

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2010

1111111111111111

RVS' Prince of Peace Lutheran School to offer high school programming as early as 2014

Prince of Peace Lutheran School will offer high school programming as early as 2014, after its host Board Rocky View Schools (RVS) agreed to support the expansion of the school to serve students from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Currently providing Kindergarten to Grade 9 students with a Christian-based program within the public school system, Prince of Peace Lutheran School joined Rocky View Schools in 2006. Over the past three years the school's program has experienced a consistent pattern of improvement, leading RVS' Board of Trustees to see the merit in allowing the school to grow its program.

"It the third year of a five year agreement, Rocky View Schools' partnership with Prince of Peace has been a win-win for both parties," said Vice Chair Bev LaPeare, the school's elected official. "Not only has it provided more choice in our jurisdiction, but student learning at Prince of Peace has been strengthened by the multiple supports our jurisdiction has been able to provide."

According to Prince of Peace Principal, Todd Hennig, expansion of the program will ensure stable and supported enrolment growth for the school.

"Our short term goal is to grow our program from the "bottom up", meaning we would like to increase our enrolments to support two classes per grade through to grade nine," he said. "From there we could add a new grade each year until eventually we are able to serve students from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Greg Bass, Superintendent of Schools, said to accomplish this long range goal, planning must begin immediately, citing the largest hurdle will likely be accommodation.

"Currently Prince of Peace has the ability to serve 287 students and up to 460 with additional portable classrooms. To accommodate K – 12, we would likely need a facility with the core capacity and instructional space for 900 students. In the current economic climate, this could prove to be difficult, but we're committed to seeing this program grow.

Bass said the jurisdiction is in the midst of striking three planning groups to review the educational program, to discuss and plan for facilities, and to look at all and any revenue generation options to fund the project.

"Joining Rocky View Schools has been a real blessing for our school community," said Pastor Keith Haberstock.

"A fully-funded public program has eliminated the need for parents to pay tuition fees and we know we are succeeding as a school because we see our students being prepared to understand, adapt and successfully contribute to our changing global community while being anchored in God's unchanging truths."

-30-

For more information contact:

Angela Spanier, Director of Communications, 403.945.4012