

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

May 9, 2024

Students Earning 100 Per Cent on January 2024 Diploma Exams Recognized

- Twice a year, the Board of Trustees (the Board) of Rocky View Schools (RVS) recognizes outstanding student achievement by acknowledging students who obtain a perfect mark of 100 per cent on a provincial diploma exam.
- The Board congratulates the following students who achieved 100 per cent on January 2024 diploma exams:
 - Marcella Charlton, Springbank Community High School – Biology 30
 - Devin Corti, Springbank Community High School – Chemistry 30, Physics 30
 - Inga Dale, George McDougall High School – Math 30-1
 - Amanvir Dhaliwal, Chestermere High School – Math 30-1, Chemistry 30
 - Nicolas Edstrom, W.H. Croxford High School – Physics 30
 - Kooper Hornung, Springbank Community High School – Physics 30
 - Asher Hunter, Springbank Community High School – Math 30-1
 - Gaurav Singh Jaswal, Bert Church High School – Chemistry 30, Math 30-1
 - Gobind Singh Jaswal, Bert Church High School – Chemistry 30, Math 30-1
 - Christian Labonte, George McDougall High School – Math 30-1
 - Brady MacKenzie, Bert Church High School – Physics 30
 - Reese Ochitwa, Bert Church High School – Chemistry 30
 - Brigitte Simpson, Bert Church High School – Chemistry 30
 - Alyssa Tai, Springbank Community High School – Math 30-1, Physics 30
 - Taya Vlietstra, Bow Valley High School – Math 30-1
 - Alice Zeng, Springbank Community High School – Math 30-1

RVS Advancing Goals of Education Plan

- RVS' Education Plan guides the work classroom staff and administration do every day to help students succeed in healthy and safe learning environments. Year one of the current Education Plan has been well received by school administrators tasked with connecting their School Education Plan to the division Education Plan.
- As this is the first year of a four-year Education Plan, identifying trends from the data is challenging. Early indicators demonstrate there has been some growth in both literacy and numeracy skills. RVS' Education Plan Survey was replaced this year by the OurSCHOOL survey. This survey engages students in Grades 4 – 12, families and teachers, and provides feedback needed for the measures in the Annual Education Results Report (AERR). The survey closed May 3 and results will be available to schools soon. Career pathway education opportunities are being developed at several schools and for various grades and schools are excited about the momentum that is building to support future-ready students.

- RVS' Writing Assessment for Grades 3, 4, 8, 9 and 11 is in development and will be ready for next school year.
- Full results and accompanying data will be included in the 2023/24 AERR, to be posted on the RVS website in the fall at rockyview.ab.ca

2024/25 Budget Development Update

- Each year, school divisions must submit their budgets to Alberta Education by May 31 for the next school year. The Board and Board Budget Committee have been working to develop the 2024/25 RVS budget since receiving the funding profile from the provincial government in mid-March.
- The Board established budget priorities to help guide the development of the division budget. These include providing direct resources to schools to support student learning, support for student and staff wellness, enhancing facilities and technology infrastructure and a targeted operating reserve of 0.5 to 1 per cent.
- The update provided highlights of what will be proposed to the Board:
 - 92 per cent of instructional funding is allocated directly to schools through a school allocation formula that remains focused on providing supports directly to schools. Class size guidelines remain at the current level as do learning support teacher time, literacy support and student emotional support allocations, among other school-based supports.
 - To help achieve the desired reserve target, \$500,000 will be unspent in the budgets for Education Centre departments, ensuring all instructional funding is used to support instruction.
 - Schools and departments at the Education Centre have developed their individual budgets based on the funding allocated and have submitted these to the Board Budget Committee for review.
 - The draft 2024/25 budget will come to the Board for approval on May 30.

Board Updated on Student Busing System

- RVS' Transportation department has been responsible for safely fulfilling the daily busing needs of more than 12,890 students during the 2023/24 school year.
- RVS currently operates 269 regular bus routes each day with an average daily ridership of 49 students.
- Bus driver shortages have eased since February as the bus contractors have been able to hire additional drivers, but a shortage of buses persists. RVS expects the shortage of both drivers and buses may extend into the 2024/25 school year.
- The Transportation department is facing rising contractor expenses for acquiring new buses/maintaining the current fleet and driver compensation. These challenges are expected to grow when rider eligibility is expanded.
- Several new initiatives intended to improve transportation services and communication with families are underway.

Board Recognizes Upcoming Graduates and Teachers' Appreciation Week

- The Board congratulates all the students who will be graduating in the coming weeks and wishes them well in their future life endeavours. Approximately 2,000 Grade 12 students will graduate from RVS this school year with graduation ceremonies taking place beginning this month. Additional information is available on rockyview.ab.ca
- Teachers' Appreciation Week runs from May 6 – 10 and is an opportunity for school divisions to recognize all teachers do to encourage, support and teach their students. The Board extends its appreciation to all RVS teachers and classroom staff.

Board Policy Updated

- Changes to Board Policy 8 – which creates the structure that allows for the delegation of specific powers and duties to committees of the Board – have been made for clarity and consistency.