

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

Nov. 16, 2023

Exemplary Practice – New Practice Provides Support to RVS’ Teachers

- Rocky View Schools’ (RVS) learning specialists support teachers in their overall instructional practice with the goal of improving student learning.
- Recently, RVS has begun embedding learning specialists in specific schools for four- to six-week cycles, making them available to work directly with teachers on their instruction.
- The learning specialists offer professional learning, team teaching, co-planning, modelling, one-to-one conversations about overall practice, and small group work with department or grade teams – all to explore different approaches to pedagogy and build teacher capacity.
- RVS learning specialists Jane Roberts and David Moore presented to the Board of Trustees (the Board) on the work they did with teachers at Springbank Community High School, and Principal, Darrell Lonsberry spoke to how their work improved and supplemented the skills his teachers practice in classrooms every day.

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. Additional information regarding this community engagement will be provided when available. The review will be completed by December 2024.

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.
- This edition of RVS’ AERR continues our approach of a blend of storytelling and data. Within its pages, you will find stories about many of the important teaching practices, events and activities taking place within RVS on a daily basis.
- Highlights include:

- 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.
- 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.
- Overall diploma exam results are at the provincial average while our high school completion rates are better than the provincial average.
- 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

Community Invited to Share Initial Thoughts Online Regarding Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces Plan

- Many RVS Airdrie elementary, middle and high schools are operating at or near full capacity as a result of ongoing enrolment growth and a lack of government approval for new schools or modular units.
- In September, the Board approved the Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces community engagement plan to engage the community and collect feedback on potential student accommodation changes that would best serve all Airdrie students.
- Beginning Nov. 15, community members are invited to provide their initial thoughts on the proposed solutions online on RVSEngage. Further opportunities to learn more about the proposed options and provide feedback online and in person will be offered in the new year.
- [RVSEngage](#) is the main source of information about the engagement for community members, and was updated Nov. 15 with new information, including the possible solutions being considered:
 - Converting C.W. Perry School into a high school. This will redistribute Grade 9-12 students across Airdrie. C.W. Perry was chosen because of its location in the city and ability to accommodate high school-level programming in its spaces.
 - Grade 8 students staying in their current school for Grade 9, creating a more traditional Grade 10 - 12 high school model. This minimizes the changes for families as students stay in their schools for one more year; however, it impacts the programming options our Grade 9 students currently have and increases space pressures in some schools by adding a grade. It may also require adding or removing a grade level at some other schools.
 - Re-organize grade structures across Airdrie schools to remove urgent pressures where possible (Kindergarten – Grade 6, Grade 7 – 9 and Grade 10 – 12). This addresses both high school utilization and standardizes grade configuration across the community.
- An online interactive tool, Your RVS Journey, allows parents/guardians, students and other community members to see how they might be impacted by each of the proposed solutions. The tool is available on [RVSEngage](#).

Board Ratifies Agreement with ATA Local

- After multiple bargaining sessions on collective agreement matters that are determined to be managed between RVS and ATA Local #35, the Board ratified the mediator's report and previously agreed to items.
- The Board awaits information from ATA Local #35 to determine if they will agree to the mediator's report and previously agreed to items.

Board Continues to Move Forward with New Airdrie SW High School Site

- The Board approved the sub-division agreement of the jointly owned land in SW Airdrie. The partners, RVS, City of Airdrie and Mattamy Limited, will subdivide the quarter section of land into portions for RVS, the City and the developer. RVS' portion of the land will be used for a future Airdrie high school.