

Kathyrn School Council  
Meeting Minutes- May 14, 2024

Meeting called to order at 8:50am

Present: Kelly Huck, Angela Rott, Kate Culp, Norma Lang, Carla Shierman, Nevada Wright, Tara Olson and Nilsa Wise in person. Cassandra McKinnon on zoom until 1:50pm

Nilsa Wise motioned to approve April 9, 2024 minutes and Nevada Wright 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.

14 new registrants for K-8 for next year, 5 of which will be in Grade 1.  
Volunteer appreciation tea is May 28 @ 1:45pm approximately

**Council Chair Report:**

Some questions from parents about the why the distance is what it is and the reason is because the distance is determined by insurance. There are permits that are required to obtain before the event can even be held. Recognition for those children who decide to run the route twice, possibly even just a paper award saying they are part of the 10km club. Grade 8 is having a bottle drive for the Grad farewell, please contact Amanda @403-608-0305

**Old Business:**

Aggie Day breakfast is waiting on Beiseker to approve donation from school council. Kathyrn will donate up to \$250 for breakfast. Kate Culp motions to approve \$250 donation to Aggie Day breakfast and Tara Olson to second. Volunteer forms for Aggie Day need to go out soon, check the sign up sheet that was out at the back to school BBQ and contact those volunteers first. The new school tent is available for use at Aggie Day.

**New Business:**

There is no change in school visitors, if items are brought to the school without arrangement Stacy will deliver items. Each circumstance is different and can be talked about, but the best way is to coordinate with the teacher and Admin to avoid disruption in the classrooms.

Next meeting will be June 4 at 8:45am this will be the last meeting of the year.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:59am

**Treasurers Report by Nilsa Wise**

## **2023-2024 Parent Council Financials**

Sept 1, 2023 - Opening balance: \$2483.23

Jan 16, 2024 – Escape Room: -\$176.20

Feb 14, 2024 – Escape Room Food Purchases: - \$93.87

Feb 20, 2024 – GST Refund: - \$2.58 Balance: \$2,215.74

Upcoming expenses:

- Aggie Day Breakfast
- Grad Committee donation

## **May 2024 School Council Report from Norma Lang, Trustee May 14 Kathryn 11 am**

**Thank you for invite – Walk a thon, BCS Grad May 10**

### **Ward Boundary Review – dates for consultations**

Three options are being presented for public feedback:

- Seven trustee option combining Ward 2 (Langdon, Indus and Chestermere rural areas) and Ward 4 (Crossfield, Beiseker, Irricana, Kathryn, and Airdrie rural areas) and redistributing 5,600 residents from Ward 6 (Cochrane: Sunset Ridge) into Ward 5 (Bragg Creek, Springbank, Bearspaw, Westbrook and Cochrane rural areas).
- Eight trustee option adding a trustee to Ward 6 (Cochrane would now have two trustees) and combining Ward 2 (Langdon, Indus and Chestermere rural areas) and Ward 4 (Crossfield, Beiseker, Irricana, Kathryn, and Airdrie rural areas).
- Nine trustee option adding a trustee to Ward 6 (Cochrane would now have two trustees), and redistributing 8,600 residents from Ward 3 (Airdrie: North of Veterans Blvd) into Ward 4 (Crossfield, Beiseker, Irricana, Kathryn, and Airdrie rural areas) and redistributing 5,100 residents from Ward 1 (Chestermere: East side of the Lake and East of Range Road 282 on the south end of the lake) into Ward 2 (Langdon, Indus and Chestermere rural areas).

Further explanation of these options, along with current and proposed ward maps, are available on RVSEngage .

### **Public Meetings**

- May 14, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.: East Lake School (Learning Commons), 325 Kinniburgh Blvd., Chestermere
- May 15, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.: Cochrane Christian Academy (Learning Commons), 129 Powell St., Cochrane
- May 21, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.: W.H. Croxford High School (Learning Commons), 2654 Chinook Winds Drive S.W., Airdrie
- May 27, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.: Online  
via Zoom (<https://rockyview.zoom.us/my/rvsboard>)

## **April 25, 2024**

### **Crossfield Elementary School Community Development Project**

- Students from Crossfield Elementary School (CES) presented to the Board of Trustees (the Board) about a recent community development project which focused on how collective efforts can improve the overall wellbeing of the place you live.
- Working collaboratively, Grade 4 and 5 students designed a hypothetical athletic centre for the Town of Crossfield. The students created the criteria, scoring rubric and project expectations. They then pitched their designs to a panel of community members including the Mayor of Crossfield, Rocky View Schools (RVS) Trustee Norma Lang and CES' School Council Chairperson.
- This work supports several outcomes of the RVS Educational Plan, with students demonstrating Alberta Education student competencies and actively engaged in meaningful and relevant learning.

