

Rickson Ridge School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 14, 6-7pm, Online

In Attendance: Jenny Fender (Co-Chair), Christine Plateo (Co-Chair), Allison Stoffman (Principal), Jill Martin (Vice Principal), Jill Carlyle, Deb Bush (PIC Rep), Hannah Harris (Treasurer), Anne Bonnar, Melissa Mendell (Taking Minutes), and Stephanie Andovski

Regrets: Vineeta Raman, Krystal Nicholson, Alicia MacNeil, Golbon Gharagozlou

1. Welcome and Introductions

- o Approval of February 2025 Minutes
1st: Jenny Fender 2nd: Jill Carlyle
 - o Approval of April Agenda
1st: Jill Carlyle 2nd: Jenny Fender
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2. School Council Update

Financial Update (Hannah)

Unallocated Funds (to April Meeting)	\$11,305.92	
Projected Future Fundraising		
Parent Engagement Grant	\$500.00	
Food Program M5, T5 (Net)	\$3,000.00	
Family Fun Night (Gross)	\$5,000.00	
Projected Funds to end of School Year	\$19,805.92	
Proposed Expenditures		
Playground Replacement Funds	\$6,000.00	Following playground assessment/any necessary repairs
Carryover for 2025-26	\$3,000.00	June Request
In School Mental Health Resources	\$1,000.00	April Request
Emerging School Needs and Technology	\$9,805.92	June Request
Total	\$19,805.92	

PIC Update (Deb)

There was no PIC Meeting in March. The next PIC Meeting is scheduled for April 28th, 7pm.

Food Program (Jenny and Jill)

The 4th round of Monday and Thursday Food programs included Harvey's, Booster Juice and Wok Box. Fundraising profits from this period were \$4032.68 bringing total food program fundraising over \$17,000 for the year. This Wok Box order included new food options which a number of families opted to try, notably Butter Chicken on Rice, Beef and Broccoli on Rice and Veggie and Egg Fried Rice.

The final round of food programs for the year is currently posted on School Cash Online. Harvey's and Booster Juice are continuing on Mondays and Thursdays, respectively. Pita Pit, which offers a Halal Chicken Shawarma Pita, has been added as an option for Thursdays. Pita Pit includes vegetarian and vegan, halal and non-halal meat, as well as gluten free options.

M4 Harvey's - March 17th - April 28th (6 weeks)							
	Quantity Ordered	Cost to School (per lunch)	Total Cost to School	Cost to Families	Total Cost to Families	Total Mark Up	Fundraisi ng Profit
Jr Hamburger	48	\$2.75	\$16.50	\$4.50	\$27.00	\$10.50	\$504.00
Jr Cheeseburger	158	\$3.15	\$18.90	\$4.75	\$28.50	\$9.60	\$1,516.80
Veggie Burger	3	\$5.50	\$33.00	\$6.00	\$36.00	\$3.00	\$9.00
Grilled Chicken on Bun	11	\$7.00	\$42.00	\$7.50	\$45.00	\$3.00	\$33.00
Chicken & Salad	1	\$7.50	\$45.00	\$7.50	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salad	3	\$3.00	\$18.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	\$6.00	\$18.00
Total Items	224						
Total Orders	181						\$2,080.80
Bank Deposit	\$6,519.00						
Invoice Totals	\$4,438.20						
Fundraising Profit	\$2,080.80						

