

## **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

## DECEMBER 12, 2024

10:00 a.m. Regular Board Meeting

### AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. In-Camera Session
- 4. Land Acknowledgement

#### Trustee Melyssa Bowen

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 November 28, 2024
- 7. Exemplary Practice/ Student Showcase
  - a) Nose Creek Elementary School Earth Spheres
- 8. Delegations Chestermere Student Accommodations
  - a) Larissa Lees
- 9. Superintendent's Report
- 10. Chair's Report/Correspondence
- 11. Trustee Reports
- 12. New Business
  - a) Chair Fiona Gilbert Notice of Motion from November 28, 2024. That the Board of Trustees gives the first reading to the By-Law as presented to require candidates to provide a criminal record check when submitting their nomination package for School Board Trustee.
- 13. Notice of Motion
- 14. Adjournment



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Date of Meeting:	Dec. 12, 2024
Showcase Name:	Nose Creek Elementary School – Earth Systems Model
Teachers:	Erin Quiring
Student Presenters:	Sam Munsie (Grade 4), Levi Kirkpatrick (Grade 4), Blaire Anderson (Grade 3)

#### **Project Description**

As part of learning about Earth systems, Grade 4 and 3/4 classes at Nose Creek Elementary School participated in a project to make a 3D representation of Earth out of papier mâché. Students learned about the different Earth systems, how they interact together and how natural events and human activity can change the surface and landscape. Students then created the 3D model of the planet with the help of approximately 15 parent volunteers. Students labelled the various Earth systems and their components like plants and animals. They also demonstrated how a natural event like a volcano eruption or earthquake can change landforms.

During this project, students have various opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of Earth systems and how they interact. Students were offered the choice of how to demonstrate their learning by either creating a video or Google Slide presentation.

This project meets outcomes of all three goals of RVS' Education plan. This hands-on learning opportunity is engaging for students and has many entry points for different student abilities, interests and prior knowledge, helping them to be actively engaged in meaningful and relevant learning. Working together as a grade level, students demonstrated communication, problem solving, collaboration and creativity. Due to the participation of a combined Grade 3/4 class, this project meets learning outcomes for both grades.





SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## **DECEMBER 12, 2024**

Agenda			
1.	Summary of Feedback from Chestermere Student Accommodation Engagement	Information	
2.	Election Deposit Bylaw	Directive	
3.	Election Signatures Bylaw	Directive	
4.	2026/27 School Calendar	Directive	

ANTO

Greg Luterbach Superintendent of Schools

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

#### Item: Summary of Feedback from Chestermere Student Accommodation Engagement

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2024

#### Background:

With a 262 per cent rise in population over the past two decades, RVS' schools in Chestermere are experiencing enrolment pressures that require new school builds as soon as possible. Until these much-needed schools are approved and built, the division must look at other means of balancing the existing student spaces to best serve Chestermere students overall.

An RVS staff working group conducted a thorough review of Chestermere's situation in 2023/24, identifying possible solutions to address the student accommodation challenges including reviewing attendance areas, grade configurations, alternative schedules and modular classrooms. A potential solution was developed and the Board approved the Chestermere Student Accommodation engagement plan on Oct. 3 to gather feedback and insights from the Chestermere community.

The goals of the engagement were:

- to collect valuable feedback from stakeholders to influence decisions about the plan and implementation;
- to ensure clear, consistent and transparent communication throughout the process; and
- to thoroughly communicate to maximize stakeholder awareness and participation.

A page was developed on <u>RVSEngage.com</u> to act as the main source of information for community members. This included tables of changes by school and by community, presentation slides and a survey. Approximately 2,200 visits to this site have been recorded.

The survey launched online on Oct. 3 and closed Nov. 26. Participants were asked to rank the issues most important to them in terms of the proposed option for balancing enrolment across Chestermere. Participants were also asked what they liked best and least about the option and to suggest any new ideas they might have for helping to mitigate crowding in Chestermere's schools. A total of 204 surveys were completed. Respondents did not need to register or provide any personal information to participate.

