

RSPC Parent Connection

Meeting Minutes

20 NOVEMBER 2024 / 6:00 PM / ROYAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Kara Spittal, Chair.

ATTENDEES

Executive Members In Attendance:

Jani Sorensen, Natasha Griffiths, Tricia Sutherland, Monica Gill, Heather Mudry, Kara Spittal

Other Members In Attendance:

Jessie Thiessen, Sunny Yin, Leanna Williams, Tanis Thiessen, Robyn Liddle

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Approve the October 2024 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Monica Gill. **Seconded by:** Jani Sorensen. **Passed.**

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Royal School Plan

Tanis presented the Royal School Plan. While the plan is no longer mandated by the province, the Pembina Trails School Division requires all schools to address six key questions related to **System Wellness**, **Student Success**, and **Strategic Investment**.

One initiative Tanis highlighted was Royal School's participation in the PTSD Land-Based Learning Pilot Program. This program focuses on incorporating Indigenous perspectives and increasing outdoor learning opportunities for students.

Tanis also reviewed the school's strategic investments aimed at supporting student success, including:

- Installing **voice amplification systems** in classrooms (four are already in place).
- Continuing to employ a full-time **EA Rehab Assistant** to support speech, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy clinicians.
- Providing **phonics readers** and **numeracy tools** to accommodate diverse learners.
- Allocating a **\$400 budget per classroom** for field trips, encouraging students to explore new environments and spend more time outdoors.

ACTION ITEMS

Grade Reps

- Email teacher contacts about classroom fundraising needs and request stories/updates after using field trip funds..

Jani

- Send a December reminder post about the Holiday Market.

Kara

- Coordinate with Melanie, Tanis, and Monica to advance the communication board project.

Jessie

- Send Tricia funds raised from caricatures at the dance.

Tricia

- Transfer fun lunch proceeds (Nov. 27th) to the field trip fund.

Tanis

- Seek Melanie's permission to connect with Kara and Monica regarding the communication board.
- Compile a report on playground repairs and present at the January meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome & Intro

Deferred to prioritize other items.

Financial Update

Tricia shared the financial update. See [treasurer's report folder](#) for November update.

Savings Account: Will be retained for potential GoFundMe setup.

Dance Costs: Total spent was \$140.52.

Fun Lunch Update

Monica shared that the upcoming **A&W Fun Lunch** on November 27th already has over 100 orders. Additionally, a local family who owns two McDonald's locations approached Monica about hosting a **McDonald's Fun Lunch**. While concerns were raised about limited vegan options, the group agreed to proceed, offering a choice of a meal or fries, a snack, and a drink to accommodate gluten-free and vegan requests.

Koats for Kids Update

Tanis shared that all current donations are being used to stock the school's lending library. Children can borrow items for the day or keep them if needed. Once the lending library is fully stocked, any additional donations will be sent to **Koats for Kids**.

Holiday Market Update

They have received many donations so far. Decorations, including tablecloths, lights, and wrapping paper, are available at the school for use. Tricia and Robyn will email if additional volunteers are needed for setup. Jani will include a reminder about the Holiday Market in the December newsletter.

Playground Priorities

The group unanimously agreed that improving playground accessibility and completing necessary repairs will be the primary fundraising focus for the RSPC.

Kara proposed a motion to prioritize installing a **communication board** on the playground to enable all children to communicate with their peers. The motion passed unanimously. Kara and Monica will collaborate with Tanis, Melanie (the school's speech therapist), and the school division to determine the next steps.

Instead of forming a separate playground committee, it was decided to allocate 5–10 minutes at each meeting to discuss playground repairs and accessibility improvements.

Grade Rep Check-in

Moving forward, grade reps will ask teachers if there are any specific needs in their classrooms that could benefit from fundraising.

- **Robyn** will serve as the grade rep for both the Grade ½ split class and the Grade ¾ split class.
- **Jani** will represent Teacher Grace's Grade 1 class.
- **Jessi** will represent the Grade ¾ split class as well as the Grade 3 class.
- **Leanna** will represent Mr. Bridge (Gym) and Mrs. Bowers (Music).

Vote on Bingo or Movie Night For Our Next Fundraiser

After discussion, it was decided to proceed with a **Bingo Night** as the next fundraiser, scheduled for **February 12th**. A subcommittee, chaired by Natasha, will include Leanna, Robyn, Heather, Jessie, and Jani. The committee will meet at a later date to plan the event.

Field Trip Funds

Motion: allocate **\$100** to each of the 10 classrooms for a field trip or guest speaker.

Moved by: Kara **Seconded by:** Natasha. **Passed.**

It was noted that \$100 may not be sufficient, so the group decided to revisit this in March and potentially provide additional funds if fundraising goals are met.

Kara requested an update from Tanis when the funds are used. Grade reps will include this request in their next emails to teachers.

Tricia will transfer the funds to the **field trip fund** after the **November 27th Fun Lunch**.

Motion to establish a Constitution Subcommittee to update By-Laws, Introduce Risk Management and Succession Planning

Motion: Establish a sub-committee to update by-laws, introduce risk management, and succession planning. **Proposed by:** Jani. **Seconded by:** Natasha. **Passed.**

Members of the committee will be Jani, Heather and Tricia.

December Meeting

It was agreed that there will be no meeting in December.

AGENDA ITEMS ADDED FOR NEXT MEETING

- Spring playground repairs

ADJOURNMENT

Kara adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm. The next Royal School Parent Connection Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on January 15, 2025 in the Royal School library and virtually via. Teams.

Minutes Submitted By

Heather Mudry, Secretary