T4 Booster Juice - March 20 - May 1 (7 Weeks)							
	Quantity Ordered	Cost to School (per lunch)	Total Cost to School (7 wks)	Cost to Families (per lunch)	Total Cost to Families	Total Markup	Fundraising Profit
Berry Blossom 8oz	48	\$3.50	\$24.50	\$4.25	\$29.75	\$5.25	\$252.00
Starberry 8 oz	39	\$3.50	\$24.50	\$4.25	\$29.75	\$5.25	\$204.75
Tropical Tornado 8oz	97	\$3.50	\$24.50	\$4.25	\$29.75	\$5.25	\$509.25
Total Orders	184						\$966.00
Bank Deposit	\$5,890.50						
Invoice Totals	\$4,851.00						
Fundraising Profit	\$966.00						
T4 Wok Box - March 20 - May 1 (7 weeks)							
	Quantity Ordered	Cost to School (per lunch)	Total Cost to School (7 weeks)	Cost to Families (per lunch)	Total Cost to Families	Total Markup	Fundraising Profit
Crispy Chicken and veg with Plum Sauce	9	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$95.76
Crispy Chicken and veg with Sweet and Sour Sauce	17	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$180.88
Crispy Chicken and veg with Teriyaki Sauce	13	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$138.32

Crispy Chicken and veg with lemon sauce	3	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$31.92
Dragon Chicken and Broccoli on Noodles	19	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$202.16
Dragon Chicken and Broccoli on Rice	4	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$42.56
Jungle Noodles with veg and Tofu	1	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$10.64
Jungle Noodles with veg	3	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$31.92
Strifried Veg and Tofu on RICE with Jungle Sauce	0	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$0.00
Stirfried Veg on RICE with jungle sauce	0	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$0.00
Vegetable and Egg FRIED RICE	1	\$6.22	\$43.54	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$8.96	\$8.96
Butter Chicken and RICE	21	\$6.50	\$45.50	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$7.00	\$147.00
Beef and Broccoli on RICE	6	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$63.84
Stir Fried Chicken and Broccoli on RICE with GLUTEN FREE Sweet Tamari Sauce	3	\$5.98	\$41.86	\$7.50	\$52.50	\$10.64	\$31.92
Total Items	100		\$0.00			\$0.00	\$985.88

Bank Deposit	\$5,250.00						
Invoice Totals	\$4,305.98						
Fundraising Profit	\$985.88						

Staff Appreciation Lunch

The Staff Appreciation Lunch was very well received by staff. Families shared their gratitude with an array of delicious food and messages. Take home containers were provided for staff to ensure leftovers went to good use. Many teachers reached out to express how deeply touched they were to receive the Howls of Appreciation scrolls in which families shared kind words about staff members. Sincere thanks to all those that contributed and helped with organization.

ProGrant

The proposed resources for purchase focussed on mental health and well-being will be discussed at the April meeting. A list has been developed in consultation with Ellen Kennedy, the CYC at Rickson, and included resources in various forms such as novels, picture books, games and card sets.

Staff Survey

A short staff survey has been sent to admin to share with Rickson Staff. The survey requests feedback on Council initiatives from this school year and asks about interest in participation in Family Fun Night, ways in which Council can support them and other ideas for Council. Feedback received thus far has been positive and staff appreciates how Council contributes to the school community.

Family Fun Night

Planning for Family Fun Night (FFN) is ongoing. Event promotion will begin in early May and food and basket raffle pre-orders will be online May 2-19. A recent Rickson Graduate, Kush, who helped with FFN in the past two years has joined the working group and will be helping with preparation. Event set up will depend on the state of construction at the time of the event. The Event will include:

- Food (Pre-order and On site purchase - Pizza, Harvey's BBQ and Work Box)
- Basket Raffle
- Creation Station (DIY Body Art, Wolf Mask Decorating and Button Making)
- Rickson Stage
- Games Galore (Free Play)
- Uno Mania
- Organized Field Games
- Photo Booth

- Chill Zone & Sensory Space
- Parent/Family Resource Space
- Used Book and Game Sale (Organized by Mrs. Patrick)
- Rickson Ridge Neighbourhood Group booth
- (Potentially) Lending Library booth

As in past years, the intent is to make the event as inclusive as possible. As such, only food and the basket raffle will have a cost. Lower cost food options will be available and families are welcome to bring their own food. Also, anyone can request a basket raffle ticket for free.

