

# Media Release



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### RE: 2009/10 Provincial Achievement Test & Diploma Exam results

Good news! Rocky View Schools' students continue to demonstrate strong achievement levels! Results for the 2009/10 grade 3, 6, and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) and grade 12 Diploma Exams reveal that Rocky View students met Alberta Education's Acceptable and Excellence Standards on the majority of tests and exams.

Superintendent of Schools Greg Bass credits the efforts and focus of school communities for ensuring students' success, stating there are always opportunities to improve and that the jurisdiction will closely analyze the test and exam results to identify areas where student performance could be improved upon.

"As in previous years, Grade 12 results are exceptional," said Bass. "In all but one area, students outperformed their provincial counterparts. Outstanding performance was witnessed in Applied Math, Pure Math, English Language Arts 30-2, Physics 30 and Social 30-2 where Rocky View students exceeded provincial results by 6 to 7 percent at the acceptable level, while also outpacing provincial results at the standard of excellence.

According to Bass, results for provincial achievement tests exceeded provincial results at the acceptable level in 24 of 31 specific test results. Although performance of Grade 9 students was a concern in 2008-09, notable improvements were made in 2009-10. Nine out of 11 tests revealed improvement over 2008-09 results and 8 of 11 results were above provincial results. Particular strengths were observed in English Language Arts 3, French Language Arts 3, Math 3 in English and English/French combined, English Language Arts 9, and Science 9 in English and English/French combined. Knowledge and Employability 9 results were strong compared to provincial results in all four core subjects at the acceptable level - a powerful testament to the program's success.

Bass noted an area for improvement lies with the number of students achieving a standard of excellence in provincial achievement tests.

"Our students' performance in relation to their provincial counterparts at the standard of excellence is lower on most grade 3, 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests, with the exception of Science 9 and French Immersion Math 3."

"Specific study of the successes being achieved in Science may illuminate what strategies are working to stimulate student success at the excellence level.

"Overall, I am very pleased with this year's progress. Results are a testament to the success we are experiencing as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning organization, where students are engaged, enriched and empowered," he said.

Alberta Education's Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) and Diploma Exams help schools and jurisdictions monitor student performance in relation to provincial standards for a wide variety of skills and competencies as outlined in the Ministry's Programs of Study. For teachers, these assessments provide valuable feedback on program strengths and weaknesses, the effectiveness of instructional techniques and student comprehension levels. For post-secondary institutions, diploma marks serve as an entry-measurement for accepting potential students.

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**RVS 2009/10 Provincial Achievement Test & Diploma Exam results**  
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Although provincial assessments are designed to assess the achievement of provincial standards, many important learning outcomes cannot be measured by time-limited paper-and-pencil tests. In addition, many factors contribute to student achievement. Wherever possible, information about a particular school's results should be obtained from the school.

Alberta Education expects 85 percent of students should meet an acceptable standard on both Achievement Tests and Diploma Exams. This indicates that students are achieving the basic standards for passing the course. The province further expects 15 percent of students will achieve a standard of excellence. This measure indicates that students are achieving an excellent level of competency in the area of study examined

Full results of RVS' 2009/10 results are provided below.

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**Further information contact:**

Angela Spanier  
Director of Communication  
403.945.4012

## GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMS

The charts below show Rocky View Schools' student achievement levels at both the "acceptable standard" and the "standard of excellence" based on the number of students writing. The participation rate represents the percentage of students who wrote the exam compared to the total number of students in their third year of senior high programming. The "target" reflects the jurisdiction's desired student performance across the jurisdiction.

### Exam Standards

Percentage of students meeting the standard is*:	Significantly Above	+
	Not Significantly Different From	=
	Significantly Below	-

\* A difference is reported as significant when there is a five percent or smaller probability that a difference of that size could occur by chance. The fewer the number of students, the larger the difference must be from the expectation before it is considered significant.