Key themes from the survey included:

- Respondents are generally in favour of the proposed changes.
- There continues to be considerable confusion about the process for building new schools. Many submissions referenced 'build a new school' as the solution.
- Greatest opposition is from parents/guardians with students in French Immersion (FI) who had concerns FI students would be segregated from their regular program friends by moving the program to a new school or concerns the program would experience a drop in registration as a result.
- Concerns about more changes in a community that has already seen quite a bit of change in recent years this will be more disruption.
- Suggestions that some students be bused to the new high school in Langdon or to smaller rural schools to help with over-crowding in Chestermere's schools.
- Concerns Rainbow Creek is already full.
- Respondents like that this potential solution adds a middle school option, but many have questions about whether students currently in Grades 7 – 9 will be allowed to stay at CLMS.



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



RVS also held an engagement session at Chestermere Lake Middle School on Oct. 22 with trustees, RVS administration and executive in attendance to listen and help answer questions. The session was communicated via Chestermere school websites, the RVS website, a letter to Chestermere families, school newsletters and through local media.

At the event, Superintendent of Schools, Greg Luterbach and Director of Planning, Navi Sunkaranam presented a detailed slideshow to 67 attendees. Participants were then invited to take part in facilitated small group roundtable discussions based on the same questions as the survey. Data collected during these discussions was integrated into the online survey results.

Participants could complete the survey at the information session using the computers provided or click on a QR code, be taken to RVSEngage and complete the survey at their convenience.

Interested community members were also invited to prepare and present a delegation to the Board at its Dec. 12 meeting.

#### **Current Status:**

The RVSEngage Chestermere Student Accommodation engagement page continues to be the main source of information for community members.

Once the Board decision is made, it will be shared with Chestermere families, staff and other interested groups through a variety of channels.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the Summary of Feedback from Chestermere Student Accommodation Engagement as information.



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## **Chestermere Accommodation Survey Text Analysis**

East Lake to K-9 means kids can stay at same school longer	25
Schools and feeder communities are appropriate	23
Additional middle school	20
Provides better balance	17
Nothing	15
Newer communities feed Rainbow Creek	14
Pressure off East Lake	14
Smaller class sizes	10
Relief at middle school level	9
Everything	4
Schools and feeder communities are appropriate	4
Build a school	4
Too crowded at CLMS	3
Maintains FI and Christian programs	2
FI at East Lake	2

## Question: What do you like about the proposed changes?

### Question: What do you dislike about the proposed changes?

	1
Nothing	33
No space at Rainbow Creek	23
Disruptive	22
Negatively impacts Fl	8
Build a school	6
Keep FI and Christian programs at East Lake	6
Segregates FI middle school students from English program	6
students	
Loss of friends	5
Moving Fl	4
Dissatisfaction with modulars as solution	4
Should cut FI and Christian programming entirely	4
Short term proposal	4
Everything	4
East Lake to K-9 means kids can stay at same school longer	3
Dawson's Landing should be designated to Rainbow Creek	3
Better planning/development required of City	2
Changes to East Lake grade configuration	2
Dedicated school for FI	2



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

### Question: What other new ideas should we consider?

Build a school	54
Bus students out of area	10
Eliminate Christian program	8
Better planning/development required of City	8
Move FI to Langdon	7
Add modulars	6
Eliminate Fl	6
Move FI to East Lake for 7-9	5
Keep FI and Christian programs at East Lake	5
Nothing	4
Move Christian program to Langdon	3
Send rural kids elsewhere	3
Keep FI at East Lake	3
Add grade 9 to high school	2
Cap enrolment	2

### Question: What else would you like the Board to know to help inform this decision?

Concern about overcrowding	10
Build a school	8
Disruptive	7
Nothing	5
Decision is already made	5
Short term proposal	3
Fast-track new schools	3
Grade 9s should have option to stay at CLMS	2
Schools and feeder schools are appropriate	2
Fl at East Lake	2



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



Item: Election Deposit Bylaw 2024-03

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2024

#### Background:

The Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024, (Bill 20) sets new rules for local elections and councils to enhance integrity and maintain public trust. Bill 20 proposed amendments come into force on January 1, 2025, based on the Legislative Assembly of Alberta's website. It received Royal Ascent on May 30, 2024.

