



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HELD VIRTUALLY

APRIL 22, 2021

10:00 a.m. Regular Board Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Ratification to Proceed with Virtual Meeting
3. Approval of Agenda
4. In Camera Meeting
5. Motions Arising from In Camera
6. Approval of Minutes
 - a) Regular Board Meeting – April 1, 2021
7. Exemplary Practice/ Student Showcase
 - a) Action-Research Partnership with Faculty St. Jean
8. Superintendent's Report
9. Chair's Report/Correspondence
10. Committee Reports
 - a) Advocacy
 - b) Planning
 - c) Other
11. Trustee Reports
12. New Business
 - a) Policy 1
13. Adjournment

This unofficial agenda is subject to change and is not *official* until approved at the Board meeting.



EXEMPLARY PRACTICE

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Date of Meeting: April 22, 2021

Showcase Name: Action-Research Partnership with Faculty St. Jean

Presenters: Julie Vaillancourt, Dr. Martine Pellerin, Tori Page, Erin Siddall, Alexandra Galbraith, Stacy-Ann Pothier, Carolane Contant, Meggie Martin, Jean-François Bolduc

Project Description

Rocky View Schools has partnered with the University of Alberta's Faculty St. Jean for an 18-month research project. The project intends to build knowledge and understanding of how to meet the needs of all learners in a French Immersion online setting. Together with Dr. Martine Pellerin, RVS teachers and staff are:

- Exploring a blended virtual learning environment model entailing a combination of virtual (online/offline) learning environments
- Providing professional development to online teachers
- Enhancing pedagogical practices that foster teachers' and students' connectedness in online learning environments
- Exploring inclusive and innovative practices that support and guide more vulnerable students.

The goal of the project is to use findings to leverage technology and better meet the needs of all students, regardless of programs in schools or online.

This research project aligns with Goal 2 of RVS' Four-Year Plan – Achieving the students' potential. French Immersion teachers have been exploring ways to design instruction that lines up with students' personal learning styles and capabilities. Students develop foundational skills and core competencies to acquire, create, connect and communicate knowledge in a variety of contexts. Teachers have also developed a partnership with the parent community through their work.

The knowledge gained through this project is currently shared with several other educators. On a weekly basis, the participants have a drop-in discussion for all French Immersion educators where they share their learning and discuss ideas and strategies. Strategies are also being shared on Twitter. The teachers participating in this project are also supporting their colleagues who are teaching in-person.



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APRIL 22, 2021

AGENDA

1. Funding Profile Update

ACTION

Information

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Luterbach", with a small star-like mark above the final letter.

Greg Luterbach
Superintendent of Schools



INFORMATION ITEM

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Item: Funding Profile Update

Date of Meeting: April 22, 2021

Background:

On Feb. 25, 2021 the Government of Alberta released Budget 2021 which ultimately drives the funding available to school jurisdictions in Alberta. At that time the Minister of Education stated that no school division in Alberta would receive less funding than they did in 2020/21. This was important because RVS had less students than we projected in 2020/21 and, as per the existing funding formula, we could have faced a claw back of funding in 2021/22.

School divisions were informed that funding manual and profiles would be released prior to the end of March.

Current Status:

On March 31, 2021 Alberta Education released the attached funding profile for RVS. It highlights what the funding for RVS will be for the 2021/22 school year. The profile highlights the revenue that will be provided to RVS in order to operate in the upcoming school year.

The 2021/22 funding profile reflects small changes made to the funding manual (2020/21 funding profile is provided to facilitate comparison).

Alberta Education highlighted that RVS should receive nearly \$7.2 million less if the formula was followed because we did not achieve our projected enrolment in the 2020/21 school year. This amount is shown as a reduction followed later by the restoration of those funds. Administration appreciates that government is not withholding funds as a result of enrolment fluctuations resulting from the pandemic.

Overall 'base instruction' revenue is slightly higher reflecting our new weighted moving average (\$350K).

Alberta Education has moved some funding from the general specialized learning support into new grant categories – one of which is only finalized after specific information is provided in the fall. Net revenue in the 'services and supports' grouping is up \$450K.

The 'schools' grouping of grants saw some significant restructuring. While referred to as the 'schools' grouping of grants – it actually provides funding for maintenance, insurance, utilities, planning, caretaking, internet, transportation and capital projects. Overall, that grouping sees a \$1 million revenue reduction with the majority of that reduction in the operations and maintenance grant. The way revenue is being allocated to jurisdictions for infrastructure maintenance renewal has been recorded quite differently for this upcoming year - a portion on the funding profile (IMR operating portion) and the remaining being provided by separate letter (see attached).



