

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

Dec. 15. 2022

Exemplary Practice: Chestermere High School Offers Hairstyling Apprenticeship

- Chestermere High School offers the only full Hairstyling Apprenticeship program in Rocky View Schools (RVS). Teacher, Melody McIntyre provided the Board with information about this innovative program as well as the school's barbering course. Students in both programs engage in hands-on learning, honing their skills on both mannequins and human models.
- All modules in the Hairstyling Apprenticeship program are dual credit and recognized by the Trade and Apprenticeship board, meaning students who complete the program have achieved the equivalent of a post-secondary cosmetology course. The program is intended for students who want to work toward becoming licensed hairstylists.
- New this year, is an introductory barbering course which teaches students haircutting skills such as facial trimming, neck hair removal, razor and shear cutting, and clipper cutting.
- Both programs tie into Goal One of RVS' Four-Year Plan of connecting students to passions, interests and people.

Board Approves 2022-26 Strategic Plan

- Trustees approved the 2022-26 Strategic Plan which will guide the division's focus over the next four years. Work on the strategic plan began in the spring of 2022 with feedback from parents/guardians and staff collected at various stages. This is RVS' first division-wide strategic plan. The priorities identified in the strategic plan are:
 - Improving our students' learning
 - Strengthening our workforce
 - Bolstering our infrastructure
 - Connecting with our community
- On Oct. 3, the Board released the draft strategic plan priorities and goals and received a total of 1,430 feedback responses from parents/guardians and staff which was used to finalize the plan.
- The Board and senior executive team wish to thank our students, parents, staff and community members whose feedback throughout the process helped to shape the strategic plan.
- A copy of the complete strategic plan can be found on the RVS website at rockyview.ab.ca

Annual Education Results Report Highlights Successes and Challenges in RVS

- Each year, school boards submit an Annual Education Results Report (AERR) to Alberta Education. RVS' 2021/22 AERR highlights the accomplishments and initiatives designed to help our students connect to passions, interests, and people, achieve their potential and navigate successfully as global citizens while attending our schools.

- Some of the highlights include:
 - Students and staff were once again faced with challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic; however, our commitment to advancing literacy and numeracy in schools stayed strong. Many elementary schools benefitted from additional government dollars to support learning that was disrupted by the pandemic for our youngest students.
 - With the benefit of additional board funding, students and staff had access to additional mental health supports throughout the year.
 - The 2021/2022 school year saw the return of provincial exams. Diploma exams and provincial achievement tests were not written in the winter session, however, they were re-established in the spring; with Diploma exams holding less value towards a student's final mark than they had in the past.
 - This was the second year we conducted the RVS-specific Education Plan Survey, and we recorded 14,570 student, parent and teacher responses – a 45 per cent increase from the previous year. Data from the survey is part of how we tell our story about our progress toward our goals.
- The format of this year's AERR continues our approach of sharing data and highlighting stories within RVS. While the document is lengthy, these stories help make our learning visible and put faces to the data we see throughout the report. All pictures contained within the AERR come from RVS classrooms and activities.
- The 2021/22 AERR is available at rockyview.ab.ca

Changes to Board Meeting Schedule Approved

- Trustees approved changes to the schedule intended to balance the number of Board meetings and planning meetings in February and March 2023.
- The Feb. 2, 2023 Board meeting will be rescheduled to Feb. 9, 2023, while the Feb. 16, 2023 Board meeting will be cancelled. The Mar. 9, 2023 Board meeting will be rescheduled to Mar. 2, 2023.

Minor Updates to Board Policy to Align with New Strategic Plan

- The Board of Trustees provides strategic direction and guidance to the division through the establishment of foundation statements in Board Policy 1 (BP1) which outline the shared vision/purpose and values for the division.
- As part of the development process of the Board's 2022-26 Strategic Plan, a review of Board Policy 1 was undertaken to ensure coherence with the proposed strategic plan. With a few minor changes, overall, the group felt the new strategic plan fit well within the vision/purpose and values articulated in BP1.