

Ranchlands School Council (RSC)– Meeting Agenda and Minutes

RSC Meeting Agenda:

Date: **May 12, 2026**

Time: **6:45 p.m.**

Location: **Ranchlands School**

Agenda Items	Lead(s)	Min est.
1. Welcome and Call to Order (Chair)	DJ	1
2. Approval of the Agenda	All	1
3. Teacher's report	Teachers	15
4. Principal's report	SW	10
5. Open Floor, including RSC Activity Day and potential field trips	All	5
6. Confirm Next Meeting Date / Plan	DJ	1
7. Confirm Action Items	DJ	2
8. Adjournment – HARD STOP BY 7:45pm	DJ	1

Meeting Guidelines:

- These agendas are finalized in advance with the Chair and Principal.
- To propose future items, email ranchlandscouncil@gmail.com, preferably one-week in advance. All item proposals must include:
 - A clear topic or motion
 - Supporting documents, if applicable
 - A draft 3 minute summary

Pre-Meeting Notes:

- The RSC Bylaws are available here: [Ranchlands-School-Council-Constitution.pdf](#)

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Meeting Minutes:

Attendance:

	Name	Role	Present	Regrets
Parents:	Darcy Johnson	Chair	X	
	Jesica Eijzinga	Secretary	X	
-	Kiera Savoie	Parent	X	
	Chrissy Fraser	Parent	X	
-	Kirsten Cadwell	Parent	X	
-	Lauren Walker	Parent		X
-	Sumitra Patel	Parent		X
-		Parent		
-		Parent		
School Staff	Steven Wigglesworth	Principal	X	
-	Tania Wong	Assistant Principal	X	
-	Brendan Effler	Teacher		
-	Rebecca Patel	Teacher		
-	Susie Baker	Teacher		

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Meeting Notes:

Item Topics	Notes	Action Items (brief)
1. Welcome and Call to Order (Darcy)	•	•
2. Approval of the Agenda	•	• N/A
3. Teacher's report	Report by: Brendan Hefler – Bridges Classroom Rebecca Patel – ESL teacher, Susie Baker – PL teacher Notes below, and full blurbs in Appendix A. - Kindergarten – literacy finished alphabet inquiry, sounding out words, writing simple sentences, learning diagraph (two letter sounds); math – 3D shapes – where in environment and how they move/stack, science – seasonal changes using 5 senses. - Grade 1 – two exciting ongoing science projects: pumpkin jack is flowering; tomatoe plants are growing with successful germination statistics/results; - Grades 2/3 – literacy story writing, copy cat stories; science learning plant and animal lifecycles; social learning needs and wants, decision making; math, learning to tell time; - Grades 2/3 – exploring non-fiction text, natural disasters; using creativity for designing monsters descriptions, and then partner draws monster based on description; math – learning multiplication/division using a race track; - Grade 4 – reviewing fractions, comparing fractions, performing functions; social and science – learning about earth biosphere and ecosphere, creating a	•

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	google slides presentation, linking it to citizenship rights/responsibilities; language – poetry and story writing, reading fluency by reading as a news reporter; • Grade 5 – welcomed back Ms Leblanc after teacher candidate role, learning about light and airplanes; citizenship roles in our community, comparing to ancient civilizations, • Carnival games unit, poetry unit, science – kids watch over eggs and do a two storey drop, social – studying Rome with a trivia battle royal competition, • Language arts, guided story telling, math – tracing, labelling and measuring shapes and relating shapes to real world environments; social – learning about Canada; life skills and preparedness activities. • Bridges is a specialized program in Ranchlands School; science – making electric circuits, social – career guidance ; Language arts – novel studies or UFLI program. • Drama – fairy tales through readers theatre, tableau, learning about mime, • Music – K – fun games and nursery rhymes; grade 1 – cultural dances; grades 2/3 – PLP and singing unit; Grade 4 – music notation; Grad 5/6 – recorders units • EAL – wide range in English skills with students who speak 40 other languages; talking about cultural aspects of living in Calgary. •	
4. Principal's report	• Friday, May 15th is a PD day, Monday is Victoria day. • Planning for next year. A lot of status quo: ○ School hours are not changing. ○ Calendar will be similar. ▪ School starts on Aug 31, ends on June 25. ▪ One of the school closure days changed due to the October 19th provincial referendum.	•