INFORMATION ITEM

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The 'community' grant grouping remains very similar to 2020/21 with a small \$35k increase.

The 'system administration' grant remains frozen at the 2020/21 as expected.

Lastly, 'bridge' funding remains in 2021/22 again with no details behind how it is calculated.

With formula changes and how they record the grants from year-to-year, it does make it challenging to compare 2021/22 revenue to 2020/21 revenue. That said, overall funding profile comparisons show RVS receiving \$238.5 million in 2020/21 and \$239.8 million in 2021/22 (when you include the CMR portion provided by way of a separate allocation letter).

It is important to remember that while revenue is allocated to RVS using the funding formula and Alberta Education grant structure, Boards across Alberta have discretion to spend the money (with a few exceptions) how they best determine for their communities.

Administration continues to work with the Board's Budget Committee to develop a 2021/22 budget proposal for the Board's consideration by the end of May 2021.

Recommendation:

The Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the Funding Profile Update as information.

2021/22 RVS Funding profile

The Rocky View School Division		
Projected Operational Funding - as of March 2021		
	New Funding Framework Grants	Budget 2021
Base Instruction	Grade ECS	\$5,527,336
	Grades 1 - 9	\$111,829,862
	High Schools	\$36,301,994
	Rural Small Schools	\$1,015,000
	Home Education & Shared Responsibility	\$161,275
	Outreach Programs	\$150,000
	Distance Education (Non-Primary)	\$0
	Sub-Total	\$154,985,467
Services & Supports	ECS Pre-K Program Unit Funding (PUF)	\$768,300
	Moderate Language Delay Grant (Pre-K & SLS K) ¹	\$304,000
	Specialized Learning Support	\$17,264,814
	Specialized Learning Support - Kindergarten (Severe)	\$1,994,250
	First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education	\$1,440,853
	English as a Second Language	\$1,219,680
	Francisation	\$0
	Refugee Student	\$54,450
	Institutional Programs (EPI)	\$0
Schools	Operations & Maintenance Grant	\$20,594,904
	SuperNet	\$480,000
	Transportation	\$12,958,866
	Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (Operating)	\$2,709,856
Community	Socio-Economic Status	\$1,530,972
	Geographic	\$1,509,091
	Fort McMurray Allowance	\$0
	School Nutrition Program	\$150,000
	Francophone Equivalency	\$0
Jurisdictions	System Administration	\$8,332,289
	2020-21 Funding Adjustment	-\$7,183,674
A	Total	\$219,114,118
B	Provincial COVID Mitigation Support	\$7,183,674
C	Bridge Funding	\$10,523,073
D = A+B+C	Budget 2021 - Projected Operational Funding²	\$236,820,865
E	Budget 2020 - Estimated Operational Funding ²	\$235,201,437
F = D - E	\$ Increase/Decrease compared to 2020/21 Level	\$1,619,428
Financial Health of the School Division (2019/20 School Year)		
	Operating Reserves	\$15,946,762
	ASO % of Operating Expenses (Provincial ASO - 5%)	5.9%
	Capital Reserves	\$6,509,339
	Government of Canada Safe Return to Class Fund 2020/21	\$10,285,850

Notes:

¹ Moderate Language Delay Grant (Code 48 Pre-K & SLS K) estimates will be updated using the September 30th actual enrolment count for the 2021/22 school year.

² School jurisdictions operational funding excludes Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) grant. CMR allocation details for school jurisdictions are provided in the CMR Project Approval Letters.

2021/22 CMR Revenue Allocation

AR115347

March 31, 2021

Mr. Larry Paul
Secretary-Treasurer
The Rocky View School Division
2651 Chinook Winds Drive SW
Airdrie, Alberta T4B 0B4

Dear Mr. Paul:

CMR funding is provided to all Alberta school divisions to support safe and healthy school environments for students and staff.

In 2020/21, School divisions were provided with \$250 million in accelerated CMR funds to stimulate job growth and support Alberta's economy while addressing the highest priority projects. The program was structured as an accelerated Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) program, where funding was brought forward from future years. Overall, Government will provide \$84 million more over four years with the accelerated CMR funding.

