spots filled (as of Sunday evening).
  - iii. Retakes Dec 8 - signup full
  - iv. Hug & Go blitz in January? TBD
  - v. Games Night - SignUp to follow
- d. Volunteer of the Month
  - i. Our most recent draw included all events from Oct 1 up to the Staff Appreciation Potluck and the winner is Katie C.! Katie has a grade one student at the school and she appreciates all the work that the teachers and staff do at our school. She brought two items to the potluck and has volunteered at other events as well. Thank you, Katie!

## **9. Open Positions**

- a. Special events committee volunteer opportunities
  - i. Staff appreciation
  - ii. Dances
  - iii. Board game night
  - iv. Literacy Month

## **10. New Business**

- a. Additional Parent Concerns/New Business
  - i. Miranda asked: What day in December is best to bring in “Teacher Appreciation” items? Michelle said any day of the last week of school, but perhaps Wednesday works best. Michelle estimates 44 staff (teachers + support staff).
    - 1. Miranda asked for \$500 from the Staff Appreciation budget. Erin motioned to approve \$500, Glenda seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.
  - ii. Planning ahead for Literacy Month and what to do with funds raised, Lissa brought up the Little Red Reading House (LRRH) van that comes to schools and reads to kids. Idea to have the van come to the school to read to classes and allow kids to explore the van - plus giving each child a book. LHHR generally caps each school at 2 days of visits with 6 classes per visit, but LHHR suggested giving a few books to each classroom and holding shorter reading sessions as a compromise to accommodate our large numbers.
  - iii. Issue raised about KidStart (a before and after school program) bus - driver is currently putting cones out in the morning to save space - is there any way to accommodate these buses? Answer: in short, no, our current bus space is simply not long enough to fit more than our CBE buses. Suggestion made to have these buses park a little bit further away and walk a block or two with students.

## **11. Next Meeting - January 7th, 2026 at 6:30pm**

## **12. Meeting Adjourned at 7:59.**