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	○ Kindergarten will be just mornings (for the second consecutive year). ○ Question about council/society meetings on second Tuesday of the month again? ▪ All parents supported proposal to keep the meetings on the Tuesday nights. • Upcoming activities: ○ Grade 6 going to Spruce Meadows ○ Grade 2 going to Telus Spark ○ May 28 evening, Kindergarten welcome ○ June 23 is Activity Day	
5. Open Floor	• Discuss RS Activity Day (June 23, 2026) – is there a role for School Council or AFORCS? ○ Parents are welcome to volunteer to work a station – ▪ RSC to do sign up sheet and freezies ○ Kindergarten to Grade 6 welcome • Field trip ideas: • Calgary Stampede Our Organization Experience Education at the OH... OH Ranch Education Program 2026/2027 Season Application Deadline: May 29, 2026 The OH Ranch is one of Alberta’s most historic properties and remains an authentic working cattle ranch. Explore topics of sustainability, ecosystem management, environmental stewardship, Alberta history and culture, and more at the Calgary Stampede’s OH Ranch. The program provides direct connections to Grade 4, 5, and 6 Science and Social Studies curriculum through unique, interactive, and authentic learning experiences. Engage and empower your students to think deeper, develop	• RSC will set up a parent volunteer sign up sheet for Activity Day – Chrissy • RSC/ AFORCS will get the freezies – Kiera will purchase • Principals will share the field trip ideas with teachers, and if a teacher is interested, school admin will register before the May 29 deadlines.

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	connections to their community and understand their impact on the world around them. - A limited number of sessions are available each Spring and Fall for classes from the Calgary and surrounding area. - Pre-registration is mandatory for all classes visiting the OH Ranch. - Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. - A maximum of one class per day can be accommodated at the OH Ranch. Combined classes will not be accepted. - For safety and comfort reasons, we recommend a maximum of 35 students (plus teacher and chaperones) per class. - Please allow a minimum of 4.5 hours for your visit (in addition to travel time). - Teachers will be notified of acceptance and date(s) of visit(s) mid-June. - An In-Service/Orientation will be offered for participating teachers in early September and mid April in advance of each season. - Applications received after the May 29, 2026 deadline will be added to a waitlist. • ConocoPhillips Mud between my toes (Grades 1 - 9) • This wetland exploration program, in partnership with ConocoPhillips Canada, includes an in-class session to introduce your students to the urban wetland, followed by a guided walk and pond study. Bus transportation is included. This program is seasonal. • Applications open May 1, 2026 for the 2026/2027 school year and close May 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. • Grades: 1 - 9 Length: 5 hrs	
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	Offered at: Ralph Klein Park , 12350 84 St. S.E Cost: Free Kirsten raised the zoo field trip idea that has a registration deadline for August 1st.	
6. Confirm Next Meeting Date / Plan	June 9, 2026	•
7. Confirm Action Items (new, pending and completed items)	See action items table below	•
8. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:49	•

ONGOING list of Action Items:

<i>Action Items (new and outstanding)</i>	Assigned to:	Assigned Date:	Target Date:	Status (Pending, In Progress, Completed)
1. Set up parent volunteer sign up list for Activity Day	Chrissy	May 12, 2026	June 11, 2026	Pending
2. Purchase Freezies for Activity Day	Kiera	May 12, 2026	June 23, 2026	Pending
3. Share field trip ideas with the teachers	Principals	May 12, 2026	May 15, 2026	Pending
4.				Pending

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Appendix A – Teacher’s Blurb’s

Kindergarten – Ms. Lucash & Mrs. Lipowy (Mr. Hefler)

For **Literacy**, now that we have finished our individual alphabet letter inquiry we are starting to sound out words & write out our own simple sentences. We will also start learning about diagraphs.

In **Math**, we spent a few weeks introducing the names of 3D shapes. The kids can name & describe the shapes and where they would find them in the environment as well as if they can slide, stack or roll.

We spent the month of April learning about family, traditions/celebrations, and community. We really enjoyed listening to our students talk to the class and present their pieces.

This month in **science**, we will continue to explore seasonal changes in our environment by using our five senses.

Grade 1 – Ms. Mann, Mrs. Poole & Mrs. Macnab (Mrs. Baker)

Grade 1 has been busy with two exciting ongoing science projects! Our *Pumpkin Jack* has officially sprouted and is now beginning to grow flowers. Students are learning all the different stages of plant life cycles through hands-on observation and discussion.

Our tomato plants are also growing beautifully, and we recently received our germination results back! Mrs. Poole’s class had 0 X and 3 Y seeds germinate, while Mrs. Mann’s and Mrs. MacNab’s classes had 16 X and 20 Y seeds germinate. The students love watching their plants grow and discovering how living things change and develop over time!

Grade 2/3 – Mrs. Staudinger & Mrs. Patel (Mr. Hefler)

In **Literacy** we're working on story writing (copycat stories).

In **Science** we are learning about plant and animals’ life cycles.

In **Social** we are learning the difference between needs and wants and how to make decisions.

In **Math**, we will be starting to learn how to tell time (both analog and digital).

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Grade 2/3 – Mrs. Virmani & Ms. Besant (Mrs. Baker)

Students are exploring non-fiction texts as they learn about the Earth, other planets, and natural disasters. They have been researching how natural disasters affect the Earth and the land around us.

Students had a chance to use their creativity by designing their own monsters and writing detailed descriptive paragraphs about them. Afterwards, they read their writing aloud to a partner, who then drew the monster based only on the description they heard. It was so much fun to see the imaginative creations students came up with and how carefully they used descriptive language in their writing.