### GRADE 12 DIPLOMA RESULTS:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>ENGLISH 30-1</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	92.0	88.0	91.4	87.7	91.5	87.1	87.8	86.1	89.7	85.1	95
Standard of Excellence:	21.9	19.3	21.3	19.0	16.8	15.5	12.7	12.3	12.0	10.1	25
Participation Rate:	65.3	59.7	66.5	59.8	67.2	59.1	64.4	59.8	63.9	59.9	
<b>ENGLISH 30-2</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	92.6	86.1	93.5	88.6	88.6	88.8	90.2	88.2	95.4	88.8	95
Standard of Excellence:	10.6	8.1	14.7	9.7	11.1	8.8	9.2	8.5	13.8	9.8	25
Participation Rate:	27.9	26.0	27.0	26.1	24.2	26.8	28.9	27.4	30.5	28.1	
<b>FRENCH LA 30</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	83.8	95.1	95.0	95.6	93.1	94.9	95.1	95.1	97.3	93.7	95
Standard of Excellence:	13.5	21.8	12.5	23.1	24.1	24.5	22.0	18.9	8.1	16.3	25
Participation Rate:	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.5	3.0	2.9	3.2	
<b>SOCIAL 30-1</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	88.3	85.5	92.7	86.2	91.7	84.7	86.3	84.2	86.6	84.5	95
Standard of Excellence:	27.9	23.9	31.8	24.6	23.9	21.5	21.4	21.4	17.6	16.1	25
Participation Rate:	53.2	54.0	54.8	54.0	54.7	52.7	56.3	53.2	54.9	49.8	
<b>SOCIAL 30-2</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	88.4	83.5	92.2	84.9	90.6	85.4	89.4	85.6	92.0	85.0	95
Standard of Excellence:	27.5	18.9	31.9	19.6	27.3	18.9	25.3	20.2	20.4	13.7	25
Participation Rate:	39.7	32.0	37.6	32.2	35.8	33.0	38.1	34.1	35.1	30.4	
<b>PURE MATH</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	90.5	82.8	85.5	81.1	85.3	81.4	88.9	82.1	89.0	82.9	95
Standard of Excellence:	35.1	26.6	32.3	27.4	28.0	25.8	32.3	26.3	35.8	29.7	25
Participation Rate:	46.1	46.3	49.6	46.4	51.5	45.9	45.8	45.8	46.1	45.9	
<b>APPLIED MATH</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.1	77.6	85.9	77.6	84.6	76.3	84.8	79.4	84.9	77.3	95
Standard of Excellence:	14.2	11.8	17.3	12.1	12.1	10.7	16.7	13.5	13.7	12.6	25
Participation Rate:	27.5	21.5	24.8	21.5	20.3	21.4	27.3	22.0	24.4	21.8	
<b>BIOLOGY 30</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	85.6	81.4	89.7	83.5	86.8	82.3	85.1	83.0	83.9	81.4	95
Standard of Excellence:	31.2	26.4	32.8	27.4	31.4	26.3	29.1	26.6	30.0	28.1	25
Participation Rate:	40.5	43.6	40.5	43.9	44.5	43.3	44.1	44.3	48.4	45.3	
<b>CHEMISTRY 30</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	92.6	88.4	96.7	89.4	96.6	89.2	N/A	N/A	82.3	79.0	N/A
Standard of Excellence:	52.5	37.2	49.5	37.9	46.5	39.2	N/A	N/A	34.1	29.9	N/A
Participation Rate:	33.7	39.0	35.2	38.5	36.2	38.4	N/A	N/A	36.6	39.1	N/A
<b>CHEMISTRY 30 (Old)</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	81.8	76.3	N/A	N/A	95
Standard of Excellence:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	34.8	27.7	N/A	N/A	25
Participation Rate:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	29.6	33.3	N/A	N/A	

## GRADE 12 DIPLOMA RESULTS:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>PHYSICS 30 (old)</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	89.2	84.4	94.1	86.1	89.4	85.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Standard of Excellence:	35.9	30.0	44.2	29.3	40.0	32.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Participation Rate:	23.3	24.3	22.3	24.1	22.1	20.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>PHYSICS 30</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	88.4	79.3	80.8	73.9	95
Standard of Excellence:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.4	23.1	25.9	20.3	25
Participation Rate:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.6	19.8	22.5	22.3	
<b>SCIENCE 30</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	87.6	82.8	92.7	87.2	90.5	88.6	88.4	86.0	78.9	80.1	95
Standard of Excellence:	15.7	17.3	16.3	18.0	20.4	21.7	14.4	20.9	21.1	22.8	25
Participation Rate:	9.6	7.8	14.8	7.7	11.4	8.3	12.0	9.3	12.8	10.1	

## PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST RESULTS – 2008/09

The charts below show the jurisdiction's results for student achievement at both the "acceptable" standard and the "standard of excellence" based on all students writing (cohort). The "target" reflects the jurisdiction's desired student performance across the jurisdiction.

