

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Public Agenda

September 17, 2009

1:00 p.m.





REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

EDUCATION CENTRE
2651 CHINOOK WINDS DRIVE S. W.
AIRDRIE, AB

SEPTEMBER 17, 2009
1:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order – Public Meeting 1:00 p.m.**
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
 - Regular Board Meeting – September 3, 2009
4. Superintendent's Report
5. **Exemplary Practice: Graduate Degrees Celebration & Tea**
6. Chairman's Report/Correspondence
7. Board Reports
8. Professional Development/Conferences
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

This unofficial agenda is subject to change and is not *official* until approved at the Board meeting.



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 17, 2009

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Healthy Eating Initiative
2. Links to Learning 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bass", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Greg Bass, Superintendent of Schools



To: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
From: The Superintendent of Schools

Information

Information Item: Links to Learning 2009

Author: Jacquie Mirtle, Sports Coordinator

Date of Meeting: September 17, 2009

Background:

Links to Learning 2009 was held at the Links of GlenEagles on August 19, 2009. The event saw the participation of 67 golfers, consisting of sponsors, teachers, Education Centre staff, trustees, and members of the community.

The Links of GlenEagles provided excellent service from start to finish, including the weeks leading up to the tournament. Feedback from participants was positive.

In-kind donations (prizes, printing, and advertising) totalled an estimated \$18,000.

The tournament raised \$17,000. Proceeds will go toward two initiatives: a) Board of Trustee sponsored scholarships and recognition awards; and, b) launching a district-wide breakfast and lunch program called *Food For Thought*.

Food For Thought is an extension of Rocky View Schools' award-winning Healthy Eating Initiative. The initiative is a result of a partnership between the Calgary zone of Alberta Health Services and the RVS' Health Promoting Schools Advisory Committee and implements a healthy eating approach to support school communities.

Funds raised through Links to Learning will support a systemic approach to providing food for students coming to school without breakfast or lunch. The program will be managed by a *Food For Thought Action Committee*, comprised of representatives from communities and schools from all areas of our district.

Given the economic downturn, RVS was fortunate to be able to host such a successful event. The challenge of securing sponsorship and golfers proved to be great and almost convinced us to cancel the tournament. However, the advantages of going ahead with the tournament far outweighed the disadvantages. We have maintained momentum for future tournaments and raised \$17,000 to support RVS students.

Motion to Accept:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the report on Links to Learning 2009 as information.



To: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
From: The Superintendent of Schools

Information

Information Item: Healthy Eating Initiative: Progress Report

Author: Gloria Wells, Director of Collaborative Initiatives; David Peat, Director of Learning

Date of Meeting: September 17, 2009

Current Status:

The link between healthy eating practice and enhanced academic outcomes has become well-established.

- The role of the school in supporting student learning through more healthful nutrition is within the new RVS Three Year Strategic Plan as a strategy to assist in addressing non-academic barriers to student learning.
 - Many schools identified as one of their goals, supporting the optimal nutrition of students. Both staff and students, in school-based needs assessments undertaken as a component of the Healthy Eating initiative, requested that the RVS provide leadership and consistency in providing “user-friendly” guidelines and implementation processes; this has occurred during the course of this initiative.
- The Healthy Eating Guidelines received unanimous ratification by the following separate bodies in 2008: Health Promoting Schools Advisory Committee, RVS Senior Executive Group, and the RVS Board of Trustees.
- Students and staff have asked that Divisional supports be established to move this work forward. As a result, there will be established a Healthy Eating Community of Practice that will provide increased access for students, staff and families to information and materials relating to healthy eating.
- RVS reviewed its position on how it manages food contracts, stipulating that menus have to be approved by the Nutritionists working with RVS.
- Changes have been made to contracts with major cafeteria contractors, with the involvement of students, to include more healthy and cost neutral choices. A major initiative in collaboration with *Chartwells* is set to begin in October 2009, as the beginning of a national effort on their part to revise their menus, with special events at participating schools to support this effort.
- As of September 2009, 80% of the schools have completed their individual needs assessment, which gathers the perspectives of school-based stakeholders regarding issues and opportunities for improvement. This has provided an organized mechanism to engage students in this discussion and to incorporate their perspectives into school-based and division wide Healthy Eating programming.
- At local school level, additional focus and review of opportunities to support healthy eating has led to increased opportunities for students to access healthy selections of food at special events, lunch days or in the “tuck shops”.
- The Health Promoting Schools Advisory Committee has elected to continue its mandate to support the development and implementation of initiatives aimed at supporting the health and well being of Rocky View students, based on their successful experience with the Healthy Eating initiative.



