



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RVS EDUCATION CENTRE
2651 CHINOOK WINDS DR. SW

AIRDRIE, AB

ZOOM LINK: <https://rockyview.zoom.us/my/rvsboard>

OCTOBER 19, 2023

10:00 a.m. Regular Board Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. In Camera Meeting
4. Return to Public Portion of the Agenda
 - Trustee Todd Brand**
Rocky View Schools would like to acknowledge the land and recognize all the Indigenous Peoples whose footprints have marked these lands from time immemorial. Together, we can learn and honour the ways of knowing of Indigenous Peoples for all future generations.
5. Motions Arising from In Camera
6. Approval of Minutes
 - a) Regular Board Meeting – October 5, 2023
7. Exemplary Practice/ Student Showcase
 - a) Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship Galápagos Expedition
8. Delegation
 - a) R. Sweet
9. Superintendent's Report
10. Chair's Report/Correspondence
11. Committee Reports
 - a) Planning
12. Trustee Reports
13. New Business
14. 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: Oct. 19, 2023

Showcase Name: Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship Galápagos Expedition

Teacher: Jander Talen (Cochrane High School)

Project Description

Cochrane High School Teacher, Jander Talen developed ROAMS (Rivers, Oceans and Mountain School), a Grade 10 program at Cochrane High School where students spend an entire semester in a cohort that builds deep meaningful relationships with the land, other students and various subject materials. In this environmental and outdoor education, building a relationship with the land is key; otherwise, the learning that takes place will not have a lasting impact.

This year, Talen was selected to be a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow with the National Geographic Society and Lindblad Expeditions. During September, he participated in a 10-day expedition aboard a ship in the Galápagos Islands. By day two, he'd developed his own deep relationship with the islands. During this presentation, he will share about this meaningful experience and how he plans to mimic strategies used by naturalists and photographers to help RVS students fall in love with our local wild spaces.

Good morning, Madame Chairperson, good morning all Board members present in the room and those watching through ZOOM.

My name is Rick Sweet.

I have been a tax-paying citizen of Airdrie for the past thirty years.

My children went through the Rocky View Schools public school system. During their school years, I was very active in the School Councils in the schools that they attended.

Now, I have three grandchildren attending in Rocky View Schools.

As my written request to the Board indicates, I wish to bring forward for your consideration several aspects of the Human Sexuality Education curriculum that is being presented in our K-8 schools, including lesson plans, resource books, videos and other interactive tools that are being provided to the teaching staff.

While I do not pretend to be a spokesperson for any particular group, I can assure you that I do not come alone. I have a considerable number of friends who share my concerns and are prepared to make a stand to see that these matters are dealt with effectively.

In all cases, I consider the materials that I am bringing forward to be entirely inappropriate for the ages of these children.

I am going to focus on the curriculum being taught in Grades 4, 5 and 6. I may touch on Grade 7 as well, time willing.

REFERENCE: LESSON PLAN FOR GRADE 4: PUBERTY CHANGES

When we talk about Grade 4 students, keep in mind that we are educating children who are 8 and 9 years old. These children are just about to experience puberty and all that has to offer physically and emotionally.

Some lesson plans in Grade 4 and Grade 5 do address puberty but somewhat callously.

This lesson plan entitled “Puberty Changes” will be the first lesson where these children are introduced to Human Sexuality Education. Immediately into that lesson, on Page 3, the students are asked in “Talking About Bodies” to identify body parts that are both similar and different between boys and girls.

When focusing on the differences between boys and girls, the teacher is directed to ensure that the class comes face to face with the words:

- Penis
- Scrotum
- Testicles
- Vulva
- Breasts

The children might offer other slang terms for these body parts, but she must stay the course until those words are added to the list.

Further to that instruction, the teacher is required to take the time to explain to the whole class the difference between the “vagina” and the “vulva”. This, apparently, is critically important to an 8-year-old.

Keep in mind that this is quite possibly occurring in a mixed class setting.

Later in the same lesson, the students are required to sort out a variety of Puberty Change cards.