### Test Standards

	>83.54	<b>High</b>	>20.37	
Acceptable	75.85-83.54	<b>Intermediate</b>	14.27-20.37	Excellent
	<75.85	<b>Low</b>	<14.27	

### All Students

#### LANGUAGE ARTS ALL STUDENTS:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>L.A. GRADE 3:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.6	81.3	85.2	80.3	83.4	80.1	83.8	81.3	87.2	81.6	90
Standard of Excellence:	11.0	14.1	17.5	17.7	16.6	16.1	12.4	18.2	14.8	19.5	20
<b>L.A. GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	85.1	79.0	86.0	80.3	83.5	81.1	84.0	81.8	85.3	83.3	90
Standard of Excellence:	11.8	15.9	16.3	19.8	16.7	21.0	11.6	18.9	15.8	18.9	20
<b>L.A. GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	81.8	77.4	83.8	77.5	80.3	76.5	81.6	78.7	84.3	79.3	90
Standard of Excellence:	11.5	13.6	11.1	14.8	13.9	14.8	11.4	14.7	11.8	15.0	20

#### FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS ALL STUDENTS:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>L.A. GRADE 6 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	89.1	87.5	86.3	87.4	92.9	87.7	89.5	91.5	81.2	88.3	90
Standard of Excellence:	6.5	11.2	3.9	11.0	9.7	14.2	10.5	15.9	9.4	15.9	20
<b>L.A. GRADE 9 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	81.0	83.3	74.0	81.3	78.0	84.5	59.2	81.8	83.0	86.1	90
Standard of Excellence:	12.7	10.9	6.5	12.9	13.2	12.4	2.8	10.3	3.4	12.4	20

**MATHEMATICS ALL STUDENTS:**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>MATH GRADE 3:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.9	82.0	83.5	79.9	81.4	78.7	79.9	79.6	83.0	76.4	90
Standard of Excellence:	26.1	26.9	21.9	23.5	22.1	23.9	22.5	26.8	22.2	24.8	20
<b>MATH GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	79.6	75.2	77.2	74.0	74.9	74.6	77.6	76.6	74.9	74.4	90
Standard of Excellence:	12.5	15.6	9.4	14.5	10.9	15.9	11.3	16.8	12.7	16.5	20
<b>MATH GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	73.0	67.4	71.9	66.3	70.2	65.7	68.0	67.0	65.0	66.4	90
Standard of Excellence:	18.4	17.4	19.6	18.3	20.4	18.5	18.0	18.5	17.5	19.8	20

**SCIENCE ALL STUDENTS:**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SCIENCE GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	81.5	78.1	77.6	75.2	75.3	74.8	79.0	76.5	77.0	76.8	90
Standard of Excellence:	26.2	27.7	23.3	26.6	19.6	24.1	18.6	24.8	23.1	26.4	20
<b>SCIENCE GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	69.9	67.4	75.0	69.6	72.0	69.3	74.6	72.2	79.8	73.6	90
Standard of Excellence:	10.3	13.3	12.1	14.7	10.6	13.0	13.9	15.8	18.5	17.7	20

**SOCIAL STUDIES ALL STUDENTS:**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	School Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	School Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	School Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	School Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.6	78.6	82.5	77.4	78.9	77.9	84.2	65.8	70.2	71.0	90
Standard of Excellence:	21.3	22.9	16.4	22.3	16.0	23.8	21.6	21.4	10.9	16.4	20
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	76.7	72.5	79.0	71.4	75.6	71.7	66.3	65.5	71.7	68.9	90
Standard of Excellence:	17.1	18.9	22.7	18.7	17.9	18.9	11.6	20.9	14.6	18.8	20

**Tests Written in French****MATHEMATICS WRITTEN IN FRENCH:**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>MATH GRADE 3 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	88.4	88.9	77.3	85.0	80.9	83.7	77.4	84.0	88.1	83.8	90
Standard of Excellence:	24.8	24.4	17.0	25.5	22.9	23.2	17.6	23.2	21.9	20.8	20
<b>MATH GRADE 6 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.8	87.7	82.4	85.7	89.3	86.6	92.6	89.0	88.0	86.6	90
Standard of Excellence:	10.9	20.3	14.7	15.4	19.6	18.7	18.9	20.6	11.1	18.8	20
<b>MATH GRADE 9 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	75.9	86.8	77.5	84.5	80.9	85.3	66.0	85.3	69.2	85.9	90
Standard of Excellence:	3.4	26.0	15.0	26.2	14.9	28.9	9.4	28.0	0	26.6	20

**SCIENCE WRITTEN IN FRENCH:**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SCIENCE GR. 6 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	81.5	85.2	81.4	82.3	87.5	82.9	85.3	83.5	73.5	79.5	90
Standard of Excellence:	16.3	20.0	20.6	23.0	11.6	19.6	12.6	18.7	14.5	18.3	20
<b>SCIENCE GR. 9 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	61.9	80.5	80.6	82.7	85.3	84.1	67.9	82.1	88.5	84.5	90
Standard of Excellence:	0.0	10.4	9.7	15.9	17.6	14.8	0.0	15.6	23.1	17.3	20

### SOCIAL STUDIES WRITTEN IN FRENCH:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 6 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	85.9	84.8	80.4	84.1	90.2	85.5	88.4	86.8	59.8	72.3	90
Standard of Excellence:	16.3	17.3	7.8	15.9	17.0	18.4	20.0	20.8	3.4	12.0	20
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 9 FI:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	83.6	83.1	77.8	83.2	71.1	82.6	61.3	89.2	87.4	83.1	90
Standard of Excellence:	8.2	15.5	9.7	14.5	8.9	14.2	0.0	21.1	13.8	18.3	20

### Tests Written in English

#### MATHEMATICS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>MATH GRADE 3:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.4	81.4	84.4	79.4	81.5	78.3	80.3	79.2	82.1	75.3	90
Standard of Excellence:	26.3	27.1	22.6	23.3	21.9	24.0	23.2	27.2	22.3	25.4	20
<b>MATH GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	79.2	74.5	76.7	73.3	73.5	73.9	76.3	75.8	72.8	72.8	90
Standard of Excellence:	12.7	15.3	8.9	14.4	10.0	15.7	10.7	16.5	13.0	16.3	20
<b>MATH GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	73.0	66.4	71.8	65.2	69.7	64.5	68.1	65.9	64.8	64.0	90
Standard of Excellence:	18.8	17.0	19.8	17.8	20.6	17.8	18.4	18.0	18.3	19.0	20

#### SCIENCE WRITTEN IN ENGLISH:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SCIENCE GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	81.5	77.7	77.2	74.7	74.1	74.3	78.4	76.1	77.4	76.6	90
Standard of Excellence:	27.1	28.1	23.5	26.8	20.4	24.4	19.2	25.2	24.0	27.0	20
<b>SCIENCE GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	70.0	66.7	74.9	68.8	71.6	68.4	74.7	71.6	79.6	72.9	90
Standard of Excellence:	10.4	13.5	12.1	14.6	10.4	12.9	12.2	15.8	18.4	17.8	20

#### SOCIAL STUDIES WRITTEN IN ENGLISH:

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		RVS Target
	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	RVS Results (%)	Prov. Results (%)	
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 6:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	84.5	78.2	82.7	77.0	77.7	77.4	83.1	64.1	71.3	70.9	90
Standard of Excellence:	21.7	23.2	17.2	22.7	15.9	24.2	22.1	21.5	11.7	16.7	20
<b>SOCIAL GRADE 9:</b>											
Acceptable Standard:	76.3	71.9	79.1	70.6	75.9	71.0	67.0	64.5	70.5	68.0	90
Standard of Excellence:	17.6	19.0	23.5	19.0	18.6	19.2	13.3	20.9	14.6	18.8	20