

Meadow Ridge School Council Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2025

In attendance: Kristi Lundquist (Chair), Lucy Critchley, Jillian Bennett, Jen Pierce-Ager, Michelle Keeler, Nicole Mulholland

Administration: Debbie Payne (Principal), Allison Stewart (VP), Danielle Buschman (VP)

Board of Trustees : Lisa Penzo, Shaon Nichols

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM by Kristi Lundquist

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Agenda

Addition: Grade 7 class size to agenda
Buses that the school division purchased

Nicole Mulholland adopted the agenda, Jill Bennett seconded

3. Minutes from September 18, 2025 meeting

Nicole Mulholland motioned to accept the minutes, Kristi Lunquist seconded

4. Appointment of Secretary

Kristi Lundquist motioned to nominate Jen Pierce-Ager as Secretary, Lucy Critchley seconded

5. Discussion

Google Meets for future parent council meetings was discussed so parents not able to attend in person could still have access to the live meeting. Discussion about looking into portable device for meetings.

6. School Council Engagement Grant

\$500 grant that we get every year, but has yet to be used. The funds have to be used for parent engagement. Other schools have used it for a book study, Oreda, DJ, conferences for parents to attend, bring in speakers (schools have partnered), there is some uncertainty about the best ways to use the grant.

-Jill brought forth the idea of having presentation on co-regulation between mental health and technology

7. Grade 7 Class Size

-The current grade 7 class sizes are very large. Kristi has reached out via email, sending emails to Mrs Payne and to the Superintendent. She has not received a direct reply from the Superintendent, but received reply from PR for the district

-There had been a plan in place to push in support for the grade 7 classes, this included having members of the administration team go into the classes.

-Kristi has requested a meeting with the Superintendent to discuss the Grade 7 class sizes, Lucy mentioned that there are many parents who are not happy with the class sizes. Both grade 7 classes currently have over 35 students.

-The administrative procedure AP151 has been followed, by first bringing forth concerns to teacher- Principal- Superintendent

-Mrs Payne mentioned that the push in support for the classes is occurring through the Numeracy and Literacy blocks. Currently the school is addressing the attendance of their Educational Assistants, as they are often quite short. Mrs Payne further noted that there was a meeting with the Grade 7 teachers after the strike about EA expectations and that there is a need for training on how best to approach this.

-Further discussion on the funding model and how Grades 7-9 receives 1 teacher per 26-27 students. Further discussion about budget if the class was split into 3 classes.

-Concern was expressed about teachers going on leave

-Discussion about redoing the school boundaries and the new high school being built

-A meeting request was made to admin team to have a town hall style meeting with the Superintendent to address class size concerns.

8. Trustee Update

- Sharon Nichols brought up the boundary review- results of this will be provided in December
- Parents have the ability as per AP305 to request another school for their child
- It was discussed that there are pinch points across the division
- It was noted that there are buildings in the division that are less full than MRS
- New High School- expected date of April 2029
- Lisa Penzo mentioned that the design is in the capital plan and it is estimated 3-5 years once shovels are in the ground
- Model of new high school was shown with location and pictures shown. Capacity will be 1100-1200 students. Information can be found [here](#)
- Mrs Payne noted that open space at MRS is included in square footage of school. There is a need to lobby for how square footage at a school is measured.

9. Buses

- FSD was slated to purchase 16 buses, but it will be around 10 buses

10. Friends of Foothills School Division

- There is a \$1000 grant available with a deadline of November 30th
- Encouraged to apply for this grant

11. Principal's Update

- MRS will maintain its commitment to Numeracy and Literacy
- K-3 Numeracy and Literacy data is in, but not analyzed
- 4-9 Elk Island Numeracy Assessment, which assesses prior curriculum outcomes (i.e a current grade 7 student would be assessed on grade 6 outcomes)
- School team looks at data to determine and plan for groupings and instruction (this had to be put on pause)
- EdForms is new to FSD and is currently the priority. Danielle has been teaching the teachers how to use EdForms, there is also time built in for teachers to learn the new program.

-Schools have been mandated to provide data to Alberta Government regarding classroom complexities. This has taken a considerable amount of time to gather information for all students at MRS.

-Mrs Payne shared future dates and discussed Christmas signing and market to be held on December 18th in the AM, there will not be a Christmas concerns this year due to loss of instructional time

-Kananaskis in the Classroom will be November 28th and January 22nd for all grades. This program has a direct correlation to curricular outcomes

Meeting adjourned: 7:40PM

Next Meeting: January 15, 2026 at 6:30PM