



## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

EDUCATION CENTRE

2651 CHINOOK WINDS DRIVE S. W.

AIRDRIE, AB

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

1:00 P.M.

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
  - Regular Board Meeting – September 1, 2011
4. **Exemplary Practice:** *“A Symphony of Schools: Rocky View Students Perform Beethoven”*
5. Superintendent’s Report
6. Chairman’s Report/Correspondence
7. Board Reports
8. Professional Development/Conferences
9. New Business
10. In Camera
11. Adjournment

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



# **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

1. Policy IC Attendance Boundaries – First Read
2. Renaming of New Chestermere Learning Facility

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bass", is positioned above the printed name of the Superintendent.

Greg Bass, Superintendent of Schools



# MEMORANDUM

## Education Centre

2651 Chinook Winds Drive S.W.  
Airdrie, AB T4B 0B4  
403.945.4000 p  
403.945.4001 f

---

**Date:** September 15, 2011

**To:** Board of Trustees

**Subject:** **Exemplary Practice:** *A Symphony of Schools: Rocky View Students Perform Beethoven*

**Presenters:** Luke Sandham, Teacher  
Gayla Worden, Teacher

**Teacher Participants:** Gayla Worden, Verna Ahner, Lael Johnston, Luke Sandham, Andrea Todd Osika, Kelly Simon, Laurie Woelk, Danielle Istchenko, Cathy Brown, Jacqui Kiernan, Pam Curran, Theresa Carroll, Jessica Jackson (Scott), Leanne McCaffrey, Karlie Kenealey, Kim Ferguson, Diego Bechthold, Jordan Harris, Kristi Baratelli, Cathy Maetche, Shelley Rowe, Kaitlin DeShane, Lynn Fischer, Laurie McLelland, Natalie Roy, Stephanie Watson, Susan Rudakoff, Kathy Bridle (Maclsaac), Peter Bouvier, Lori Dalcin

**School Participants:** Langdon School, Chestermere Lake Middle School, Chestermere High School, Prince of Peace School, Meadowbrook Middle School, R.J. Hawkey Elementary School, Bert Church High School, George McDougall High School, Muriel Clayton Middle School, Ecole Airdrie Middle School, Edwards Elementary School, Ralph McCall School, Nose Creek Elementary School, Crossfield Elementary School, Bearspaw School, Banded Peak School, A.E. Bowers Elementary

### Project Description

Produced by RVS' Music Community of Practice, *A Symphony of Schools: Rocky View Students Perform Beethoven*, is a video compilation of hundreds of students from Grades K – 12 performing "Finale: (Themes from Symphony No. 9)" by Ludwig van Beethoven.

Inspired by "Playing for Change", a multimedia movement created to engage and connect people across the world through music, members of the Community of Practice, led by Muriel Clayton Music Teacher Luke Sandham, produced the 10- minute video, involving more than 25 different school choirs and bands.

Over a period of six months, Sandham visited schools across the jurisdiction, recording audio and shooting video footage of each group performing to a bed track created by the Chestermere High School Band. He began by compiling all the music into one master audio track that featured the entrances of all the groups in a specific order. Serving as the skeleton for building the video, this master audio track was matched to video footage of the various choirs and bands, resulting in an example of collaboration at its finest.

### **What makes this project a best instructional practice?**

**Global Perspective:** This project helped both teachers and students gain a more global perspective about the nature of the music education programs within RVS.

**Engagement:** This project engaged hundreds of students from Grades K – 12 in a highly successful common musical endeavour while providing significant challenges to everyone involved, regardless of their grade or ability level.

**Timelessness:** The raw materials for the performance (the music of Beethoven) originated in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, but the execution was reflective of using 21<sup>st</sup> Century practices. This project demonstrates that centuries-old subject matter and skills can be incredibly engaging and relevant to young people, even in our ultra-modern world.

### **Future implementation plans?**

Several small-scale projects, designed to develop new music education initiatives among schools, are already in the planning stages. Students also will be encouraged to participate in these projects, by playing a role in production elements such as filming, recording, and editing.

### **How best can this practice be shared with other schools/educators?**

*A Symphony of Schools: Rocky View Students Perform Beethoven* will be posted on the RVS corporate website, the Communities of Practice website, and on RVS' You Tube.

### **Was the project recognized by an external organization?**

After the project was recognized by the Airdrie Council of School Councils, several of the Airdrie choirs and bands were asked to perform together at Premier Ed Stelmach's press conference where he announced capital funding for new schools. Those schools were: Bert Church High School, George MacDougall High School, A.E. Bowers Elementary, Ralph McCall School and Muriel Clayton Middle School.



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

## Directive for Action

---

**Directive for Action Item:** Policy IC School Attendance Areas – First Read

**Author:** Greg Bass

**Date of Board Meeting:** September 15, 2011

### Background:

Amended Policy IC School Attendance Boundaries and Acceptance of Students from Out of Attendance Area received first reading on May 17, 2005. When the Policy Development Committee (PDC) was established in 2007, this policy was identified as 'outstanding' since it had not received approval through a second read. At the April 3, 2008, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following motion was carried:

**# 64 - 08 MOTION BY J. AVERY:**

That the Board of Trustees approves rescinding the first reading of the amendments to Policy IC School Attendance Boundaries, and restarts the process of reviewing this policy.