### **Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces (BASS) Accommodation Decision Made**

- To address increasing enrolment pressures and improve utilizations at Airdrie schools, the Board made an important decision which will see many grade configuration and some attendance boundary changes made across RVS Airdrie schools starting September 2025.
  - After listening to community feedback through the Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces engagement and considering all available information, the Board believes a school-by-school approach to changing grade configurations and attendance areas where necessary and keeping neighbourhoods together, honours what was shared through the engagement and best balances Airdrie student spaces with the greatest improvement to utilizations overall.
  - Summary
    - o No changes until the fall of 2025.
    - o All high schools in Airdrie become Grade 10 – 12.
    - o Multiple Airdrie communities are redesignated to other RVS schools to address the pressure in various schools and maximize every possible space.
    - o All schools except for Cooper's Crossing School adjust by one grade level.
    - o No attendance boundary changes for French Immersion or Christian programs. Christian program extends to Grade 9 (currently ends at Grade 8).
    - o A small area in central Airdrie is now designated to specific high schools discontinuing a historical choice area.
  - More information about school and community attendance areas is available on RVSEngage. Further details will be provided before the end of the current school year.
  - The Board values the perspectives and ideas shared throughout the BASS engagement and thanks all who participated for their time and contributions.
- Long-standing Transportation Exceptions Will Continue
- To help maintain student population levels at smaller schools, RVS operates select transportation exception bus routes. Service will continue from Cochrane to Westbrook School, Langdon to Indus School and Prairie Royale area to Kathryn School.
  - These routes have been running for several years and will continue until June 2026.
- The Feasibility of a New Bus Route from Chestermere to Horseshoe Crossing High School in

Langdon to be Explored

- RVS will explore a potential new bus route from Chestermere to Horseshoe Crossing High School in Langdon for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 school years and examine logistics, costs and other factors.

### **School Fees Approved for 2024/25 School Year**

- Schools annually review the fees they charge and make recommendations regarding proposed increases or the necessary introduction/deletion of fees for new or changing courses.
- The Board recognizes the increasing cost pressures impacting our families and only minimal increases will be made to most school fees, including optional courses, activities, programs and other noncurricular goods and services.
- The Board approved the schedule of school fees for the 2024/25 school year and the fees will be posted on school websites by the end of June.

### **2024/25 Transportation Fees/Service to be Maintained**

- RVS will continue to provide student transportation at the current service levels for the 2024/25 school year and transportation fees will remain at the 2023/24 rates. The Board chose to use transportation reserves for 2024/25 to offset increased costs by the transportation contractors.
- An incentive for parents/guardians to complete early registration will be continued. Parents/guardians are encouraged to register before June 23, 2024, as doing so helps the Transportation department to plan routes over the summer. Fees are reduced by \$40 for the first two children in a family and \$20 for each additional child under the early registration program.

### **Community Use Fees to be Maintained for 2024/25**

- RVS is committed to community use of its facilities and outdoor spaces and will maintain fees at the 2023/24 levels for the 2024/25 school year.
- A financial review of the program was conducted to ensure the program is self-sustaining and does not require additional support from other sources. A portion of the proceeds from the fees goes to support schools and is intended to renew the furniture and equipment utilized at their respective facilities. Ward Boundary Review Engagement Will Seek Community Feedback

### **May 9 Highlights**

#### **Students Earning 100 Per Cent on January 2024 Diploma Exams Recognized**

- Twice a year, the Board of Trustees (the Board) of Rocky View Schools (RVS) recognizes outstanding student achievement by acknowledging students who obtain a perfect mark of 100 per cent on a diploma.
- The Board congratulates the following students who achieved 100 per cent on January 2024 diploma Exams, 16 students from Airdrie, Springbank and Cochrane in Math, Chem, Bio and Physics. RVS Advancing Goals of Education Plan
- RVS' Education Plan guides the work classroom staff and administration do every day to help students succeed in healthy and safe learning environments. Year one of the current

Education Plan has been well received by school administrators tasked with connecting their School Education Plan to the division Education Plan.