It is not enough to cover the most obvious changes, i.e. sweat glands, hair growth, voice change, etc, but the Change cards also introduce wet dreams, erections, ovulation, sexual thoughts and sexual feelings into the 8-year-old’s vocabulary.

Just take a moment to reflect.

Perhaps the board members have a child or a grandchild in that age range. Think about how that child, as self-conscious and shy as they are in front of the opposite sex as well as their teacher, is going to feel being bombarded with all of this information.

It gets better ... or worse.

REFERENCE: THE SEXUALITY WHEEL (GRADE 4+)

The Sexuality Wheel is a wonderful interactive tool that is introduced to the students in Grade 4.

The same tool is used throughout the Sexuality Education program. The wheel lists twelve different factors to one's sexuality.

As the teacher moves her mouse from one factor to another, a more definitive explanation of that factor is provided.

I have provided copies of that wheel showing the expanded description associated with "Sex", "Gender Expression", "Sexual Orientation", "Gender Identity" and "Sexual Activity".

Somehow, someone has deemed it appropriate to not only subject the 8- and 9-year-old students to all of the new and very complex terms mentioned earlier, they have also decided it would be the perfect time to bring up anal sex, oral sex and vaginal sex to them.

Plaine and simple, ask yourself, at what age would you want a stranger telling your child or your grandchild about oral sex and anal sex or even uttering those words.

Ever?

Perhaps you are starting to get the theme to my presentation.

REFERENCE: "IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL"

One of the resource materials that is listed on the sheet of "Grade 4 References" is a book titled *"It's Perfectly Normal, Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, Gender, and Sexual Health"* by Robie H. Harris.

This book is filled with expertly drawn pictures of young children and teens masturbating and involved in other sexual activities including heterosexual sex, sex between two females and sex between two males.

I have provided a couple of pages of those illustrations in my presentation materials, but believe me, there are lots more.

And this book can be found throughout all of the schools in Rocky View, either with the staff or in the school library where it can be accessed by pretty much anyone.

But rest assured, it is all in good fun, because the primary message in this book is that sexual intercourse feels oh so good and if the two people both have female parts, or if the two people both have male parts, you don't have to worry about a baby.

Again ... such a valuable lesson for an 8- or 9-year-old child.

REFERENCE: GRADE 5 ACTIVITY – SEXUAL REPRODUCTION STEPS

Let's move on to Grade 5. Here, the students are much older, they are now 9-and 10-year-olds.

After a brief review of the Puberty Changes from Grade 4, the class moves right to the Sexual Reproduction Steps.

Sounds harmless enough, but again we have to picture these materials being presented in a mixed class of young people wrestling with their own puberty issues and kicking around terms like sperm, semen, erect penises, ejaculation.

The group is expected to learn the thirteen different steps involved in sexual reproduction and place them in the correct order.

Actually, compared to what was introduced in Grade 4, and what is coming in Grade 6, this exercise is fairly moderate.

REFERENCE: GRADE 6 LESSON PLAN – SEX, REPRODUCTION AND CONSENT

Grade 6 brings so many cool activities. The key lesson plan here is "*Sex, Reproduction and Consent*".

After a review of the egg -producing reproductive system and the sperm-producing reproductive system, the teacher introduces the concept of "consent".

The teacher is very careful to refer to the definitions of consent under Canadian law, and generally speaking, the age of consent to sexual activity is 16 years.

REFERENCE: AGE OF CONSENT TO SEXUAL ACTIVITY, AGE OF CONSENT OVERHEAD

You will note that the overhead provided to the students very plainly points out that there are circumstances where a person can consent to sexual activity at the age of 14-15, and other situations, even at the age of 12 to 13.

The overhead cautions that anyone under the age of 12 cannot consent to any type of sexual activity. The students in this class are 11 years old, so in any situation imaginable, they are still too young to consent to have sexual relations.

Nevertheless, the lesson spends a considerable amount of time focusing on “consent”, what does consent mean? How do you ask for consent? Let’s practice!

There are exercises described where two students are required to practise asking for consent, from “May I borrow your blue pen?” to “Can I wear your jacket?” to “Would you let me kiss you on your cheek? And on and on.

Do you see where this is heading? From the 4th grade on, the students are encouraged to find out more and more about sex and ultimately, to try it out.

