

# PARENT COUNCIL NEWS



**Thank you** to everyone who took time to complete the Parent Council Survey last June. All those who filled out the survey had their name entered into a draw and we are pleased to announce that the lucky winner was Tina Watkins! Tina chose to put her \$50 credit prize towards RDL Spirit Wear and ordered a bright pink hoodie for her daughter Maddie (pictured to the left)! What a great way to show Dragon pride!

RDL Spirit Wear orders can be customized to show that you are a member of Band, Student Council or a specific Sports Team. You can also show that you are a parent or an alumni. If you would like to see samples of some of the different styles and colours of clothing that are offered, there are some on display in the front entrance of the school. If you are wondering about size, we have several different sizes of sweaters in the office to try on before ordering.

Click [here](#) to shop today!



*Did you know...* Parent Council receives 10 % of the sales for RDL Spirit Wear



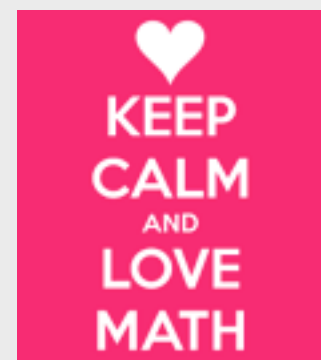
## Parent Council Information Series Kicks off in November with “New Math!”

At the end of last year, Parent Council launched an Information Series as a way of sharing important educational information with parents. Our first topic was Leadership and Mrs. Culbert and Ms. Leyden talked about how schools around the world are inspiring greatness one child at a time.

The Information Series will continue this year and our first session will feature **Doug Stevens, Director of Distributed Learning & Leads on Math, from the Foothills School Division**, who will talk about how math is being taught in schools today, “new math” and what we can do to help our children at home.

The presentation will take place at **7:00 pm on Tuesday November 8th** in the Learning Commons at RDL and is about 20 minutes in length. Our regularly scheduled council meeting will directly follow the presentation.

***Refreshments will be provided!***



## Message from our Council President

RDL Parent Council would like to welcome everyone back for another great year at RDL School. We are so pleased to see returning students and staff and we are excited to welcome the new students and staff members to the RDL family.

This year promises to be a great year full of new and exciting things. We are really excited to be hosting learning components to our council meetings for Parents based off of last years Survey Monkey results so please make sure you plan to attend those that interest you.

Council is trying to be sensitive and cognizant of what is going on with our economy and therefore will still be running the odd...

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Parent Council welcomes RDL families back to school in September with coffee & timbits!

## PARENT COUNCIL

### Who are we? And what exactly do we do?

In our recent Parent Council Survey, a number of parents expressed that they didn't really have a good idea of who Parent Council was and what it is that we do.

Hopefully this article will help to give a better understanding of what we are all about and how Parent Council operates!

**What is a Parent Council?** Parent Council is an advisory board of Parent Volunteers who work together to provide ideas and opinions to help the Principal, Teachers, and sometimes the School District, make the school a better place for learning.

By establishing various committees, Council helps to enhance students' learning through the cooperative efforts of parents, students, staff members and others in the community.

**What does Parent Council do?** One of the goals of Parent Council at RDL is to raise funds in order to support the following initiatives.

- Teacher Allotments - funds to assist teachers with classroom supplies
- Numeracy (math) materials and manipulatives
- Continued technological support and the purchase of new IT equipment.
- Continued support for music and the purchase of new instruments and equipment.
- Continued support for athletics and the purchase of new equipment.
- Continued literacy support
- Continued support for a healthy RDL...
- Special projects and learning opportunities and much, much more!

The decisions about how to raise funds and where the funds go are made at our Council meetings. Areas of need are identified by the Principal and the Teachers and then presented to Parent Council for approval.

Parent Council raises funds in various ways. We hold Casinos once every two years. We organize events such as Walk-A-Thons, and we provide services like Hot Lunches, magazine subscriptions and fresh farm food with our Farm to School Program.

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*Council Chair message  
continued...*

Fundraiser but will be launching them very low key without any pressure and we have decided to remove any incentive products, so if you are able to participate it is appreciated and if not we understand.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me and I will try to answer any questions you have. Council tries to be as transparent as possible with 100% of our focus on improving the learning environment, materials and social and physical well being of each and every student at RDL School.

"Happiness is a Journey not a destination"

-Ben Sweetland

**Amber Den Hoed**  
Council President



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In addition, Parent Council also supports the beautification of RDL with our Landscaping Committee, we coordinate volunteers for school when required and we sell RDL Spirit Wear to promote Dragon pride.