To: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
From: The Superintendent of Schools

Information

- A school based implementation model is being developed at the request, and with the assistance, of the HPS Advisory Committee.
- This work attracted the interest of the Calgary Health Trust, and, through them, a corporate partner. To date, approximately 21 schools have accessed the support provided by Devon Energy, as well as a number of items that can be used divisionally for student-based events or loaned to schools for their own special events.
- A process to expedite the acquisition of appropriate Food Permits and training for food handling at all participating schools is in progress.
- Vending machine contracts are also being scrutinized to determine alternate options.
- RVS has been contacted by schools and agencies both provincially and nationally for advice and/or information regarding this initiative.
- Discussions with the team engaged with the provincial Healthy Eating Guidelines have led to great interest in the RVS approach and an invitation to collaborate over an information sharing workshop at the end of 2010.

Plan for 2009-2010

- Continue to support individual, school-based implementation plans with the support of the .2 AHS Nutritionist.
- Develop the RVS Healthy Eating Community of Practice to facilitate sharing of information and ideas among RVS schools.
- Continue to coordinate and share web-enabled resources to support school efforts.
- Commence the “Food for Thought” initiative.
- Undertake the 2010 “post” evaluation strategy as the final component of the agreement with the Alberta Health Services, Calgary Region evaluation team.
- Collaborate with Chartwells to finalize their new, healthy choices food menus for implementation in RVS and other schools across Canada.
- Review options for supporting healthier choices in vending machines.
- Undertake the Food Handling training sessions for designated school representatives, as required under the Food Permit process required under the Devon funding initiative.

Motion to Accept:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the Healthy Eating Initiative Progress Report as information.



MEMORANDUM

Education Centre

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403.945.4001 f

Date: Sept. 17, 2009
To: Board of Trustees
From: Superintendent of Schools

RE: Graduate Degrees

Rocky View Schools is home to some of the most unique and innovative schools in Canada, due primarily to the contribution, commitment and accomplishments of its staff.

Goal Two of Rocky View Schools' Three Year Plan focus' on build the capacity of its community of learners. Specifically, Outcome 2.3 states "Students and staff demonstration life-long learning."

During the 2008/09 school year, six individuals in Rocky View Schools demonstrated their commitment to life-long learning by earning a graduate degree. They are:

Ecole Airdrie Middle School

David Smith Master in Education (Administration) University of Calgary

Banded Peak School

Renata Urbanik Master in Education (Curriculum) University of Calgary

Chestermere High School

Erin Mahaffey Master in Education (Educational Research) University of Calgary

Kathryn School

Christine Parker Master of Arts (Leadership and Administration) Gonzaga University

Rocky View Learning Connection

Karen Adolf Master in Education (Curriculum Studies) University of Calgary

Amanda Peacey Master in Education (Educational Leadership) University of Calgary

Springbank High School

Dr. Amy Burns Ph. D in Educational Leadership and Administration University of Calgary

Dr. Heather Fansher Ph. D in PhD Educational Contexts University of Calgary

The Board commends these individuals for this most recent milestone in their career and expresses its gratitude for the important role they play in Rocky View Schools.

"We engage all learners through meaningful and challenging experiences, preparing them to understand, adapt and successfully contribute to our changing global community."