

R.F. Staples School Council Meeting  
Tuesday May 26, 2026

In Attendance: Kathy Carnegie, Kathy Despaul, Rilayna Pidsadowski, Tara Thue, Michelle Rigney, Krystan Properzi, Mallory McNally, David Truckey, Brett Seatter

1. Call to Order 6:03pm
2. Welcome by Rilayna Pidsadowski, Chair
3. Land Acknowledgement
4. Approval of Agenda - consensus vote, all approve
5. Summary of minutes from previous meeting - Rilayna read minutes and consensus vote approved minutes
6. Student Council Report - no one present to give a report
7. Council of Councils meeting was held May 5, Michelle Rigney attended on RF council's behalf.
8. Trustee Report - David Truckey
  - a. Provincial funding discussed, our division received \$405,000 in additional funding, planning to use for 3 certified teachers. The budget will be delayed to allow for allocating this.
  - b. Raime Drake is our new superintendent.
  - c. New Mental health support for next year: CASA - mental health classroom for the division which is provincially funded and a non-profit organization. Parents can ask the school about the referral process. The division's role is to provide 1 certificated teacher to the program.
  - d. Land based learning will be extended into the next 2 school years. A camp occurring May 27-29, and previous students are now given the opportunity to help teach. Programs for 3 or 5 credits available.
  - e. 3 year capital plan upgrades, top three for the division are Barrhead Elementary School (heating/roofing/classrooms) for \$12.3 million, Westlock Elementary School (upgrading classrooms, corridors, electrical) for \$7.6 million and Swan Hills for \$7.5 million.
  - f. International trip approved in principal, for RF Staples Ladies Basketball team to travel Dec 26-Jan2 of 2026/27.
  - g. Christine Vachon received a Support Services Award for her work with Outreach Schools.
9. School Admin Report - Brett Seatter
  - a. Mallory McNally introduced as our new Associate Principal for 2026/27. She has been at the school as the Inclusive Education Coordinator this year.
  - b. See attached Principal Report for detailed information
10. Fundraising Report - Kathy Carnegie
  - a. Request for Floor roll has been received and will be voted on at meeting after this one.
11. Old Business
  - a. Career Fair/Job Fair - better than last year's because students could walk rather than being bussed. Still not enough colleges and universities. That has been mentioned to the Westlock Chamber of Commerce that is planning the event. Possibly they need to book those groups much earlier.
12. New Business
  - a. School Budget - Nutrition \$ have increased which will allow for some upgrades to appliances but there has been a decrease in student discretionary funding ie/ supplies for students. Overall down about \$11,000. Question was asked if fundraising committee could make it easier for

teachers to apply for money, say items <\$150 or \$200, does admin think more would be accessed? Can we commit to \$1000 every month for discretionary spending and teachers apply directly to admin and Sheila Kulmatyski forwards receipts to us for coverage? Brett Seatter felt this would be helpful if they had a better idea of how much we can spend each month or so. We will have to discuss further at the fundraising meeting.

- b. Staffing - New teachers joining staff include Mike Ivey (junior high), Meagan Boulanger (IELT), Graham Schole (high school humanities). Ms. Henry will move up to senior high for Science 10/14 and social. Mr. Medcke will move to junior high grade 7. Mr. Pidsadowski is decreasing to one day per week and Ms. Megan McKenzie is taking on the academic counsellor role. She will still have senior Biology. Miss Dadson will be Media Arts/photography next year. Ms. Sharun and Ms. Morel are back from their maternity leaves.
- c. Student numbers projected to go from 587 this year to 580 next year.

### 13. Adjournment 6:35pm

### AGM

- 1. Call to order at 6:37pm
- 2. Elections
  - a. Chair - Rilayna Pidsadowski willing to stay on, no dissent, no other nominations. Rilayna Pidsadowski elected chair for 2026/27.
  - b. Vice-Chair - Michelle Rigney willing to stay on, no dissent, no other nominations. Michelle Rigney elected chair for 2026/27
  - c. Secretary - Kathy Despaul stepping down. No nominations. Will call for nominations at next meeting in September.
- 3. Next meeting Wednesday Sept 16, 2026 at 6pm in classroom 1.
- 4. Adjournment 6:41pm