Our meetings are held once a month on the second Tuesday at 7pm in the RDL Learning Commons. Our School Board Trustee, Christine Pretty as well as our Principal, Shannon Culbert and Vice-Principal, Judy Leyden are always in attendance.

**Why join?!** Becoming a member of Parent Council is a great way to connect with the school, find out what is going on, meet new people, share ideas and make a difference! You can be as involved as much or as little as you like. Some people come to the meetings to become informed, others come to share ideas and some people end up joining committees or signing up for executive positions. Last year in our Parent Council Newsletter, we started highlighting why people joined council and what being a member has done for them. Most people join to learn more about what is going on in the school and to make the school a better place for their children! They end up making new friends, having fun and feeling connected!

To find out more or to get involved please contact us by emailing our Council President, Amber Den Hoed at [adenhoed13@gmail.com](mailto:adenhoed13@gmail.com).

RDL Parent Council is pleased to announce that our executive team for the 2016/2017 school year was voted in at our October meeting/AGM. Congratulations to the following individuals. We look forward to another exciting year at RDL!

**President:** Amber Den Hoed  
**Vice President:** Natasha Hubbard  
**Vice President:** Deena Semeniuk  
**Treasurer:** Ivy Sims  
**Secretary:** Danielle Camp  
**Communications:** Ivy Sims  
**Volunteer Coordinator:** Sylvia Duffill

Thank you to all those who volunteer their time attending Parent Council meetings and helping with fundraising and other important Council initiatives throughout the year.

**NEXT MEETING: And Guest Speaker on Math**

Tuesday November 8th, 2016

7:00 p.m. in the RDL Learning Commons

Refreshments will be provided and all are welcome!

## Upcoming Events!



Back by popular demand...  
Healthy Red Deer Lake presents -  
the **WALK-A-THON**, featuring  
the "Colour run!"

Date...Spring 2017

If you are interested in helping  
with this event, please contact  
Theresa Letendre by emailing:  
[taletendre@gmail.com](mailto:taletendre@gmail.com).

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## MAGAZINES!

Parent Council is pleased to  
announce that we will once again  
be offering magazine  
subscriptions at RDL. This is a  
great time to renew your existing  
subscription, start a new one or  
purchase one as a gift! A  
magazine subscription is a great  
gift idea for that special someone  
you know who loves to read.

Our campaign is set to launch on  
November 7th. Please watch for  
more info.



## Council Updates...

### Dough Raiser brings in \$210.15

Did you know??? RDL has a partnership with Cobs Fresh Bread and we are part of a program called Dough Raiser? Every time you make a purchase at either the Shawnessy or Okotoks location, 5% of your total goes back to RDL School! All you have to do is mention that you are a part of the RDL Community.

RDL recently received \$210.15 that was raised through the Dough Raiser program last year. Thank you to Cobs Bakery and to all those shoppers who have mentioned our school's name!

### Farm to School

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Farm to School Program this year. Our veggie orders raised \$1500 for RDL and we donated 1400 lbs of food to the Okotoks Food Bank. Thank you to parent volunteers, Shannon, Danielle, Theresa and Lynn for coming in to package all the food orders and special thanks to grade 4 teacher Marnie Thomas for organizing this initiative!



### Landscaping

Our Landscaping committee was busy at the beginning of the year, weeding and pruning the Rose Garden and the front garden beds. Thank you to Theresa Letendre and her committee for working hard to keep our school grounds beautiful. Theresa also maintains our indoor landscaping and has created a beautiful new fall display in the front entrance of the school.





## VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

Did you know that you can sign up online to indicate what areas you are interested in when it comes to volunteering at RDL?

Check out our link [here](#) and let us know what you would like to do!

THANK YOU so much to all of our volunteers. We couldn't do what we do at RDL without you!

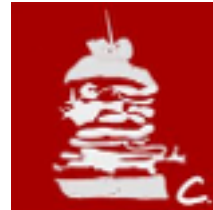
Pictured below is Allison Hudson helping out with school photos earlier this fall!



## Council Updates continued...

### Hot Lunches

The Fall session for Hot Lunches is in full swing and we can't wait to try our new menu selections! These include: pasta and bread from East Side Mario's; fresh deli sandwiches from Chachi's and tasty burritos from Mucho Burrito!



**THANK YOU** to all the parent

volunteers who come in on a regular basis to run the Hot Lunch Program!

### Carnival for Kenya

THANK YOU to the members of Parent Council who organized the food for Carnival for Kenya and volunteered at the food booth for the event!