In math, students are building their fluency with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts through our classroom racetrack activities. Their progress is tracked on a racetrack displayed on our classroom board, and as students complete each level, they get to move themselves along the track. Students have been excited to see their growth and celebrate their progress as they build confidence with their math facts.

Grade 4 – Ms. Lagrana & Mr. Hippie (Mr. Hefler)

Math

We have been reviewing fractions and how to convert from a fraction to a decimal to a percentage and comparing and ordering fractions in their simplest form. We have also been practicing creating equivalent fractions using multiplication and division. This week we are moving into beginning algebra and finding the missing variable in different types of equations.

Social Studies and Science

We are learning about the Earth's important systems: Biosphere, Lithosphere, Hydrosphere, and Atmosphere and doing research on these systems specific to Alberta and connected to Natural Resources and sustainability. After creating a google slides presentation and our research we will be sharing our learning with other students and getting feedback on our presentations. We are also linking this to citizenship and rights, and responsibilities.

English Language Arts

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We finished our poetry unit where we learned about many types of figurative language such as similes, metaphors, hyperbole, and alliteration and then experimented with writing different styles of poetry. We are now moving into story writing focusing specifically on descriptive details, dialogue, and writing a strong beginning. We have also been practicing and building or reading fluency by reading like a news reporter and now readers theatre with fractured fairy tales.

Grade 5 – Mr. Scheidegger & Ms. Leblond(Mrs. Baker)

The grade five students are thrilled to welcome back Miss Leblond as their teacher after her incredible work as a teacher Candidate. They will be learning about the forces of flight and use these skills to test and design airplanes. They will consider their citizenship roles in our community, including ideas of care and empathy, and compare these to the ancient civilizations that they have studied through the year.

Grade 6 – Mrs. Fox & Mr. Zhang (Mr. Hefler)

MATH — Step Right Up! Our little mathematicians have been running a full-blown carnival over here, and the good news is: nobody has lost their lunch money. We're wrapping up our carnival games unit and are SO close to unleashing these masterpieces on the rest of the school. Consider this your official warning that your child may start charging siblings a ticket price to use the bathroom.

ELA — Roses Are Red, PATs Are Coming... We've been deep in the world of poetry — rhymes, rhythm, and the occasional dramatic reading that would make Shakespeare weep (with joy, we think). We're putting the final bow on our poetry unit before pivoting hard into PAT prep. The muse must rest. The test must not.

SCIENCE — Egg-spectations Are High. In what can only be described as the most stressful babysitting job of the year, your kids are watching over eggs like tiny, shell-covered VIPs. They are engineering the ultimate keepsake container to protect their egg passengers from the forces of drag. The eggs have not been told what's coming. Morale remains high.

SOCIAL — All Roads Lead to Jeopardy. Our time in the Roman Republic is drawing to a glorious close — and we're going out with a BANG. The Grade 6 houses are about to face off in an epic Jeopardy-style battle royale, competing for points with the fierce energy of gladiators entering the Colosseum. May the best house win. May no friendships be lost. (No guarantee on the second one.)

PLP – Mrs. Baker (Mrs. Baker)

In **Language Arts**, students are participating in a explicitly, structured literacy instruction aligned with UFLI principles. Through shared read-alouds such as *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, students are building phonemic awareness, vocabulary, and comprehension, with a focus on listening skills, oral language, and word meaning. Learning is supported through repetition, visuals,

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and discussion to meet diverse learning needs. Students are also exploring seasonal changes in Spring and expressing their ideas through guided writing, drawing, and oral storytelling.

In **Math**, students continue to explore 3-dimensional shapes using hands-on math centers. They are tracing, labeling, and naming shapes, and applying this knowledge during a real-world shape hunt around the school, supporting spatial reasoning and meaningful connections to everyday environments.

In **Science**, students are investigating solids, liquids, and gases through sensory-friendly, experiential activities.

In **Social Studies**, students are completing their learning about Canada and “Where I Live,” strengthening their understanding of place, maps, and community through visuals and concrete supports.

Throughout the year, we continue to emphasize life skills and personal development, including problem-solving, communication, decision-making, self-awareness, empathy, and coping strategies. Students also practice functional daily living skills such as washing dishes, using a microwave, setting the table, cleaning, and organizing. These skills support independence and align with individualized goals in each student’s PLP.

Bridges – Mr. Hefler (Mr. Hefler)

Drama – Mrs. Kis (Mrs. Baker)

In drama, students are finishing up retelling fairy tales through readers' theatre and tableaux and are moving into learning about mime and how they can represent stories without using words.

Music – Mrs. Chow (Mr. Hefler)

In music, Kindergartens have been learning some fun games and nursery rhymes. Grade 1s are finishing their dance unit and have learned a variety of cultural and genres of dance. Grades 2-3 and PLP, are finishing up their singing unit. Grades 4 just finished learning music notation. Grades 5-6 are fully immersed in our recorder’s unit.