Amendments being proposed by Bill 20 affect several pieces of legislation including the LAEA – Local Authority Elections Act.

One of the changes is the deadline to pass a bylaw requiring deposits to accompany a candidate's nomination package. With the new legislation, a bylaw requiring a candidate's nomination be accompanied by a deposit must be passed prior to Dec 31 in year prior to election, previously it was at least 30 days before nomination day, which is 4 weeks prior to election day. Appendix A has the excerpts of the existing LAEA as it pertains to this bylaw application process.

Historically Rocky View Schools did not exercise this bylaw option to establish a deposit amount for candidates to accompany their nomination package for a general election.

The concept of a deposit was discussed at the Board Planning Committee. The group passed the following motion:

The Board Planning Committee direct administration to prepare a bylaw for the Board's consideration requiring candidates to provide a deposit of \$100 when submitting their nomination package for the 2025 Trustee election.

#### **Current Status:**

On November 28, 2024, the Board approved first and second readings of the bylaw as presented.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board of Trustees gives third reading to bylaw 2024-03 A Bylaw of The Rocky View School Division in the Province of Alberta, relating to the establishment of a deposit amount for candidates presenting themselves for nomination for the 2025 elections as read in part this 12th day of December in the year 2024.



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## BYLAW NO. 2024-03

### OF

## THE ROCKY VIEW SCHOOL DIVISION

A Bylaw of The Rocky View School Division in the Province of Alberta, relating to the establishment of a deposit amount for candidates presenting themselves for nomination for the 2025 elections.

Pursuant to Section 29 of the Local Authorities Election Act, the Board of Trustees of Rocky View School Division (the "Board"), establish the deposit for candidates to be \$100.

This bylaw shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

READ A SECOND TIME THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Ch	air
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Secretary-Treasurer

READ A THIRD TIME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

Appendix A



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

#### Deposit

**29(1)** An elected authority may, by bylaw passed not fewer than 30 days before nomination day, require that every nomination be accompanied with a deposit in the amount fixed in the bylaw.

(2) An amount fixed in a bylaw under subsection (1) may not exceed

- (a) \$1000, in the case of a local jurisdiction with a population of more than 10 000, or
- (b) \$100, in any other case.

RSA 2000 cL-21 s29;2006 c22 s17

#### **Disposition of deposit**

**30(1)** When a bylaw has been passed to provide for a deposit, the returning officer shall require the deposit to be provided in cash, by certified cheque or by money order.

- (2) The candidate's deposit shall be returned to the candidate
  - (a) if the candidate is declared elected,
  - (b) if the candidate obtains a number of votes at least equal to 1/2 of the total number of votes cast for the candidate elected to the office with the least number of votes, or
  - (c) if the candidate withdraws as a candidate in accordance with section 32.

(3) If a candidate dies before the closing of the voting stations on election day, the sum deposited by the candidate shall be returned to the candidate's estate.

(4) If a candidate does not obtain the number of votes described in subsection (2)(b), the deposit shall be paid into the general revenue of the local jurisdiction for which the deposit requirement has been established.

RSA 2000 cL-21 s30;2003 c27 s12



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



Item: Elector Signatures Bylaw 2024-02

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2024

#### Background:

The Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) allows a School Division the ability to adjust the number of electoral signatures, required as part of the nomination package, provided they met the population eligibility requirement shown below from section 27(2) of the LAEA.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a city that is a local jurisdiction with a population of at least 10 000 or a board of trustees under the *Education Act* of a local jurisdiction with a population of at least 10 000 may, by a bylaw passed prior to December 31 of the year before a year in which a general election is to be held, specify the minimum number of electors required to sign the nomination of a candidate for an office, but that number must be at least 5 and not more than 100.

The Board of Trustees of Rocky View School Division has passed a bylaw for the 2021 election to support updating the number of elector signatures required to 10 signatures. To apply for the 2025 election, this bylaw must be passed before Dec. 31, 2024.

