

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS



Parent Council funds YOGA at RDL and much more!

For the second year in a row, RDL students from K to 9 are benefitting both physically and mentally from four days of *all-day, in-school* yoga sessions with Kelly Saunders. Kelly is an exceptional instructor who works hard to provide different levels of activity in each class so that every student (from beginner to advanced) is challenged. "Everyone can participate in the yoga program and so far, the results have been phenomenal," says RDL Athletic Director Mr. Wooldridge. "Students are enjoying the workouts and feeling relaxed afterwards for the remainder of the day." He adds, "Thanks to Parent Council for once again providing the funding for this valuable addition to our programming. We are very fortunate to be able to offer this to our students."

YOGA is only one of the many exciting initiatives that Parent Council has provided funds for this year. Other important purchases have been made in the areas of literacy, technology and math, as well as several special projects. Did you know that Parent Council has spent approximately \$3,500 on books this year? This includes new library books for classrooms, take-home reading books and a special set of Gord Downie's new graphic novel "The Secret Path" about residential schools that fits right into the RDL Social Studies curriculum.

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Message from our Council President

It's hard to believe that 2017 is already upon us! We hope you have been having a great year so far. In this newsletter we would like to highlight some of the initiatives that Parent Council supports and where our money is being spent.

As you may or may not know, part of our mandate when it comes to finances is to spend money in a way that will benefit as many students at RDL as possible. Last year we outlined our three year plan and identified some key areas of importance for which financial support was approved. These areas were Literacy, Technology, Mathematics and Leadership. We are excited to have made a commitment to these areas.

Another initiative that both Parent Council and the School are excited about is the Information Sessions that are being offered for parents at the beginning of some of our Council meetings. We hope that you will be able to attend those that interest you.

Our next Info Session is about **Categorical Grading** and is taking place on February 7th. See page 3 of this newsletter. Parent Council meeting will follow the Info Session.

Council President message continued on page 3...

...Parent Council funds YOGA

A book binding machine was purchased for the library.

In the way of **technology**, Parent Council gave \$36,350.00 to go towards the purchase of new chromebooks, cloud books and workstations! WOW! We now have two whole new carts of computers for student use, giving us four carts in total.



About \$600 was spent on sound system upgrades.

\$300 went towards **math manipulatives**.

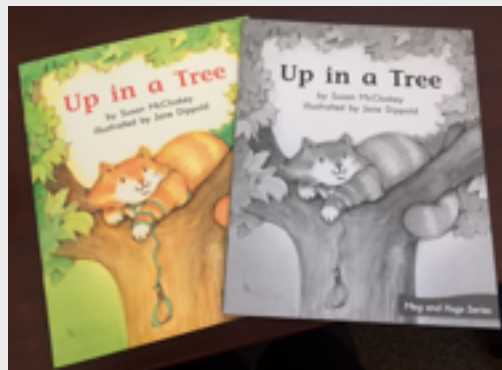
In the fall, Parent Council funded a half day in-school science presentation for grade 4's by Cape Ecology called **Serious about Science**. The cost: \$800

Allocations were made to school programs for the following amounts: \$750 to Awards; \$1,000 to Library; \$500 to Sports Equipment; \$500 to Band and \$500 to Peer Support.

Teachers were allocated \$200 each for classroom supplies.

Most recently Council paid approx \$500 for sub-teacher costs so that grade 9 teachers could take their classes on a field trip to **SAIT** re: careers and planning for future.

Parent Council is proud to have a direct impact on student learning through purchases that support technology, literacy, math, science and more.



Example of one of the new take-home reading books.

Up in a Tree for grade one reading.

Council President message continued...

As always, please feel free to contact me or other members of Council if you have any questions or concerns. We would be pleased to go over anything with you at any time. For now, enjoy learning about the many exciting happenings at RDL.

Amber Den Hoed
Parent Council President

Contact Us

To find out more about School Council or how you can get involved, please contact:

Amber @
adenhoed13@gmail.com

You can also check for updates on our website @
<http://reddeerlake.fsd38.ab.ca>,

Follow RDL on Twitter
@RedDeerLakeScho

Or check out our Parent Council Bulletin Board across from the Office when you are in the School.



Information Session on Categorical Grading

Would you like to learn more about how your child is graded on report cards and assignments? What exactly does it mean when your child receives an “acceptable” or “mastery” on their work?



Come join us on February 7th where **Shannon Culbert, Principal, RDL School** will guide the audience through a condensed learning activity. Criteria will be given at the beginning of the session with a rubric on how to achieve a “beginner”, “acceptable”, “proficient” or “mastery” level grade. The session is free and refreshments will be provided. We would appreciate your R.S.V.P by February 6th to walshp@fsd38.ab.ca.

Date: Tuesday February 7th, 2017

Time: 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Place: Learning Commons, RDL

Our regular Parent Council meeting will directly follow the information session. Everyone is welcome!

Maplewood

Did you know??? That the Foothills School Division is currently working on upgrades to it’s Maplewood site (where we currently log in to pay school fees) so that eventually we will be able to log in at any time to see the progress of our children at school? (ie. grades on assignments, attendance, late slips, etc.)

In January, several parents from various schools in the Foothills including RDL, were invited to try out the new Maplewood site (which is still under construction) to give feedback.

Parent Council is super excited about this new tool that will soon be available to all parents at RDL School and will update you as soon as there is new information. When the new site is up and running Parent Council will host an Information Session on the topic to go over all the details. Stay tuned!

THANK YOU!!!

We can't thank our Hot Lunch volunteers enough! Here are two awesome volunteers, **Corrine Ball** and **Gillian White** who come in EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY to sort, organize and distribute the hot lunches!



Thank you to ALL THOSE who give their time and effort in order to help the Hot Lunch Program run smoothly. From taking the orders, to liaising with the restaurants, to printing labels and picking up extra items, we couldn't do it without every single one of you!

MAGAZINES

Thank you to all those families who renewed or purchased their magazine subscriptions through RDL this year. When you go through RDL to place your order, we receive a portion of the profits. This year, we made \$1,069.22. Thank you RDL families and keep on reading!

WANTED: Casino Chairperson!



Parent Council is looking for a volunteer to fill the position of **Casino Chairperson** and/or volunteers to form a **Casino Committee!**

If you are super organized and love to schedule and work with people, then this is the job for you!

The roles and responsibilities of the Casino Chairperson include:

- Contact person to attend monthly Parent Council Meetings
- Contact person for the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC)
- Schedule Casino days with chosen Casino location. (Our Casinos are usually run for two days in the City of Calgary...preferably at the Deerfoot location)
- Organize Casino positions, recruit and schedule volunteers for our Casino days.
- Work with Parent Council Treasurer to keep accurate accounting of all finances of the Casino Committee.

The time commitment for this position is minimal until our school is assigned a casino. Once a casino date is booked, the bulk of the time required by the Chairperson is to recruit and schedule volunteers for the two days that the casino will run. We have a database of volunteers on file and an amazing Past Casino Chairperson who is willing to help!

Casinos raise a lot of money for our school in a very short amount of time. Our last casino raised \$72,000 and the funds have been going directly to purchases that support student learning in the areas of technology, literacy and math!

Please contact our Parent Council President, Amber Den Hoed at adenhoed13@gmail.com if you are interested.