

RJHS School Council Meeting Meetings

Sep 29, 2021

Attendance: Cheri Gilbert, Jen Wegwitz, Tracey Heggie, Christal Bevans, Carmen Lowry, Alana Sala, Connie Shurtz, Natalie Ball, Ashley Shurtz, Lydia Charlton, Jared Heggie, Tyler Runquist

1. **Student Council**

→ Council rep, Lydia Charlton, attended the meeting and updated the council on the current activities.

- The council held spirit week last week. There was great participation and the students had a lot of fun.
- Wednesday, October 6th is Thanksgiving dress-up day. There will be a costume contest. The winner will receive a free turkey.
- They are working on the Grade 9 Hoodie. It should be ready to take orders by next month.
- Student council is formed:
 - President - Parker Ellingson
 - Vice President - Troy Tolman
 - Activities Coordinator - Saige Edwards
 - Sports Rep. - Brenna Powelson
 - Band Rep. - TJ Gilbert
 - Council Rep. - Lydia Charlton

2. **Principal's Info: Jared Heggie**

→ **Thoughts on a Fundraiser**

- Ice Cream vs. Sausage/Meat
Council members agreed that ice cream would be a more effective fundraiser than jerky and that late fall would be the best time to hold the fundraiser.

→ **Sept. 30: Truth and Reconciliation**

- Assembly was held with Jerry FirstCharger where he acknowledged the issues of the past and discussed what we can do going forward. There was also a performance put on that combined traditional and contemporary first nations dance.
- Social Studies Teachers used <https://nctr.ca/education/trw/>

→ **COVID**

- Alberta Health Services no longer requires contact tracing in the school
- As mandated by the provincial government, masks are required in the common areas of the school. Once students are seated at their desks, they may remove their masks.

- Discussed letter by Jim Ralph from the district office stating that the district does not determine the above protocols, they are mandated by the province.
- Over the first month of school, the student population out absent peaked at 8%
- It appears that most parents are happy with the current protocols and are just grateful the students are in class learning as normal as possible
- Getting subs is becoming difficult with an increase in teacher absences.

3. Council Chair: Carmen

→ Creation of society to support RJHS

- This must be done separately from the council.
- Alana Sala volunteered to Chair Society board (interested parties can contact her for information)

→ Parental Engagement

- Alberta School Council Engagement Grant (\$500 will be given to each Alberta school council as a grant to help encourage more effective school council engagement with parents)
- Natalie will get surveys from ASCA out to parents and encourage participation. This is how the parental voice is heard provincially
- The link to council meetings will be posted on the RJHS website.
- We will create a FB page to increase parental engagement but will try to find a way to not allow commenting on comments so that discussions cant get out of hand.
- All meeting minutes will be posted on the newly updated RJHS council website which is linked to the main RJH webpage.

4. Council Members

→ Homework

- Where can parents find their child's homework?
- The administration is encouraging teachers to use Remind app for homework/assignments
- Kids need to go to google classroom if they are away
- Parents expressed concern that Powerschool is not getting updated fast enough (or sometimes assignments are posted before they are assigned and parents are punishing their children for not completing things that haven't been assigned.)

→ Board Adjustments

- Megan James took a position at the school and therefore resigned as co-chair

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- Jen Wegwitz was voted in as Co-chair/treasurer
- It was determined that a bank account would be opened at ATB and that Carmen Lowry (Chair) and Jen Wegwitz (Co-Chair/treasurer) would have signing authority.

→ **Meetings**

- Monthly meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8:30 PM