- As this is the first year of a four-year Education Plan, identifying trends from the data is challenging. Early indicators demonstrate there has been some growth in both literacy and numeracy skills. RVS' Education Plan Survey was replaced this year by the OurSCHOOL survey. This survey engages students in Grades 4 – 12, families and teachers, and provides feedback needed for the measures in the Annual Education Results Report (AERR). The survey closed May 3 and results will be available to schools soon. Career pathway education opportunities are being developed at several schools and for various grades and schools are excited about the momentum that is building to support future-ready students.
- RVS' Writing Assessment for Grades 3, 4, 8, 9 and 11 will be ready for next school year.
- Full results and accompanying data will be included in the 2023/24 AERR, to be posted on the RVS website in the fall at [rockyview.ab.ca](http://rockyview.ab.ca)

### **2024/25 Budget Development Update**

- Each year, school divisions must submit their budgets to Alberta Education by May 31 for the next school year. The Board and Board Budget Committee have been working to develop the 2024/25 RVS budget since receiving the funding profile from the provincial government in mid-March.
- The Board established budget priorities to help guide the development of the division budget. These include providing direct resources to schools to support student learning, support for student and staff wellness, enhancing facilities & tech infrastructure and a target operating reserve 0.5 to 1 per cent.
- The update provided highlights of what will be proposed to the Board:
  - o 92 per cent of instructional funding is allocated directly to schools through a school allocation formula that remains focused on providing supports directly to schools. Class size guidelines remain at the current level as do learning support teacher time, literacy support and student emotional support allocations, among other school-based supports.
  - o To help achieve the desired reserve target, \$500,000 will be unspent in the budgets for Education Centre departments, ensuring all instructional funding is used to support instruction.
  - o Schools and departments at the Education Centre have developed their individual budgets based on the funding allocated and have submitted these to the Board Budget Committee for review.
  - o The draft 2024/25 budget will come to the Board for approval on May 30.

### **Board Updated on Student Busing System**

- RVS' Transportation department has been responsible for safely fulfilling the daily busing needs of more than 12,890 students during the 2023/24 school year.
- RVS currently operates 269 regular bus routes each day with an average daily ridership of 49 students.
- Bus driver shortages have eased since February as the bus contractors have been able to hire additional drivers, but a shortage of buses persists. RVS expects the shortage of both drivers and buses may extend into the 2024/25 school year.

- The Transportation department is facing rising contractor expenses for acquiring new buses/maintaining the current fleet and driver compensation. These challenges are expected to grow when rider eligibility is expanded.
- Several new initiatives intended to improve transportation services and communication are underway

### **In the Works**

**April 19** – meet with Pete Guthrie, Angela Pitt and Chantelle DeJong to talk about modulars and crowded classrooms, future school builds and timelines. Ministers of Ed and Infra toured Modus on April 19 with their senior staff – trying to figure out a way to build new schools faster and more cost effectively.

April 27 – Airdrie Home Show

May 4&5 – Cochrane Trade Fair

May 16 – meet with Education Minister

### **Principal Report – May 2024**

- Talent Show – was a big hit – watch for it next year
- New Website – we are almost complete – should go live next week – update: website is now live
- Track and Field – we have a couple of students in grade 7 going this week, next week we have about 4 grade 8's
- Walk—thon – great success – good turn out and kids had lots of fun – had at least 30 volunteers – over 11,000 so far
- Grade 8 Active Living Day
- Kathryn and Beiseker grade 8 students going to Lift Fitness on Wednesday
- Volunteer Tea is coming up end of May – notes will be going out to volunteers for our tea – K-grade 3 students have prepared somethings to share at this event.
- We are looking for ways to engage our community in broadening the understanding of skills and careers for our students in grades 5-8. We will be reaching out to our Kathryn community via an email expression of interest for presenting/sharing their chosen career path during the next school year. We are hoping to have a number of people whom we can call upon to share their stories with our students