

Kathyrn School Council  
Meeting Minutes- December 12, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:50pm

Present: Kelly Huck, Angela Rott, Kate Culp, Nilsa Wise, Andrea Wise, Nevada Wright, Joanne Wray and Carla Shierman in person. Mary Siemens and Quincy Shierman on zoom.

Kate motion to approve November minutes and Carla to second.

Treasurer's Report: Please see attached report presented by Nilsa.

Trustee's Report: Please see attached report from Norma.

Administrator's Report: Please see attached report from Kelly.

**Old Business:**

The \$500 school engagement grant will be used towards a locked room experience. The 2 dates to check with the company are going to be Feb 13 or 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be 2 trailers for 2 hours which can hold up to 42 people. Snack will be provided.

The school store is getting started in the new year.

**New Business:**

New option presented for seating at the Christmas concert. "Photo" benches are to be at the front so that when your child is performing one of the parents can come to the bench for a better viewing point for photos and video. This will hopefully eliminate the urgency to scramble for seats upon arrival.

January meeting to be on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am and the February meeting will be on Feb 13 @ 5pm with the potential of the escape room following the meeting from 6-8.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:34am

**Treasurers Report by Nilsa Wise**

**2023-2024 Parent Council Financials**

Opening balance: \$2483.23

**Trustee Report by Norma Lang**

For December 12, 2023 8:45 am meeting

**Nov 16 – Board Meeting update**

**Annual Education Results Report Highlights RVS' Accomplishments, Initiatives and Stories**

- RVS' 2022/23 Annual Education Results Report (AERR) highlights accomplishments and initiatives designed to help students connect to passions, interests and people; achieve their potential; and navigate successfully as global citizens throughout their learning with RVS, the performance measures laid out in the 2019-23 Four-Year Plan.
  - o The majority of students in grades 1-4 demonstrated growth in literacy and numeracy skills as measured by the LeNS, CC3 and Alberta Numeracy Screening Assessment.
  - o Our students feel they can get the help they need in school; however, they also indicated they could use support in developing conflict resolution skills.
  - o Overall diploma exam results are at the provincial average while our high school completion rates are better than the provincial average.
  - o The AERR reports back on the progress of specific actions taken the year before and identifies new actions to be taken in 2023/24. We are pleased to report that all six of the items identified for 2022/23 were completed.
- The 2022/23 AERR is available on [rockyview.ab.ca](https://www.rockyview.ab.ca) RVS' Rapid Growth Prompts Ward Boundary Review
- Given the consistently high population growth in many of the communities within RVS, the Board determined a review of the current ward boundaries should be completed.
- RVS' ward boundaries were last reviewed in 2016.
- Board Policy 29 – Ward Structures outlines how and when a ward boundary review can be undertaken. An important factor is ensuring RVS' communities are served adhering to a representation by population model where each trustee represents a similar number of residents.
- The review will include consultation with all communities within the RVS. Added information regarding this community engagement will be provided when available. The review will be done by Dec'24.

### **November 30 Board Meeting Highlights**

[https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/whats\\_new/the\\_brief\\_nov\\_30\\_2023](https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/whats_new/the_brief_nov_30_2023)

### **Nose Creek Elementary School Highlights Inclusivity Practices**

- Staff at Nose Creek Elementary School (NCES) believe inclusion must be consistently pursued to honour students in their care. During a presentation to the Board (the Board) of Rocky View Schools (RVS), NCES staff members shared how they bring Alberta Education's six principles of inclusive learning - diversity, high expectations, learners', strengths, removing barriers, building capacity and collaboration - to life every day in their classrooms.
- The presentation highlighted how the school evolved to one in which students, teachers and staff have a better understanding of inclusivity. The teaching staff worked hard to ensure programs and activities involved all students, while injecting fun into the learning. Students also learned the importance of working collaboratively on things like recycling and reading. Some students became inclusion superheroes, helping to create a welcoming school environment.
- This work aligns with Goal 3 of RVS' Education Plan – Creating inclusive, engaging, healthy learning opportunities for all students.

