



Riverside School Council

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: March 19, 2026

Call to order:

Mel MacDonald called meeting to order at 7:02pm

Attendees:

Jamie Khory	Mel MacDonald	Simmie Pandher	Jennifer Hvingelby
Julie Dort	Jennifer Burrell	Nicole Sereda	Allie DaSila
Gillian Sissons	Seah MacDonald	Susan Vukadinovic (guest)	

Mel motions to suspend at 7:02 to start Parent Society Meeting to allow adequate time for School Board Trustee to present to Council. Jenn seconds. All in favour.

Mel calls the meeting to order and re-convenes at 7:24pm following the Parent Society meeting.

Review of Action Items & Approval of minutes from the February , 2025

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved as distributed.
- Motion to approve by Mel; seconded by Julie.
- All in favour.

Action Items:

None

Principal's Report

Staffing Updates:

- Mr. Lopa is currently on personal leave and will return after Spring Break.
- 8 student teachers are here from St. Ambrose and U of C in various classrooms.
- Ms. Oppenheim is going to be the full-time music instructor for next year, with Mr. Lopa moving to a new role (to be announced at a later date).

Email update:

- Altercation between an older student and a younger student
- Email discussed all that was able to be shared, given confidentiality
- Response was in alignment with CBE expectations
- Classes have all been talked to regarding expectations

School Development Plan:

- Focuses on learning excellence and well-being goals
- the measures used to track progress include student surveys, report cards, and individual assessments.
- Reviewed budgetary process, including the allocation of funds for staffing, supplies, and school fees.
- Provided a detailed breakdown of the school's budget, including funding for teachers, support staff, and supplies.
- All information can be found on the Riverside website and Steve requested that parents review and provide feedback. Steve will send the link to attendees.

School Board Trustee – Susan V

- Trustee for Ward 8 and Ward 9 and outlined her role in oversight, advocacy, and community engagement.
- Highlighted the importance of advocating for increased operating funding, space for students, and confidence in the CBE's academic results.
- Emphasized the need for community engagement and invites parents to share their concerns and feedback.
- Highlighted the importance of parental involvement in school activities and fundraising efforts.
- Questions:
 - Soccer Field (Lake Riverside): Susan suggested looking at alternate sources of funding such as the Parks Foundation as items like fields fall low on the priority list. Susan to look into how we can all work together to get it fixed.
 - Snow removal: can often take days and requires calling 311. Susan will look into this and see where Riverside is on the priority list, noting that most of the students walk to school.
 - How can parents support CBE and Trustees: writing to the provincial government, advocating for things like the modernization of Crescent Heights High School, which is 98 years old.
 - How do Trustees advocate for inclusivity in schools: Susan discussed the challenges of maintaining trust in education and the impact of social media on public perception. She

Pending approval at the April 2026 meeting
noted a small vocal minority can create noise, but the majority of parents support inclusive schools.

Funding Requests

Details outlined in Parent Society Minutes

- \$300 – Mr Bernsten – a nice bus for their final field study (operating)
- \$146.19 – Mr. Smith – Novel studies books for Grade 7-9 (casino)
- \$850 – Ms. Dixon – learning commons seating (casino)

New Business

None

Naturalization Area

No updates

Adjournment

Mel M motioned to adjourn at 9:07 pm
Minutes submitted by: Jamie Khory

Next meeting: April 16, 2026