3. School Update (Allison Stoffman)

- Badminton tournament finished recently.
- Junior floor hockey tournament will be happening at Rickson next week.
- Skills tournament (robotics and hands on STEM).
- Primary dance club.
- Planning for next year is underway and will be completed by the end of the year. The number of classes and class sizes are determined by the Board. Currently, Rickson has been downsized by one classroom, but reorganization may occur due to changing enrollment up until the second week of September.
- Playground inspection will occur on April 15 and any repairs identified will be made.
- Wolfpack trait of the month is courage.
- Rickson will be moving away from the Wolfpack traits and instead focus on Wellness Works (in line with Board initiatives). Wellness Works focuses on mental and physical wellness.
- Earth day is on April 27 and Rickson is waiting on board approval for tree planting.
- EQAO grade 3 and 6 testing will occur May 20-23 and June 2-5, respectively. Testing is done completely online and students are prepared and familiar with the questioning.
- Bell times for next year will change to 9:00 am to 3:20 pm resulting in three 100 min learning blocks separated by two 40 minute nutrition and recess breaks. 20 minutes for food and 20 minutes for outdoor/break. Rickson will continue with the younger students having their food break first and the older students having their recess break first.
- Expansion construction to begin in May. Fencing will be built around the site and Portable #1 will be picked up and moved closer to Portable #7. Construction will also take up most of the parking lot which will eliminate the Kiss and Ride, and students and parents will not be able to walk through the parking lot. Staff may need to park elsewhere as well. Regular site meetings will happen to address any safety concerns. Updates will be provided as more is known.

4. Financial Requests & Budget Approvals (Jenny)

- Funds for additional CYC recommended mental health resources for use in school
 - Request: \$1000
 - Discussion: Ellen, the Child Youth Worker at Rickson suggested many mental health resources such as picture books, games, workbooks that can be used by students and their families, as well as staff. In order to supplement the resources being purchased using the ProGrant funds, the allocation of \$1000 of additional funds to provide resources for in school use and lending was proposed.
 - Result: Consensus was reached in support.

- Discussion of possible uses of additional funds
 - With the success of fundraising this year and the current hold on purchasing Chromebooks, we are likely to have additional funds to allocate at and following the June meeting. Options discussed included:
 - Holding over money for technology purchases, if allowed by the board;
 - Renewal of outdoor learning spaces that have degraded
 - A sensory path with the option of math facts or inspiring statements on the stairs
 - Math manipulatives and literacy materials
 - Requests from staff

5. Upcoming Council Activities and Involvement

- Pro-Grant - review proposed purchase plan and complete order
- Spring Garden Clean Up - interest in organizing/participating
 - Due to limited interest from families, a formal garden clean up has not been scheduled.
 - Council members and other interested associated adults can assist with garden maintenance during the day as admin is required to be on site for insurance reasons.
 - Potential for grade 8s or other older students at recess to help out.
 - Deb to bring up the concern with PIC as other schools are likely experiencing the same issue.
 - Construction to potentially disrupt some garden beds.
 - Sodding over some of the gardens could address or reduce the ongoing issue of garden maintenance.
- Food Program
 - Feedback requested from Council members
 - Survey of families to inform planning for next year proposed
 - Some families prefer shorter food program periods, others longer. Some schools have introduced doing every other week.
- Family Fun Night (June 5) - Overview, Zone Leads, volunteer recruitment
 - Time suggested to change to 5:30-7:30pm
- Planning Committee for 2025-26
 - Request for volunteers.

6. New Business and Questions

Question: Clarification on when play structures will be opened.

Discussion: This week after inspection occurs. Inspection required due to winter/freezing and safety concerns of equipment. Due to liability purposes, the equipment should be assessed.

Question: Is there a possibility to have year books for the grade 8's only.

Discussion: There currently isn't any staff capacity to take on this initiative.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:58 pm

Upcoming Council Meeting Schedule:

- Tuesday, June 17th at 6pm, In person