The topic of number of required elector signatures was discussed at the Board Planning Committee. The group passed the following motion:

The Board Planning Committee direct administration to prepare a bylaw for the Board's consideration requiring candidates to have 20 elector signatures when submitting their nomination package for the 2025 Trustee election.

#### **Current Status:**

On November 28, 2024, the Board passed first and second readings of the attached bylaw as presented.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board of Trustees gives third reading to bylaw 2024-02 A Bylaw of The Rocky View School Division in the Province of Alberta, specifying the minimum number of electors required to sign the nomination of a candidate presenting themselves for nomination for the 2025 elections as read in part this 12th day of December in the year 2024.



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## **BYLAW NO. 2024-02**

## OF

## THE ROCKY VIEW SCHOOL DIVISION

A Bylaw of The Rocky View School Division in the Province of Alberta, specifying the minimum number of electors required to sign the nomination of a candidate presenting themselves for nomination for the 2025 elections.

Pursuant to Section 27(2) of the Local Authorities Election Act, the Board of Trustees of Rocky View School Division (the "Board"), establish the minimum number of required signatures for a candidate's nomination paper to be 20.

This bylaw shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

READ A SECOND TIME THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

READ A THIRD TIME THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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Secretary-Treasurer





TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



Item:

2026/27 School Calendar

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2024

#### **Background:**

The Rocky View Schools calendar development process is meant to provide a consistent and practical process to build annual operating calendars that both supports the vision and direction of the Division in the provision of high-quality learning for students and honours the greater community by providing opportunities for feedback. The RVS calendar has enabled the structures that are necessary to support continuous professional learning to exist in RVS, and we see staff responding positively to those opportunities. The calendar must also address all provincial regulatory requirements.

The Calendar Development Committee includes central administration along with teachers and school administrators appointed by the ATA Local #35. The committee created initial draft calendars which were provided to the Board of Trustees after receiving general support they were distributed to Rocky View Schools' community for feedback through an online survey May 21<sup>st</sup> to June 17th. The Calendar Development Committee reviewed feedback received and the draft calendars and submitted the drafts and a recommendation to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

On October 17, 2024 the Board approved the calendar for 2025/26 but asked administration to come up with a new draft for 2026/27 based on their feedback.

#### **Current Status:**

#### Draft Calendar Highlights/Rationale

#### 2026 – 2027 School Year

#### Draft 1

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- First day of classes for students would be before Labour Day Monday, August 31, 2026
- Friday, October 9, 2026 Professional Learning Day Traditional day for Professional Learning Day in October
- Friday, November 6, 2026 Professional Learning Day Date of Diwali – the Hindu festival of lights
  - Week in November no classes Support for student and staff physical and mental well-being. The period from the start of the school year until the Winter Break is the longest of the school year

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



without a break. This would provide an opportunity for staff and students to recharge which should decrease student and staff absenteeism as well as student behaviours that lead to suspension from class.

- Wednesday, January 27, 2027 Organizational Day
- Wednesday, March 10, 2027 Professional Learning Day This day is Eid al-Fitr. Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by Muslims worldwide as the end of the month-long dawn to sunset fasting of Ramadan.
- Spring break March 26 April 2 Easter Monday is listed as a General Holiday in the Support Staff Terms of Employment
- Last day of instruction is Friday, June 25, 2027
- 5 Organizational Days
- 7 Professional Learning Days
- 180 Instructional Days
- 193 Operational Days

#### Draft 2

- Same as Draft 1 with one change Wednesday, January 27, 2027 becomes an Instructional Day and not an Organizational Day
- 4 Organizational Days
- 7 Professional Learning Days
- 180 Instructional Days
- 193 Operational Days

#### Draft 3

- More traditional RVS calendar (no week break in November)
- First day of classes for students would be before Labour Day Wednesday, September 2, 2026
- Friday, October 9, 2026 Professional Learning Day Traditional day for Professional Learning Day in October
- Friday, November 6, 2026 Professional Learning Day Date of Diwali – the Hindu festival of lights
- Wednesday, March 10, 2027 Professional Learning Day This day is Eid al-Fitr. Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by Muslims worldwide as the end of the month-long dawn to sunset fasting of Ramadan.
- Spring break March 26 April 2 Easter Monday is listed as a General Holiday in the Support Staff Terms of Employment
- Last day of instruction is Friday, June 25, 2027
- 4 Organizational Days



