

MEETING MINUTES

RHHS SCHOOL COUNCIL

DATE:

Sept 16, 2024

TIME:

7:00 pm

FACILITATOR:

Debbie Linkewich

- Land acknowledgement
- Student Council Report: Josh, Farooq
 - Encourage all students to join
 - \$50 activity fee for every child for supporting clubs and their budget
 - Events are also discounted for students who pay activity fee
 - Homecoming movie night- club fair, food trucks, movie – Thursday September 26th
 - Halloweek (October), grade wars (throughout the year), semi formal (November)
- School council norms
 - organization, time management, active participation, listening, being respectful
- Inclusion Activity: Just Like Me game

MAIN PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING: ELECTION OF NEW BOARD

- Roles and responsibilities of school council
 - Supporting and promoting family engagement with parents and community
 - School improvements
 - Allows parents to have greater involvement with their child's education
 - Improve student achievement
 - School council is composed of parents, staff, community members

council members

Attend meetings, give perspective on issues, achieve goals of council, encourage participation from all and participate themselves

Chair/Co-Chair

Prepare agenda, communicate with principal and board, consulting parents, know board policies

Treasurer

Update council on available funds and balance

Secretary

Take minutes, edit and forward to chairs

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION

Co Chairs : Mei Zhang, Emma Zhang

Treasurer: Ali Raza Jaffer

Secretary: Alifiya Kanchwala

STAFF REPORT – SEAN POMOKOV

- English: Poetry slam club, spy glass magazine, writing lab, board games club, psychology club
- ESL: newcomer parents meet and greet on sept 26, info session
- Music: potluck kickoff sept 19th 5-9.
- French club: every Tuesday
- Greenhouse club: outdoor garden, students learn weeding, harvesting, maintenance
- Mock trial club: every Monday. Very good opportunity for kids interested in law
- Pizza club: meets every two months after school. Make pizza with legendary Pizzaiolo Luigi Leggieri

MEET THE ADMIN TEAM

Principal: Debbie Linkewich

Vice Principal: Melissa McCardle (Student last names A-H)

Vice Principal: Saima Nair (Student last names I-Q)

Vice Principal: Tamara Gord (Student last names R-Z)

Info about school: ~1600 students, ~100 teachers, 17 educational assistants, 7 secretaries, 1 library tech, 1 tech support. 10 caretakers are here from 6 am till 11 pm.

School Board: York Region District School Board,

Director : Bill Cober. Super-intendent: Erik Khilji, 13 trustees, local trustee: Rober Kolowoski,

Chair: Ron Lin

Daily responsibilities of Principal and VP:

- Student supervision, talk to students, meet with staff, communicate with parents, focus on student achievement, engagement and safety, ministry and board directives and issues, collaborate with colleagues and board issues, monitor safety of building, instructional leaders, hire all teachers, work with staff to build school community
- Have training in WHIMS, emergency response, risk assessment, health and safety, suicide intervention
- Experts in assessment, curriculum development, instruction and differentiation

If you have a question:

- Contact teacher for student progress first, and if concerns are unresolved, then contact VPs
- School board questions: principal or VP

ADMIN REPORT: DEBBIE LINKEWICH

- Enrolment – currently at 1645 kids
- Staffing -3 new sections for IEP students; may lead to some reorganization
- Building updates – portapack leveled, deep cleaning, parking lot repainted, new computer lab, new chromebooks, new public seating spaces, murals in foyer.
- Curricular and Extracurricular Updates – new programs, concert, semi, bfast program, sports teams, clubs, yearbook
- Assessment & Evaluation policy – 70% term work, 30% summative
- Exams – over 5 days. Some courses don't have exams. If students don't have an exam for a course, it's a day off for them.
- Graduation Requirements - New graduation requirements as of 2024
- Post-secondary dates - pathways fair, OUAC fair, Ontario college fair, university application deadline: jan 15, Highly competitive college programs like nursing

application deadline: feb 1, early acceptances come out as early as midterm marks come out.

Home and School Communication

How to contact a teacher

Teacher/Parent Contact

Telephone: (905) 884-2131
Office can connect to teacher voicemail

Teacher e-mail
firstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca

- ✓ Weekly e-mail with attendance & weekly bulletin
 - ✓ complete parent/guardian e-mail address on website
 - ✓ update information on School Index Card
- ✓ Phone call home for any unexplained absence (each period)
- ✓ 2 Interim Report Cards (Distributed electronically)
 - ✓ October 15, 2024
 - ✓ March 21, 2025
- ✓ 2 Student Progress Meetings
 - ✓ October 24, 2024
 - ✓ April 3, 2025
- ✓ 2 Mid-term Report Cards (Distributed electronically)
 - ✓ November 18, 2024
 - ✓ April 25, 2025
- ✓ 2 Final Semester Report Cards (Distributed electronically)
 - ✓ February 12, 2025
 - ✓ July 7-8, 2025
- ✓ School Website, Twitter, Instagram and Newsletter

ADMIN REPORT: TAMARA GORD

- Cell phone policy: Students can't use cell phone for class work unless instructed by teachers
- Anti Vaping policy: Students cannot possess or use nicotine products (vapes, e-cigarette, tobacco products) at school
- AP Dates: September 17: AP Meeting for Students ; May 5-16: Exams
AP Coordinator: Ben Fagan (benjamin.fagan@yrdsb.ca)
- School council forum: nov 6th @ RHHS
- Extra curricular - club applications due sept 20, run by students and supported by staff, Field trips are posted on School Cash Online

ADMIN REPORT: MELISSA MCCARDLE

- Grade 9 camp day: Sept 18; no classes for gr 9 students, community building
- Student photos : Sept 19 for student card. Grade 12 grad photos oct 28-nov
- Interim report cards: October 15; students achieve levels 1-4, R
- Student progress meetings : not enough slots for all parents to meet at parent teacher meetings. Teachers are restricted to only 2 hrs per semester of after school time.
Some suggested changes: would like some amount of meet and greet time so parents can come and see the teachers and then have one-on-one slots if needed by some
- Caring and safe schools class presentations – policies on what's allowed and not allowed
- Family Bulletins <https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/rhhs-family-bulletin/home>

ADMIN REPORT: SAIMA NAIR

- Emergency Response drills: Fire drill dates, Lockdown Procedure Drill, Hold and Secure, Bomb Threat Drill:
- Drop off / pick up procedure: keep parking lot empty – need it accessible for buses and vehicles coming to pick up special needs class kids. Suggestion from parent:

Make changes required to make the small loop for buses and the parking lot for parents

- Sub-committees: focus presentations.

NEXT MEETING DATES

Monday September 16, 2024

Monday October 21, 2024

Monday November 18, 2024

Tuesday February 18, 2025

Monday March 17, 2025

Tuesday May 20, 2025