So ... we need to make sure these kids are prepared.

REFERENCE: VIDEO “USING A CONDOM”

One of the feature activities in the Grade 6 lesson plan is the “*Using a Condom*” video where the 10- and 11-year-old children are shown in graphic detail all the steps to removing a condom from its package, learning to recognize how to roll it in the right direction, the option to use additional lubricant if preferred, how to put the condom on, how to remove it safely and how to dispose of it properly.

You could not make a more complete YouTube video.

You may prefer to view this video prior to my presentation. Here is the link.

<https://teachingsexualhealth.ca/teachers/resource/using-a-condom-video/>

REFERENCE: TEACHER NOTES FOR EXTERNAL CONDOM DEMONSTRATION

As complete as that video seems, the teacher is not allowed to excuse herself at the back of the classroom while the video is being shown. There are “*Teacher Notes for External Condom Demonstration*” that she is required to refer to as she follows along with the video.

You should note the very first item in that document.

For some reason, the teacher is advised to “consider using a flavoured condom if available to help emphasize the importance of using condoms to prevent STI transmission during oral sex” to a 10-year-old child.

If that video would not be shocking enough, the teacher can also show the Grade 6 class “Using an Internal (Vaginal) Condom” and “Using a Dental Dam”, both equally entertaining and both with Teacher Notes.

REFERENCE: CONDOM LINE-UP GAME

To reinforce the information presented in the video on using a condom, the teacher has at his/her disposal the “Condom Line-Up Game”. In this game, all of the sixteen (16) steps in properly using a condom have been written out on cards, and teams have to arrange the cards in the proper order.

REFERENCE: GRADE 7 DECISION MAKING - “AM I READY?”

The capper is in Grade 7. I have only one slide to show you from Grade 7. It is called “*Am I Ready?*” where the student is required to look at all those factors shown on the Sexuality Wheel and determine whether, at age 12, they are ready to take that next step, **because, remember, as it was pointed out in the “Consent” overhead, it is legal for them to do so!**

Before I conclude, I just want to go back one more time to the Grade 6 lesson on “consent”. The reference material that explains the various exceptions to the Age of Consent also provides very clear definitions of “sexual exploitation”, “sexual offences”, “child sexual offences” and “child pornography”.

To quote from that reference,

Child pornography is broadly defined and includes any representation of a person who is, or is depicted as being, under the age of 18 years, engaged in explicit sexual activity, or,

written, visual and audio material whose dominant characteristic is the description of unlawful sexual activity with a person under the age of 18 for a sexual purpose.

It is against the law for child pornography to be:

- made
- distributed
- made available
- sold
- possessed or accessed
- advertised
- exported or imported.

Which brings me back to “It’s Perfectly Normal”, the reference book that was introduced at Grade 4. This book certainly approaches the broad definition of child pornography. In any case, it is most definitely inappropriate for children in Grades 4, 5 and 6 to have access to it. Here are several other books that I have brought to share with you.

REFERENCE: IDENTICAL by ELLEN HOPKINS

I do not intend to read the passage from this book that I have provided in my presentation materials.

Suffice to say that “Identical” is the story of twin sisters. In the segment entitled “Mom Was Gone Again”, the author describes in graphic detail an incident when her father comes into the room and violates her sister several times.

REFERENCE: ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE by GEORGE M. JOHNSON

The excerpt provided from this book describes in vivid detail a young boy's sexual experience with another boy. This is actually found on page 266 in a chapter titled "Losing My Virginity Twice".

Twice you say? You will have to flip back to Chapter 11, titled "Boys Will Be Boys" on pages 200 to 206, to find out the circumstances of his first encounter.

Not to worry. Both of these books are readily available in the school library system within Rocky View Division.

REFERENCE: LET'S TALK ABOUT IT by ERIKA MOEN and MATTHEW NOLAN

I have selected just a few pages to give you a flavour for the graphic illustrations in this book, most notably the illustration of anal sex on page 91.

There is so much more that I could have provided.

For instance, the chapter entitled "what is ... masturbation?" found on pages 107 to 124, where the authors offer various tips on how to get good at it and explain the use of sex toys to further enhance the experience.

REFERENCE: BOOKS TO BE REMOVED FROM SCHOOLS

Good news. This is my last document to address.

Besides the books that I have presented here, I have provided an extended list of other books that can be found in our classrooms, teachers' desks and school libraries throughout Rocky View Division, all of which fall under the broad definition of child pornography.

As was described in the Criminal Code of Canada, penalties range from 10 to 14 years for possessing, accessing, or making child pornography to others.

GOING FORWARD

As part of my application to come before you, I was required to provide my “Recommendations for Action”. It should not come as any surprise to you that I will suggest the following steps be taken immediately to address these issues:

- Immediately secure all copies of the books listed with this presentation and have all of them removed from all schools, all school libraries and from any personnel in Rocky View School Division. They are clearly child pornography and continuing to provide access to them puts everyone here in a precarious position.
- Cease and desist in using the Sexuality Wheel as an interactive tool in any of the K-8 schools.
- Cease and desist showing the “Using a Condom” and similar videos in any classroom in our K-8 schools.
- Suspend the teaching of Human Sexuality Education in K-8 schools until further notice until a Parent Committee can be assembled to work with your teachers on age-appropriate lessons.

The teaching staff currently are expected to have an alternate lesson plan for any student who has chosen to opt out of these lessons. Simply, that alternate lesson becomes the lesson for the whole class.

- When these classes reconvene, it shall be mandatory that all classes on Human Sexuality Education be segregated “male” with male teachers and “female” with female teachers.
- In future classes on Human Sexuality Education, the focus will be to emphasize abstinence versus encouraging sexual activity.

In conclusion, what I have described in the current curriculum is referred to as “grooming”. This strategy is not acceptable to myself nor to the parents, grandparents and citizens of Airdrie and Rocky View.

We are **not** going to stand by idly while our children are taken away from us. You may see myself and a few of my friends carrying placards saying

“STOP GROOMING OUR CHILDREN”

or

“LEAVE OUR KIDS ALONE”

or similar messages.

Perhaps you will appreciate the meaning behind those words.

We will continue to protect our children, and we expect the members of the School Board to seriously consider what each of you are prepared to do to protect our children too.

Thank you for your time.

Rick Sweet



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OCTOBER 19, 2023

AGENDA

1. New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Naming Committee

ACTION

Directive

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



DIRECTIVE FOR ACTION

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Date of Meeting: October 19, 2023

Item: New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Naming Committee

Background:

The new school in Langdon was approved for build funding by the Alberta Government in the Spring of 2020. Since that time, the P3 consortium, working with Alberta Infrastructure and RVS, has designed and is currently constructing the school. This coming September (2024), the school will be open for students.

Administrative Procedure AP5402 details RVS' process for naming a new school. It states the requirement of the formation of the Board Ad Hoc Naming Committee.

Current Status:

The attached Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference have been drafted for the Board's consideration.

Alternatives:

Alternative I:

The Board approves the proposed New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Committee.

Alternative II:

The Board approves the amended New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Committee.

Alternative III:

The Board refers the matter to the Board Planning Committee for further discussion.

Recommendation:

The Board approves the proposed New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Committee.



New School in Langdon Ad Hoc Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose:

The Ad-hoc Committee's purpose is to consult with stakeholders, engage in conversation with the public; subsequently, provide recommendations for a maximum of two school names for the new school located in Langdon for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

Membership:**Voting Members**

- a) One (1) Trustee (Ward 2 trustee)
- b) Two (2) parents/guardians
- c) Two (2) to Four (4) additional members compiled from the following groups:
 - i. Community Representatives
 - ii. School Administration
 - iii. RVC Representatives
 - iv. Developer Representatives
 - v. RVS Communication Department staff
 - vi. RVS Students

Advisory Member

The Director of Facility Planning and Capital Projects shall facilitate and be responsible for Chairing, maintaining records, meeting minutes and providing information and/or as required to the Committee.

If the Director of Facility Planning and Capital Projects requests a recorder then a recorder shall be assigned to the Committee.

Areas of Focus:

- a) Consult the community about possible names for the facility;
- b) Review suggestions regarding the naming of facilities made to the Ad Hoc Committee; and
- c) Follow the guidelines for naming set out in Administrative Procedure AP5402.

Authority:

Provide recommendations of two possible school names for consideration by the Board of Trustees by February 1, 2024.

Meetings:

Meetings, as required, will be called by the Committee Chair. Notice of meetings and meeting agendas will be sent to each member prior to each meeting by the Director Facility Planning and Capital Projects or delegate.

Remuneration of Committee Members:

- a) Trustees will be remunerated according to Board Policy 27
- b) Public will not receive remuneration for their involvement

Budget:

None required.

Purpose/Background

The Division believes that naming a facility or a portion thereof such as an auditorium or athletic field is a matter that deserves thoughtful research and consultation to reflect the dynamic and fluid nature of facility usage. The Division supports the naming of facilities after prominent community figures, geography, or unique features of the community.

Procedures

1. The Director of Facility Planning will advise the Superintendent, where possible providing one-year notice, of the need for a School/Field Naming Ad Hoc Board Committee to be formed. The Superintendent of Schools will bring forward to the Board the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee. The Superintendent will draft the Committee Terms of Reference for the Board's consideration based on the following criteria:
 - 1.1. Chair of the Committee will be the Director of Facility Planning, who will be accompanied on the Committee by a minimum of one Trustee, two parents/guardians and anywhere from two (minimum) – four (maximum) additional members. The additional members should be community representatives, school administration, municipal representatives, developer representatives, RVS Communications Department staff and/or students. The naming of an outdoor area or sports field will also include representation from the Grounds Coordinator or designate.
 - 1.2. Notice of the Committee formation, including information on becoming a member, is to be posted in the local paper for one week prior, and on RVS' website for two weeks prior, to the first meeting date in which the Committee is formed.
 - 1.3. The Director of Facility Planning will be responsible for chairing, maintaining records and minutes of the meetings, as well as providing information on the new school site/building/design.
 - 1.4. The Committee is responsible to provide the Board of Trustees with a maximum of two recommendations for the new school name.
2. The Director of Facility Planning will bring the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee to the Board of Trustees for review, selection and approval.
 - 2.1. Once approved, the name shall be submitted to Alberta Education.
3. Naming Requirements:
 - 3.1. The community shall be consulted about possible names for the facility.
 - 3.2. All suggestions regarding the naming of facilities must be made to the Ad Hoc Committee, in writing and shall include the reason(s) for the request.
 - 3.3. Names selected are to:
 - 3.3.1. Have significance for the students, parents and the community of the particular facility or donor and reflect the vision of the Division;
 - 3.3.2. Be easily identifiable with the facility;
 - 3.3.3. Create a distinct identity relative to the names of other facilities in the Division, or surrounding Divisions;

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- 3.3.4. Consider prominent community members only posthumously (minimum of 10 years);
 - 3.3.5. Consider long term impacts to naming of future facilities in the community; and,
 - 3.3.6. Avoid specifying programs and/or grade configurations to provide for maximum flexibility in the future.
4. Where possible, the process of naming new facilities is to begin a year prior to facility opening.
 5. Rooms or spaces within a school shall not be named after/for an individual or company. Schools may place plaques of recognition of major donations or contributions inside the school or on major fields/playgrounds but shall not name the space in recognition. Named spaces as of August 2018 are allowed to continue but no new naming of such spaces is permitted.

Reference(s):

- School Act Sections 20, 60, 61, 113, and 116
- Board Policy 8
- AP5114 – Donations



COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE BOARD PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report Date: October 19, 2023

Committee Members Present:

All Trustees

Greg Luterbach, Superintendent

Mike Guidon Associate Superintendent of Business & Operations

Tara De Weerd, Director of Communications

Ashley Maroukian, Recording Secretary

Meeting Date: October 5, 2023

Key Meeting Points:

- Airdrie Building Safer Communities Initiative
- Building Future Ready Students
- Caretaking update

Future Considerations:

- Update on dates for Self -Evaluation

Committee Recommendations/Decisions:

Planning committee moved to bring forward the following items to for Board consideration

- Nothing going forward to the Board