



Joint
Board & School
Council Meeting

October 27, 2022

Agenda

Land Acknowledgment

Welcome & Introductions

Dinner

Administration Update

Board Update

Space for Students Advocacy Efforts

Table Discussion on Space for Students

Thank you and Adjournment

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.

2021-2025 RVS Board of Trustees



Shali Baziuk
Ward 1



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Ward 2
Board Vice-Chair



Melyssa Bowen
Ward 3



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Ward 3



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Ward 4
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Ward 5



Fiona Gilbert
Ward 6

RVS Executive Team



Greg Luterbach
Superintendent
of Schools



Murray Besenski
Associate
Superintendent
of Schools



Laurie Copeland
Associate
Superintendent
of Human
Resources



Lori Meyer
Associate
Superintendent
of Learning



Larry Paul
Associate
Superintendent
of Business and
Operations



Tara de Weerd
Director of
Communications



Dinner

Administration

- Enrolment Update

- September 29th completed our snapshot to be provided to Alberta Education
- We grew by 990 students from September 2021 – 3.7% growth from last fall
- Also, saw over 300 students move from online/alternative programs back to traditional schools and reduction of overall space through the Prince of Peace facility no longer being part of RVS resulting in even more pressure on our facilities
- Vast majority of growth in Airdrie, Cochrane and Chestermere
- Added some staffing to schools to address high growth areas

Administration

- Enrolment Update (continued)
 - Airdrie 92% overall utilization
 - Cochrane area 94% overall utilization
 - Chestermere and region 92% overall utilization
 - Springbank/Bragg Creek 81% overall utilization
 - Crossfield 89% overall utilization
 - Beiseker & Kathryn area is 61% overall utilization

Administration

- Actions to address utilization pressures
 - When government informed RVS that we would not be getting any new modulars this year, nor would they pay to move modulars from one location in RVS to another, RVS paid for and moved modular classrooms to address space needs
 - Intensified the use of some of schools (e.g., George McDougall, Springbank Middle, Bert Church) by renovating spaces to create more classroom/instructional spaces
 - Supporting the Board's Space for Students advocacy efforts
 - Joined Board when they met with Minister of Education
 - Met with Deputy Minister
 - Joined Board for meetings with local governments
 - Develop materials to support advocacy efforts
 - Develop creative solutions to address utilization challenges

Administration

- Teaching and Learning

- Excited to restore focus on this area after 2+ years of pandemic realities
- Investing in our teachers with professional learning related to new curriculum implementation which is going quite well
- Began a new assessment cycle at all schools where students have been taking part in brief standardized assessments that give the teacher important information about the child's basic skills that can be used to guide instruction or to provide additional supports if needed. The purpose is to see where they are at in their basic skills and guide us on a path of improvement
- Digging into data from a variety of sources to guide our actions (workbooks, annual education results report, awaiting PAT/Diploma data still, RVS survey, Ab Ed survey, literacy and numeracy assessment data)

Strategic Plan Update

- Consideration of a divisional strategic plan started in the Fall of 2019 when the Board identified a desire to further examine our role related to strategic governance
- Fast forward to Fall of 2022, and we are now in the home stretch for finalizing and approving the 2022-2026 RVS Strategic Plan
- It is important to the Board that the strategic plan reflects the community voice so thank you for your feedback and input – the draft strategic plan comes from feedback received from over 10,000 individuals including parents, staff, students, and community members
- The Board of Trustees believes that high-level strategic planning is an integral component of its governance and leadership roles as it sets the stage for success in advancing the Division's vision of **RVS as a world-class learning organization where all students achieve their absolute best**

Alberta School Council Engagement Grant Details

- This grant provides funding to school authorities for each school in order to support school councils fulfilling their legislated responsibilities in the education system and enhancing parent involvement and engagement

\$500 per each school council

- All funds must be spent in year received, any unused funds must be returned to Alberta Education
- School councils must report annually to the Board on how the grant was handled and used

ASCE Grant – Guidelines

- RVS will provide the funding to each school directly
- Funds must not be directed to registered fundraising societies
- The decisions for the use of the funds must be made by the school councils and recorded in council minutes
- Funds are to be used to support school councils in fulfilling their legislated responsibilities and for parent involvement and engagement activities
- Alberta Education has allowed unused funds from the 2021-2022 school year to be carried forward, and combined, with the 2022-2023 funds.