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- 7 Professional Learning Days
- 182 Instructional Days
- 195 Operational Days

### Draft 4 (developed from Board feedback)

- First day of classes for students would be before Labour Day Wednesday, September 2, 2026
- Friday, October 9, 2026 Professional Learning Day Traditional day for Professional Learning Day in October
- Monday, November 23, 2026 Professional Learning Day
- Monday, March 8, 2027 Professional Learning Day
- Spring break March 26 April 2 Easter Monday is listed as a General Holiday in the Support Staff Terms of Employment
- Monday, April 19, 2027 Professional Learning Day
- Friday, May 21, 2027 Professional Learning Day
- Last day of instruction is Friday, June 25, 2027
- 4 Organizational Days
- 7 Professional Learning Days
- 182 Instructional Days
- 195 Operational Days

#### Alternatives

#### Alternative I:

The Board of Trustees approves for the 2026 – 2027 school year draft calendar 4 as presented by administration and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendar to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.

#### Alternative II:

The Board of Trustees approves for the 2026 – 2027 school year draft calendar 3 as presented by administration and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendar to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.

#### Alternative III:

The Board of Trustees approves for the 2026 – 2027 school year draft calendar 2 as presented by administration and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendar to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

#### Alternative IV:

The Board of Trustees approves for the 2026 – 2027 school year draft calendar 1 as presented by administration and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendar to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.

#### Alternative V:

The Board of Trustees amends and approves draft calendar \_\_\_\_\_ for the 2026 – 2027 school year as amended and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendars to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board of Trustees approves for the 2026 – 2027 school year draft calendar 4 as presented by administration and directs the Superintendent of Schools to distribute the calendar to Rocky View Schools stakeholders.





2026-2027 **School Year Calendar** 

#### Draft 1 Approved Month Day, Year

August 25	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
August 26	Organizational Day (No Classes)				
August 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)				
August 28	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
August 31	First Day of Classes				
September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)				
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes)				
October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)				
November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
November 9	Vacation (No Classes)				
November 10	Vacation (No Classes)				
November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)				
November 12	Vacation (No Classes)				
November 13	Vacation (No Classes)				
December 18	Last Day of classes before Winter Vacation				
January 4	Classes Resume				
January 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)				
January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)				
February 15	Family Day (No Classes)				
February 16	Vacation (No Classes)				
February 17	Vacation (No Classes)				
February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)				
February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)				
March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation				
March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)				
April 5	Classes Resume				
April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
Μαγ 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)				
May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)				
June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes				
June 25	Last Day of Classes				
June 28	Organizational Day				
June 29 Organizational Day					
	LEGEND				
School D	,				
Holiday (No Classes)					
Professional Learning Day (No Classes) Organizational Day (No Classes)					
Teachers' Convention (No Classes)					

Vacation (No Classes)

Last Day of Classes for Kindergarten

August 2026								
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September 2026						
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	December 2026							
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January 2027						
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31						

	February 2027						
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28							

	March 2027						
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	April 2027						
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	May 2027							
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	June 2027						
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28	29	30			
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6	7	8	9	10	1
13	14	15	16	17	1
20	21	22	23	24	2
27	28	29	30	31	



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Tuesday	August 25	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	August 26	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Thursday	August 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Friday	August 28	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	August 31	First Day of Classes
Monday	September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	September 30	National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
Friday	October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
Friday	November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	November 9	Vacation (No Classes)
Tuesday	November 10	Vacation (No Classes)
Wednesday	November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
Thursday	November 12	Vacation (No Classes)
Friday	November 13	Vacation (No Classes)
Friday	December 18	Last Day of Classes before Winter Vacation
Monday	January 4	Classes Resume
Wednesday	January 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Thursday	January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
Monday	February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
Wednesday	February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
Thursday	February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Friday	February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Wednesday	March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Thursday	March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Friday	March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
Monday	April 5	Classes Resume
Monday	April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Friday	May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
Thursday	June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
Friday	June 25	Last Day of Classes
Monday	June 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	June 29	Organizational Day (No Classes)