### **Infrastructure, Maintenance and Renewal Spending Projects Approved for 2023/24**

- As part of its annual fiscal process, RVS administration brings Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) spending for the coming year to the Board for their approval.
- In March of 2023, RVS was granted \$2,795,116 in the provincial budget for IMR for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Highlights of upcoming projects include:
  - o Student washroom/change room upgrades for Glenbow School in Cochrane
  - o Electrical/fire panel upgrades at schools in Cochrane and Bearspaw
  - o Painting and flooring repairs/upgrades throughout the division
  - o Ceiling/LED lighting upgrades at schools in Langdon, Airdrie and Bearspaw
  - o School front door security enhancements for 27 schools

### **2022/23 Audited Annual Financial Statements Approved**

- Each year, school divisions in Alberta are required to send annual financial statements, the auditor's report and any other communication pieces to the Minister of Education by Nov. 30.
- External auditors provided RVS a clean audit report. Congratulations to all staff who have a hand in preparing the documents and supporting the audit process.
- RVS has made strategic investments over the past few years to spend down operating reserves to get within government's mandated range.
- The final results for the 2022/23 year included revenues of \$298.3 million and expenses of \$307.6 million resulting in a deficit of \$9.4 Million. RVS planned to draw \$7.9 million from reserves in 2022/23 but ended up drawing \$9.4 million. The additional draw resulted from increased teacher sick / medical appointment leaves, increased furniture and equipment spending, land acquisition on the Powell Street school site, and 21/22 projects that extended into the 22/23 school year.
- At the end of the 2022/23 year, RVS' operating reserves were at \$3.9 million (1.3% of operating budget). This is at the lower end of government's required operating reserve range (between 1 and 3.2%). Almost all those funds are in our transportation reserve which cannot be used for other needs across the division.
- Nearly all of the \$3.8 million of capital reserves were used on the renovation of the school on Powell Street in Cochrane (now Cochrane Christian Academy) and preparing the new high school site in south-west Airdrie.

### **School Fees Policy Enhanced**

- Changes to the School Fees Policy intend to clarify the purpose of fees ensuring they continue to be reasonable for families and support students in achieving learning outcomes. Additional changes were made to provide further clarity and improve transparency as well as minor edits and updates. Joint Use and Planning Agreement Negotiations with Rocky View County to Continue
- The Board will continue to negotiate with Rocky View County regarding a joint use agreement after the Board approved a motion to maintain those discussions.

### **Board Continues to Engage Government in Advocacy Efforts for More Space for Students**

- Trustee Fred Burley will represent RVS at the City of Airdrie's event in Edmonton Dec. 5 where Mayor Brown will host Cabinet Ministers and MLAs to share information and engage in dialogue about Airdrie.
- The Board will tour MLA for Banff-Kananaskis, Sarah Elmeligi, through Springbank Middle School Dec. 8.
- The Board received correspondence from the Honourable Minister of Infrastructure Pete Guthrie and MLA for Airdrie-Cochrane in response to RVS' invitation to tour an Airdrie high school and discuss the need for space for students. Minister Guthrie expressed interest in the meeting and to connect in January.

### **RVS Participates in Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting**

- Members of the Board attended the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Fall General Meeting in Edmonton from Nov 19-21, at which joint advocacy with school boards from across the province was the focus.
- RVS' resolution to ask the provincial government to review the practice of administering Diploma Exams was passed by the membership. Trustee Shali Baziuk was re-elected as Vice-President of the ASBA to serve another two-year term.

### **Principal Report – December 12, 2023**

1. We had a very successful Remembrance Day Service in November. Students were very respectful.
2. Grade 7-8 girls' volleyball was very successful in November. They played three tournaments and won most of their games. We also had a boys volleyball team coached by Mrs. Adams and Mr. Drummond and they also did well.
3. We will begin Basketball in the new year with a boy and girls' team. Mr. Schenk and Mr. Drummond were coaches for the girls' volleyball and Mr. Schenk will be coaching basketball along with a parent coach.
4. Parent-teacher conferences were well attended – they were held November 15 and 16 th .
5. Kathryn winter/Christmas concert is scheduled for next week on December 19 th . The theme is "Christmas through the Decades" and each class will perform. All families are welcome to attend. Our backup date is Dec. 21st.
6. Leadership students helped organize our annual food drive for the Irricana Food Bank. We surpassed our original goal which was great. WE collected over 800 items. Students will receive their prize of a movie with popcorn next week. Mr. Schenk took the leadership students to Irricana to deliver the food bank items last week. The bus was donated by Fenton Bus.
7. Our Bear Necessities focus for December is Kindness Counts under the pillar of respectful. Mr. Stabler's class is teaching us about ways we can show kindness.
8. Kodiak clothing is available to purchase, and Mrs. Greenwood has it on

school cash online now. We are selling hoodies, toques, water bottles, and coffee tumblers.

9. Our three Leadership Academy students will be going to the Calgary Food Bank with high school Leadership Academy students to pack food bank items for a service project tomorrow with Mrs. Huck.
10. We have had a couple of spirit days including jersey day and PJ Day. More to come in the new year.
11. Our last day of school will be December 22 nd .