Allowable use of Funds

Parent engagement activities and projects

- Workshops for parents to increase capacity for school council members;
- Information sessions on how parents can support student learning at home and at school;
- Parent resources and workshops on important topics such as, mental health and wellbeing, cyber bullying, healthy living, etc.;
- Programs to support multi-cultural and Indigenous families including, English language learners and First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners;
- Parent resources and tools in multiple languages;
- Events to engage parents on important local issues;
- Parent engagement in promoting the value of arts;
- Trainer/facilitator costs for the professional development, workshops or sessions associated with the above.

Non-Allowable use of Funds

- Entertainment costs, meals, snacks, other food;
- No capital asset purchases;
- Activities that have already taken place;
- Organization memberships or conference fees;
- Fundraising events;
- Prizes or incentives to parents and/or students;
- Payment to school board staff including honoraria, gifts;
- Entertainment activities such as barbeques, volunteer teas, movie nights, dances, concerts or performances, etc.

ASCE Grant Use Opportunities

- Choosing ASCA programming is one way School Councils can support the work of the Alberta Schools' Association and build capacity within their School Councils.
- 11 courses available throughout the school year on the ASCA website: *The Work of School Council: It's not about the Meeting, Creating School Council Plans and Building Positive Relationships* are examples of the programming that is available to School Councils and their membership
- The cost of Level 1 training is \$200.00, Level 2 training is \$300.00 and early registrations in the workshops are recommended. Please check the website at www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca for more information on training dates and availability
- Last year, School Councils used their funds for presentations: both in person speakers and presentations via zoom; internet safety, adding books to parent libraries and ASCA workshops
- Each School Council can choose which learning opportunity best suits their needs and can also join with other School Councils to use funds to support larger presentations or speakers

Internal Process for Tracking



Budget Manager Inquiry - Selection Criteria “Other”



\$500 of revenue funding will be allocated to each school

GL Account 1-115-370-0613-###
(### = school location code)



All spending will be charged to a new account code

GL Account 1-600-370-0613-###
(### = school location code)



This has been created and should be viewable by all schools, any questions can be directed to Cindy Stuart

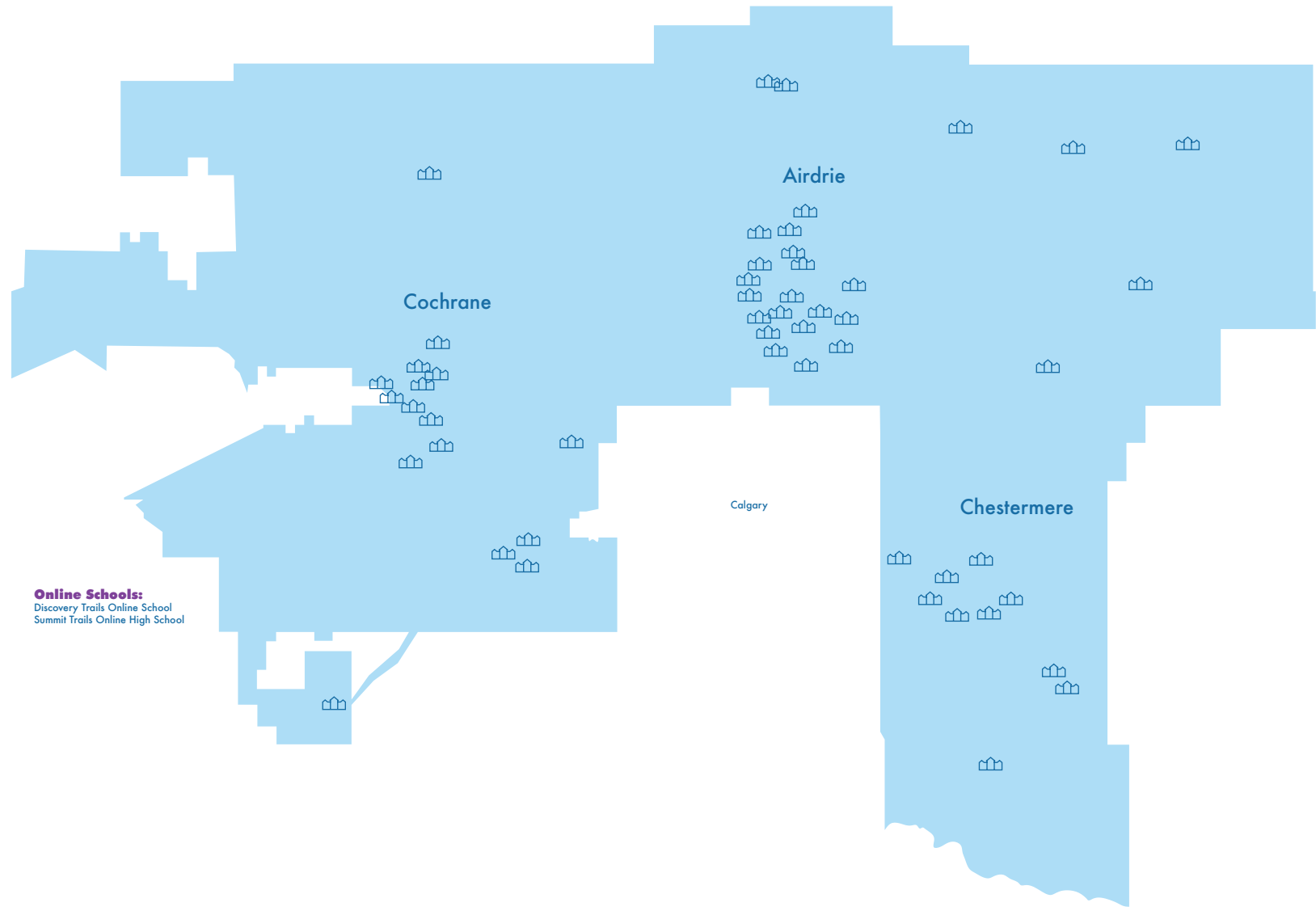
School Council Chair Packages

- To support the work of School Councils in Rocky View Schools, the School Councils Committee has put together a package of helpful information for School Council Chairs
- Content Highlights:
 - Information Binder with copies of the RVS School Council Resource Guide, relevant guidance documents and organizing document
 - Robert's Rules of Order (In Brief)
 - Token of Appreciation
 - Rocky View Schools Branded Bag
- Thank you for taking on this important role in your school community. The Board of Trustees appreciates your dedication to students in Rocky View Schools



Rocky View Schools has an urgent need for new schools to provide students with the world-class education they deserve.

SPACE for STUDENTS



Online Schools:
Discovery Trails Online School
Summit Trails Online High School

Growing population – 2001 to 2021

Airdrie

256%

Chestermere

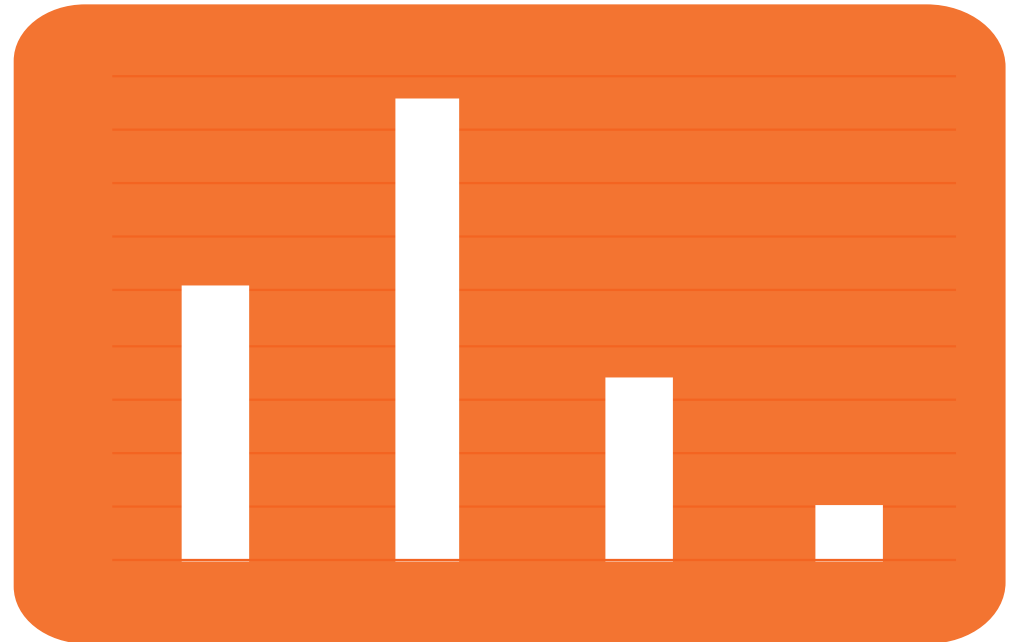
429%

Cochrane

171%

Rocky View County

48%



Rising Enrolment

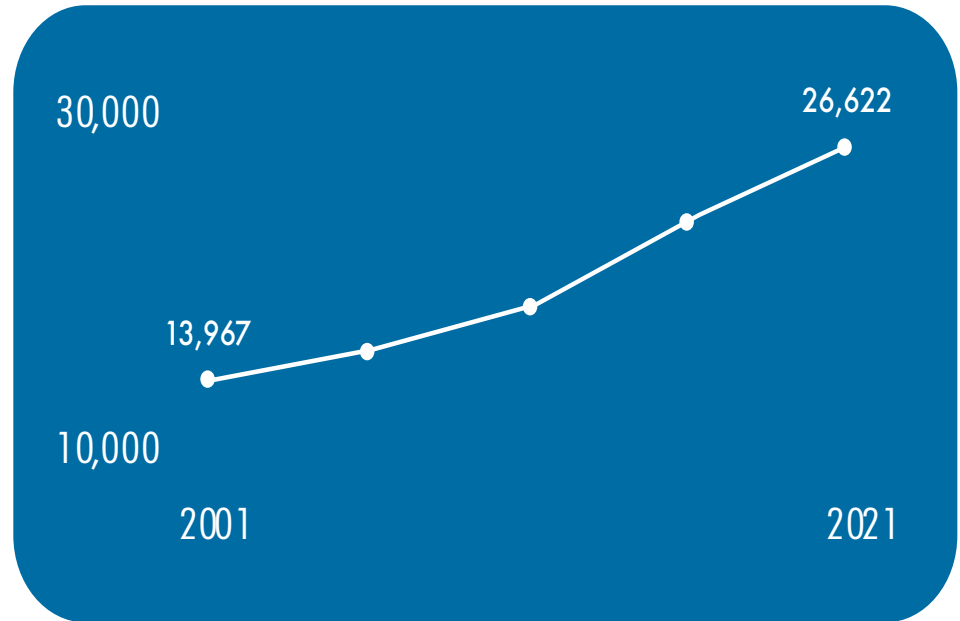
2001 to 2021

91 %

more students

projected 2026

31,665 students



Airdrie Schools – Sept 2022 Update

- Sept 29, 2022 – 12,405 students
- Building capacity 13,455 students
- Added 839 students in the 17 facilities over the past year
- Utilization rate across all RVS Airdrie schools as of Sept 29, 2022 = 92%
- Examples of schools facing significant utilization pressure:
 - Herons Crossing School 101%
 - Northcott Prairie School 103%
 - Meadowbrook School 115%
 - George McDougall High School 102%
 - Bert Church High School 99%
 - W.H. Croxford High School 109%

Cochrane Schools – Sept 2022 Update

- Sept 29, 2022 – 5,612 students
- Building capacity 5,839 students
- Added 301 students in the 8 facilities over the past year
- Utilization rate across all RVS Cochrane schools as of Sept 29, 2022 = 97% (92% if you add Bearspaw and Westbrook)
- Examples of schools facing significant utilization pressure:
 - Manachaban School 109%
 - Mitford / Cochrane Christian Academy 108%
 - Fireside 98%
 - Bow Valley High School 102%
 - Cochrane High School 105%



Chestermere & Area Schools – Sept 2022 Update

- Sept 29, 2022 – 4,931 students
- Building capacity 5,300 students
- Added 387 students in the 5 Chestermere facilities over the past year (note: many former Prince of Peace resident students moved to other Chestermere schools)
- Utilization rate across all RVS Chestermere and Area schools as of Sept 29, 2022 = 92% (96% if you exclude Indus and Langdon schools)
- Examples of schools facing significant utilization pressure:
 - East Lake 93%
 - Prairie Waters 95%
 - Chestermere High 97%
 - Chestermere Lake Middle 110%

Crowded Schools

39* 
full by 2026

23* 
currently full

1/3
of classrooms are
modular units

*RVS has 52 schools

SPACE for STUDENTS

Need for Schools

750 – 1,000

new students each year, enough to fill
one to two new schools

0

new schools approved since 2019



Capital Priorities

Proposed Priority	Capital Project	Build Out Capacity	Community	Type of Project	Site Readiness Expected
2023 BUDGET YEAR					
1	Airdrie K – 8	900	Airdrie	New Construction	Ready
2	Cochrane K – 5	600	Cochrane	New Construction	Ready
3	Chestermere K – 9	900	Chestermere	New Construction	2022
4	Airdrie High School	1,500	Airdrie	New Construction	2022
2024 BUDGET YEAR					
5	Airdrie K – 8	900	Airdrie	New Construction	2023
6	Chestermere High School	1,500	Chestermere	New Construction	2023
7	Cochrane K – 8	900	Cochrane	New Construction	2023
8	Springbank K – 8	900	Harmony	New Construction	Ready
2025 BUDGET YEAR					
9	Langdon K – 5	600	Langdon	New Construction	TBD
10	Cochrane K – 8	900	Cochrane	New Construction	TBD
11	Crossfield K – 8	600	Crossfield	New Construction	2022
12	Airdrie K – 8	900	Airdrie	New Construction	TBD

Once government approves a new school or an addition it takes approximately four years to plan and build during which time the pressure on our schools and our students intensifies.