### Number of Days

Semester 1	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
August	5	1
September	20	20
October	21	20
November	16	15
December	14	14
January	18	17
Total Semester 1	94	87
Semester 2	Operational Days	Instructional Days
January	2	2
February	17	15
March	19	18
April	20	19
May	20	19
June	21	19
Total Semester 2	99	92
Total Number of Days	193	179



2026-2027 School Year Calendar Draff 2

### Approved Month Day, Year

August 25	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
August 26	Organizational Day (No Classes)
August 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)
August 28	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
August 31	First Day of Classes
September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes)
October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
November 9	Vacation (No Classes)
November 10	Vacation (No Classes)
November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
November 12	Vacation (No Classes)
November 13	Vacation (No Classes)
December 18	Last Day of classes before Winter Vacation
January 4	Classes Resume
January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
April 5	Classes Resume
April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
June 25	Last Day of Classes
June 28	Organizational Day
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#### 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

Page 2

Tuesday	August 25	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	August 26	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Thursday	August 27	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Friday	August 28	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	August 31	First Day of Classes
Monday	September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	September 30	National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
Friday	October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
Friday	November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	November 9	Vacation (No Classes)
Tuesday	November 10	Vacation (No Classes)
Wednesday	November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
Thursday	November 12	Vacation (No Classes)
Friday	November 13	Vacation (No Classes)
Friday	December 18	Last Day of Classes before Winter Vacation
Monday	January 4	Classes Resume
Thursday	January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
Monday	February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
Wednesday	February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
Thursday	February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Friday	February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Wednesday	March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Thursday	March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Friday	March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
Monday	April 5	Classes Resume
Monday	April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Friday	May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
Thursday	June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
Friday	June 25	Last Day of Classes
Monday	June 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	June 29	Organizational Day (No Classes)

### Number of Days

Semester 1	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
August	5	1
September	20	20
October	21	20
November	16	15
December	14	14
January	18	18
Total Semester 1	94	88
Semester 2	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
January	2	2
February	17	15
March	19	18
April	20	19
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June	21	19
Total Semester 2	99	92
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Total Number of Days	193	180



2026-2027 School Year Calendar

#### Draft 3 Approved Month Day, Year

August 27	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
August 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
August 31	Organizational Day (No Classes)
September 1	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
September 2	First Day of Classes
September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes)
October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
December 18	Last Day of classes before Winter Vacation
January 4	Classes Resume
January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
April 5	Classes Resume
April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
June 25	Last Day of Classes
June 28	Organizational Day
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L E G E N D					
School Days					
Holiday (No Classes)					
Professional Learning Day (No Classes)					
Organizational Day (No Classes)					
Teachers' Convention (No Classes)					
Vacation (No Classes)					
Last Day of Classes for Kindergarten					

Page 2

Thursday	August 27	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Friday	August 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Monday	August 31	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	September 1	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	September 2	First Day of Classes
Monday	September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	September 30	National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
Friday	October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
Friday	November 6	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Wednesday	November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
Friday	December 18	Last Day of Classes before Winter Vacation
Monday	January 4	Classes Resume
Thursday	January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
Monday	February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
Wednesday	February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
Thursday	February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Friday	February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Wednesday	March 10	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Thursday	March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Friday	March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
Monday	April 5	Classes Resume
Monday	April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Friday	May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Monday	May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
Thursday	June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
Friday	June 25	Last Day of Classes
Monday	June 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
Tuesday	June 29	Organizational Day (No Classes)

### Number of Days

Semester 1	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
August	3	0
September	20	19
October	21	20
November	20	19
December	14	14
January	18	18
Total Semester 1	96	90
Semester 2	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
January	2	2
February	17	15
March	19	18
April	20	19
May	20	19
June	21	19
Total Semester 2	99	92
Total Number of Days	195	182