For the 2021/22 government fiscal year, a new Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) program has been implemented, providing funding for specific maintenance and renewal projects identified by school jurisdictions and approved in accordance with government criteria. Your November 2020 submission of proposed Capital Maintenance and Renewal projects for the 2021/22 fiscal year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022) were used by Treasury Board to help determine the amount of CMR funding allocated in Budget 2021 and the updated standardized and centralized process in CMR management will allow for greater transparency and accountability for government decision-makers regarding the effectiveness of CMR investments.

The Rocky View School Division has been approved up to **\$2,938,194** in Capital Maintenance and Renewal funding, which will address ongoing capital maintenance needs.

A summary of your previous allocation (2020/2021) and current allocation (2021/2022) is as follows:

	2020/2021	2021/2022
IMR (Operational Funding)	\$2,678,568*	\$2,709,856*
CMR (Capital Funding)	\$3,311,316*	\$2,938,194**
CMR Stimulus (2020/2021 Only)	\$6,700,000**	-
Total Funding	\$12,689,884	\$5,648,050

*Allocated over **school** year (September to August).

Allocated over **fiscal year (April to March).

The IMR (Operational Funding) allocation for your jurisdiction for the 2021/2022 **school** year (September 1, 2021 to August 30, 2022) will be included in the 2021/2022 operational funding profile for your jurisdiction.

Attachment 1 includes projects identified by your jurisdiction that have been deemed both eligible and non-eligible to be completed using CMR funding. You are approved to undertake any or all of these projects within your jurisdiction's allocated CMR funding for 2021/22. You will also have the flexibility to substitute for emergent projects, revise timelines and scope of work as needed.

Budget 2021 includes both Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) funding and Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding for school jurisdictions. Your CMR funding approval has been noted above, while the IMR funding will continue to be allocated using the same formula as previously used. Both CMR and IMR projects must meet the IMR eligibility criteria outlined in the School Capital Manual; however, there are differences in terms of project identification, capitalization, reporting requirements and payment schedule.

CMR

Project Identification - Jurisdictions were required to submit a list in November 2020 identifying the CMR projects they intend to undertake in the coming fiscal year. As a part of the provincial capital planning process, it is anticipated that jurisdictions will be required to submit their CMR needs on an annual basis.

In order to allow you to address emergent issues or changes in priority that may arise during the year, you may substitute or add other projects where necessary and appropriate. Changes do not need to be requested in advance, however, they will need to be reported on a quarterly basis to be included in the province's fiscal updates. Any projects that are deemed ineligible upon submission of the Statement of Final Costs will have to be retroactively funded through another means. If you have questions regarding the eligibility of a project you wish to undertake but which you had not previously identified on your CMR project list, please contact your Capital Planning manager.

Capitalization - Projects completed within the CMR funding allocation must be capitalized unless otherwise indicated.

Reporting - Any additions or substitutions of CMR projects must be reported quarterly, along with any changes to the scope and/or timeline of previously identified projects. If you make no changes, you must still submit a quarterly report indicating the same. Attachment 2 is the CMR quarterly reporting form. Please submit your quarterly report to Capital Planning (edc.cpdata@gov.ab.ca).

Projects must be entered into VFA and the Statement of Final costs must be submitted annually.

Payment – CMR allocations will be paid in two separate installments, one in May and one in September.

IMR

Project identification - IMR projects do not need to be identified in advance; however, any projects that are deemed ineligible upon submission of the Statement of Final Costs will have to be retroactively funded through another means. If you have questions regarding the eligibility of a project you wish to undertake using IMR funding, please contact your Capital Planning manager.

Capitalization - Funding provided under the existing IMR program will no longer be subject to the 30 per cent capitalization requirement.

Reporting - Projects must be entered into VFA and the Statement of Final costs must be submitted annually by December 31 for the prior school year. There is no requirement for any quarterly or interim reporting.

Payment - IMR allocations will continue to be made on a school year basis (September to August), with a single payment being made in April.

I trust this information will address questions you may have had about the CMR and IMR programs. If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact your Capital Planning manager.

Regards,

Erin Owens, B.Sc., B.Ed.
Executive Director
Capital Planning

Attachments:

1. Eligible Capital Maintenance and Renewal Projects
2. Capital Maintenance and Renewal Quarterly Report Template

The Rocky View School Division

Projected Operational Funding - New Funding Framework - As of April 2020

New Funding Framework Grants

Base Instruction	Grade ECS	\$5,639,823
	Grades 1 - 9	\$111,756,488
	High Schools	\$35,366,645
	Rural Small Schools	\$1,075,000
	Home Education & Shared Responsibility	\$165,900
	Outreach Programs	\$150,000
	Distance Education	\$175,000
	Sub -Total	\$154,328,856
Services & Supports	Specialized Learning Support (SLS)	\$19,266,558
	First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education	\$1,288,440
	English as a Second Language	\$1,244,936
	Francisation	\$0
	Refugee Student	\$70,400
	Institutional Programs (EPI)	\$0
	ECS Pre-K Program Unit Funding (PUF)	\$726,900
Schools	Operations & Maintenance Grant	\$21,298,175
	SuperNet	\$480,000
	Transportation	\$12,958,866
	Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal	\$5,989,884
Community	Socio-Economic Status	\$1,505,941
	Geographic	\$1,499,991
	Fort McMurray Allowance	\$0
	School Nutrition Program	\$150,000
	Francophone Equivalency	\$0
Jurisdictions	System Administration	\$8,332,289
Total		\$229,141,237
Budget 2019 - Estimated Operational Funding		\$235,180,000
Bridge Funding for New Framework		\$9,371,516
Total Funding Support with Bridge Funding		\$238,512,753
\$ Increase		\$3,332,753

DIRECTIVE FOR ACTION



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE BOARD CHAIR

Item: Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements

Date of Meeting: April 22, 2021

Background:

Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statement (BP1) includes the current vision, mission, and values for Rocky View Schools and was last updated in 2008.

From March 2018 – October 2019, RVS conducted wide reaching stakeholder engagement around the creation of the 2019-2023 Four Year Plan and to define RVS' new learning narrative. Part of this process was to include the creation of a new vision, mission, and values for RVS, but this did not occur. The Board approved the 2019-2023 Four Year Plan in November 2019 without addressing the foundation statements from 2008.

In October 2020, the Board Planning Committee revisited the conversation around the creation of a updated vision and mission for RVS in order to provide high level strategic direction for the division. The Board Planning Committee directed the Superintendent to engage a consultant to support the Board and the senior leadership team in reviewing the vision/mission/values/beliefs statements.

Current Status:

In January 2021, RVS engaged the services of a consultant to work with the Board and Senior Executive to review BP1. The group meet several times throughout Feb – April and reviewed the current vision, mission, and values as described in BP1 and determined that an update to the policy would allow the foundation statements to better align with current language in the Four Year Plan and current philosophy and practice found throughout RVS.

The Board and Senior Executive working group have drafted a new BP1 for the Board's consideration. The draft policy is attached below.

Summary of the proposed changes:

- Complete re-write of the policy including revised vision, purpose and values that better reflect language of 4YP and current philosophy and practice.
- Added a background to highlight the intent and reason for the policy.
- Adjusted format to align with standard policy layout.

Alternatives:

Alternative I

The Board of Trustees approves the attached Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements.

Alternative II

The Board of Trustees approves an amended Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements.



DIRECTIVE FOR ACTION

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE BOARD CHAIR

Alternative III

The Board of Trustees refers the draft Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements back to the working group for further review.

Alternative IV

The Board of Trustees refers the draft Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements to the Policy Committee for review.

Recommendation:

The Board of Trustees approves the attached Board Policy 1 – Foundation Statements.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Trustees provides strategic direction and guidance to the Division through the establishment of foundation statements which help guide decisions of the Board and the Division. They articulate shared values that set the framework to help fulfill the mandate of student achievement while ensuring an organizational culture that is strong, healthy, and engaging.

VISION

Rocky View Schools is a world-class learning organization where all students achieve their absolute best.

PURPOSE

Rocky View Schools connects with all students to ensure that everyone learns, belongs, and succeeds.

VALUES

LEARNING

- We are student-centered, actively supporting students where they are at.
- We create high-quality engaging environments where students take ownership of their learning.
- We promote life-long learning.

PEOPLE

- We treat each other and ourselves with respect, kindness, and compassion.
- We seek opportunities to collaborate, cooperate, and include others.
- We learn from the diversity of our students, staff, and families.

COMMUNITY

- We engage with stakeholders and seek partnership opportunities.
- We communicate to enhance relationships and build public trust.
- We hold ourselves accountable for actions and results.

INNOVATION

- We nurture creativity and critical thought.
- We pursue new ways and challenge the status quo.
- We encourage risk taking and recognize there are multiple pathways to success.

Legal References:

- Preamble, Section 3, 7, 11, 18, 25, 27, 33, 35.1, 51, 52, 53, 67, 222 *Education Act*
- *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*
- Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12
- Policy and Requirements for School Board Planning and Reporting
- School Authority Planning and Reporting Reference Guide