The School Build Process

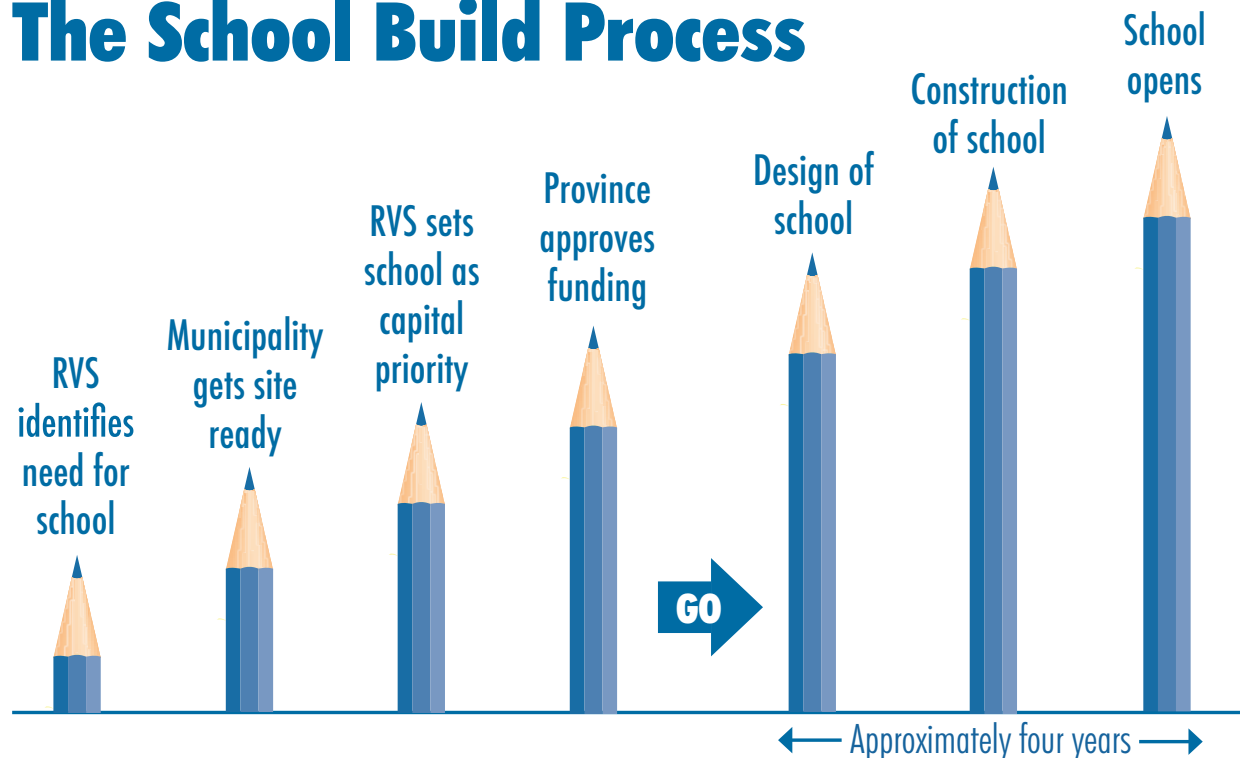


Table Talk: Space for Students

1. Has your family been impacted by space pressures in Rocky View Schools? If so, what are some of the impacts you have experienced?

Table Talk: Space for Students

2. What stood out the most to you of the information that was shared today?

What are you most concerned about for the future growth we are going to experience?

Table Talk: Space for Students

3. If you were a municipal or provincial decision-maker, what would be important to hear from community members to prioritize space for students? How do you think parents can help Rocky View Schools advocate for space for students?

Wrap Up

- Thank You!
- Check out the School Council website – recent slides and recording of chair orientation and bylaws workshop, templates, etc.
https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/get_involved/school_councils
- Save the Date – March 23, 2023