2026-2027 School Year Calendar

#### Draft 4 Approved Month Day, Year

August 27	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
August 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)
August 31	Organizational Day (No Classes)
September 1	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
September 2	First Day of Classes
September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes)
October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)
November 23	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
December 18	Last Day of classes before Winter Vacation
January 4	Classes Resume
January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)
February 15	Family Day (No Classes)
February 16	Vacation (No Classes)
February 17	Vacation (No Classes)
February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
March 8	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)
April 5	Classes Resume
April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)
June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes
June 25	Last Day of Classes
June 28	Organizational Day
June 29	Organizational Day

August 2026						
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September 2026						
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L E G E N D
School Days
Holiday (No Classes)
Professional Learning Day (No Classes)
Organizational Day (No Classes)
Teachers' Convention (No Classes)
Vacation (No Classes)
Last Day of Classes for Kindergarten

Page 2

Thursday	August 27	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Friday	August 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)	
Monday	August 31	Organizational Day (No Classes)	
Tuesday	September 1	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Wednesday	September 2	First Day of Classes	
Monday	September 7	Labour Day (No Classes)	
Wednesday	September 30	National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	
Friday	October 9	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Monday	October 12	Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)	
Wednesday	November 11	Remembrance Day (No Classes)	
Monday	November 23	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Friday	December 18	Last Day of Classes before Winter Vacation	
Monday	January 4	Classes Resume	
Thursday	January 28	First Day of Classes - Semester 2 (High School)	
Monday	February 15	Family Day (No Classes)	
Tuesday	February 16	Vacation (No Classes)	
Wednesday	February 17	Vacation (No Classes)	
Thursday	February 18	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)	
Friday	February 19	Teachers' Convention (No Classes)	
Monday	March 8	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Thursday	March 25	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation	
Friday	March 26	Good Friday (No Classes)	
Monday	April 5	Classes Resume	
Monday	April 19	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Friday	May 21	Professional Learning Day (No Classes)	
Monday	May 24	Victoria Day (No Classes)	
Thursday	June 17	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes	
Friday	June 25	Last Day of Classes	
Monday	June 28	Organizational Day (No Classes)	
Tuesday	June 29	Organizational Day (No Classes)	

### Number of Days

Semester 1	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
August	3	0
September	20	19
October	21	20
November	20	19
December	14	14
January	18	18
Total Semester 1	96	90
Semester 2	<b>Operational Days</b>	Instructional Days
January	2	2
February	17	15
March	19	18
April	20	19
May	20	19
June	21	19
Total Semester 2	99	92
Total Number of Days	195	182

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: TRUSTEE GILBERT



Item: Election Bylaw - Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2024

#### **Background:**

A bylaw is a local law, enacted by an elected authority (in this case the Board of Trustees) under authority granted by provincial statute (in this case the *Local Authorities Elections Act* (LAEA)), which applies within the jurisdiction (in this case, the Rocky View School Division).

The *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act 2024*, formerly known as Bill 20, was recently passed by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and was proclaimed in force on October 31, 2024. This piece of legislation sets new rules for school board and municipal elections and makes amendments to the LAEA. The changes come into effect on January 1, 2025, in time for the October 2025 municipal election in Alberta.

One of the changes to the LAEA is the ability for an elected authority to pass a bylaw to require a person seeking to be nominated as a candidate to provide a criminal record check. To be in effect for the 2025 school board election, this bylaw must be passed prior to December 31, 2024.

In relation to bylaws, Section 6 of the Board Procedures Regulation states that:

- 1. Every bylaw must have 3 distinct readings before a bylaw is passed.
- 2. Not more than 2 readings of a bylaw must be given at any one meeting unless the trustees present at the meeting unanimously agree to give the bylaw a 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.
- 3. The first reading of a bylaw must be in full and, if each board member has in the member's possession a written, printed or electronic copy of the bylaw, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings may be by title and description only.

#### **Current Status:**

Since the introduction of this piece of legislation earlier this fall, there has been much discussion within and amongst school boards and trustees across the province, as well as discussion between RVS trustees and administration at the committee level. As publicly elected school board trustees, the discussion and debate as to whether RVS should execute its discretionary power to require criminal record checks for trustee candidates is best placed in the public realm.

The Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) hosted two professional learning sessions related to changes in the LAEA. They engaged legal counsel to support their work and draft a Criminal Record Check Bylaw template for member school boards to use. Several RVS trustees and administration attended the sessions on Oct 4 and Dec 2.

The following is a summary of the legislation as shared by ASBA legal counsel as well as the procedures as described in the legislation and corresponding regulation.

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: TRUSTEE GILBERT

If a school board passes a criminal record check bylaw, then:

- A person must submit a criminal record check along with their nomination papers in the matter prescribed in the bylaw
- A nomination submitted without a criminal record check would be deemed incomplete and the Returning Officer must refuse to accept it
- Any person may examine a candidates nomination package, including the criminal record check, in person in the presence of the Returning Officer, or other specified individuals.

It is important to note that a person who has a criminal record is **not** automatically disqualified from running for office regardless of the offence. The intent of this bylaw is to provide full transparency to the public and to allow the democratic process to proceed unimpeded. Additionally, even if a criminal record check shows a person has a conviction for an offense which renders them ineligible to be a candidate or trustee under to LAEA, the Returning Officer is required to accept the nomination if it is complete.

Furthermore, as per the LAEA, a Returning Officer is obliged to accept a completed nomination form and has no role in vetting candidates for residency, age, citizenship, or any ineligibility criteria; that would be dealt with through the courts if a challenge was brought to a person's eligibility or through Board policy as applicable.

The Notion of Motion given at the last Board meeting, proposes that the Board consider first reading of a bylaw to require candidate to provide a criminal record check when submitting their nomination package for School Board Trustee. The proposed Bylaw 2024-04 is included below and has been crafted from the template provided by ASBA and their legal counsel. If the majority will of the Board is to proceed with enacting a bylaw to require candidates to provide a criminal record check, then second and third reading could proceed if that is the will of the Board, or a Special Meeting could be called for a date prior to Dec. 31, 2024.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board of Trustees gives first reading to Bylaw 2024-04 as presented to require candidates to provide a criminal record check when submitting their nomination package for School Board Trustee.



#### **BYLAW NO. 2024-04**

#### OF

#### THE ROCKY VIEW SCHOOL DIVISION

A Bylaw to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations

#### Preamble

Section 21.1 of the Local Authorities Election Act allows an elected authority to, by bylaw passed prior to December 31 of the year before a year in which a general election is to be held, require a person seeking to be nominated as a candidate to provide a criminal record check;

Section 28 of the Local Authorities Election Act provides that

- (a) a returning officer shall not accept for filing a nomination that is not accompanied with a criminal record check required by bylaw,
- (b) at any time after the commencement of the nomination period until the term of office to which the filed nomination papers relate has expired, a person may request to examine the filed nomination papers during regular business hours and in the presence of the returning officer, deputy, or secretary, and
- (c) a filed nomination paper must be made available in a partial or redacted form as necessary, but the results of the criminal record check must not be withheld or redacted except to ensure that the mailing address of the candidate and of the candidate's official agent is not disclosed;

The Board of Trustees of the Rocky View School Division recognizes the importance of public confidence in the integrity and trustworthiness of its elected officials and therefore deems it advisable to require a person seeking to be nominated to provide a criminal record check with their nomination;

The Board of Trustees of the Rocky View School Division enacts:

#### Title

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "Criminal Record Check Bylaw."

#### Definitions

2.

- (1) Unless otherwise specified, words used in this bylaw will have the same meaning as defined in the Local Authorities Election Act.
- (2) In this bylaw:
  - (a) "criminal record check" means a check conducted by the RCMP, which must include results of both local and national records including charges and convictions.

#### Criminal Record Check

3. Every nomination of a candidate for the office of trustee must be accompanied with a criminal record check issued no earlier than 30 calendar days prior to the date the nomination is submitted.

#### **Effective Date**

4. This bylaw shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

#### READ A FIRST TIME THIS 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

READ A SECOND TIME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

READ A THIRD TIME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer