

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

Dec. 12, 2024

Earth Spheres Project Teaches Students About Science and More

Grade 3 and 4 students from Nose Creek Elementary School proudly showed off the papier mâché model they made of the Earth and its systems to the Board of Rocky View Schools (RVS). The students made the 3D model with the help of parent volunteers. While constructing the model, students learned about the different Earth systems, how they interact together and how natural events and human activity can change the surface and landscape of the Earth. To demonstrate their understanding of the material, the students were encouraged to create a video or Google Slide presentation. Students worked collaboratively, employed critical thinking and were actively engaged while they were learning, outcomes aligned with the goals of RVS' Education Plan.

Results of Chestermere Student Accommodation Engagement Show General Support

The results of the Chestermere Student Accommodation engagement show general support of RVS' plans to maximize the existing student spaces in the city's schools. The proposed solution is intended to mitigate the effects of Chestermere's rapidly growing population on RVS school enrolment until new schools are approved by the provincial government and constructed. A total of 204 online surveys were submitted and 67 people attended the in-person engagement session on Oct. 22. Those in support of the changes described positives such as shorter distances to travel to school, providing Chestermere with a second middle school and easing of the current pressures on East Lake School. Those who did not support the change cited a range of reasons including the potential for disruption for students, location of middle school French Immersion program and increasing enrolment at Rainbow Creek Elementary School.

2026/27 School Calendar Set

Using feedback collected from community members and the Board, several options for the 2026/27 school calendar were created by RVS administration. The approved calendar reflects a traditional RVS approach which was preferred by respondents to the online survey. The school year will begin Sept. 2, 2026, and end June 25, 2027. It does not include a week-long break in November, includes 182 instructional days and adheres to all provincial regulatory requirements. The approved calendar is posted on RVS' [website](#).

Election Deposit/Signatures Bylaws Approved

The Board approved two bylaws to take effect Jan. 1, 2025, for the October 2025 trustee election. These bylaws will require candidates for trustees to pay a \$100 deposit and have 20 elector signatures when submitting their nomination forms. Candidates for trustees can file their nomination papers starting January 1, 2025.

Bylaw Requiring Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations Passed First Reading: Special Board Meeting Scheduled for Dec. 17

School boards can create a bylaw requiring criminal record checks for trustee nominations as part of the election process within their division. An election bylaw with this requirement passed first reading and will be considered for second and possibly third reading at a special Board meeting scheduled for Dec. 17 at 10 a.m.

Board Advocates for a New Government Funding Model that Fully Funds Every Student Every Year

The education minister has indicated the government is committed to reviewing the current Weighted Moving Average (WMA) funding model that disadvantages growing divisions like RVS for Budget 2025. The Board believes a new model must be rooted in the principle that every student needs to be fully funded every year, including ensuring the overall budget for public education spending continues to increase annually at a rate that keeps pace with enrolment growth and rising expenses. For many years, RVS has experienced increases to insurance, staff and benefits, and utility costs without a corresponding increase in funding. The Board continues to advocate for equitable funding to the provincial government.

Holiday Wishes

The Board sends best wishes for a restful and joyful holiday season to all RVS families, students, staff and community.

Delegation – Chestermere Student Accommodation

A delegation shared feedback on the Chestermere Student Accommodation plan to the Board.