Current Policy IC School Attendance Boundaries and Acceptance of Students from Out of Attendance Area was identified as needing to be amended due to a reference to the IOP program which no longer exists. As well, with several new schools on the horizon, the PDC sought and received direction from the Board to draft additional amendments to the policy, including a name change to IC School Attendance Areas. Items considered were attendance area review triggers, critical attendance figures, possible solutions to prior boundary changes and determination of the level of public consultation in the process.

Policy IC School Attendance Areas is presented to the Board for first read.

### Alternatives:

1. That the Board of Trustees approves first read of amended Policy IC School Attendance Areas as presented.
2. That the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to take Policy IC School Attendance Areas back to the Policy Development Committee for further revision.
3. That the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to abandon the policy amendment process and continue to be governed by current Policy IC School Attendance Boundaries and Acceptance of Students from Out of Attendance Area.

### Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees approves first read of amended Policy IC School Attendance Areas as presented.



Approved: 1998 10 08

Amended: 2002 11 2  
First Read 2011 09 15Reviewed: xxxx

---

## POLICY

The Board establishes school attendance areas to identify the school that a resident student is designated to attend. In providing high quality learning opportunities for all students, the management of variables such as, but not limited to, facility utilization, transportation, future planning, staff resources, financial resources, technology resources, is necessary. The Board recognizes that parents may wish to register their child at a school outside of their attendance area and the review of this request is subject to the provision of appropriate resources, availability of facility space, and parent-provided transportation.

## GUIDELINES

1. The Superintendent or designate may direct students to attend any school.
2. Attendance areas are not the same as ward boundaries, transportation service boundaries and boundaries defined by municipalities or other government bodies.
3. Attendance areas are developed by the Superintendent or designate, and approved by the Board.
4. Attendance areas will be adjusted as deemed necessary by the Board in order to:
  - 4.1 Integrate new facilities.
  - 4.2 Make educational programs more viable.
  - 4.3 Make more efficient use of school facilities.
  - 4.4 Make transportation of students more efficient.
5. Students will normally be expected to attend their designated school.
6. On an annual basis, parents may request that their child be enrolled in a school within the Division other than the school to which the student has been designated to attend. Annual acceptance may be provided if:
  - 6.1 There is sufficient facility space, personnel and resources in the school in which the parents wish to enroll their child (normally this means the school is operating at less than 85% of capacity); and
  - 6.2 The parents agree to transport their child to and from the school or make arrangements in accordance with policies EEAA and EEAB.
7. In all cases, out-of-attendance area requests begin with the principal of the school the parent wishes their child to attend. Approval is dependent upon the above-noted factors. If denied, the parent may appeal to the Associate Superintendent of Schools followed by the Superintendent of Schools. The decision of the



Approved: 1998 10 08

Amended: 2002 11 2  
First Read 2011 09 15

Reviewed: xxxx

Superintendent is final. If approved, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive a “permission to register” letter.

8. The Superintendent may direct a student to attend a school other than the one designated, for:
  - 8.1. educational reasons: a strong rationale outlining why the resident school does not provide the student with adequate educational opportunities is required.
  - 8.2. social/emotional and/or psychological reasons. Medical documentation is required. The Superintendent may request an independent medical assessment.

If the Superintendent directs a student to a school other than the one designated, transportation will be provided.
9. As schools cannot provide all types of infrastructure for the flourishing of all students, programs should be complementary and provide for potential multiple school facility usage by a student. To this end, attendance areas do not necessarily preclude individual students from attending different school facilities for portions of the school day to augment individual student programs.
10. The definition of attendance areas is the responsibility of the Superintendent as approved by the Board. Where possible, the Superintendent shall use a collaborative process to recommend the best possible decision to the Board of Trustees. A collaborative process may adhere to the following steps:
  - 10.1 Hold a public meeting to outline short and long term student accommodation challenges and discuss attendance area and new facility opening processes.
  - 10.2 Once draft boundaries are developed, engage the broader public, including affected school councils, to provide feedback and alternatives via the jurisdictional website.
  - 10.3 Consider the feedback to develop alternative proposals, if applicable, for Board consideration and eventual approval.

**Legal Reference:** ⇒ *School Act*, Sections 8, 13, 44, 45

**Cross Reference:** RVS Policy:  
 ⇒ EEAA Transportation: Authorized Passengers  
 ⇒ EEAB Transportation: Limits of Service

**POLICY**

The Board will establish school attendance area boundaries which identify the school that a resident student is designated to attend. The Board recognizes that parents may wish to take the opportunity to enroll their child at a school elsewhere in Rocky View Schools subject to available facility space, personnel, and other resources, provided the parent provides for the transportation of the student. The Board gives authority to the Superintendent to direct a resident student of the Board to enroll in a particular school.

**GUIDELINES**

1. The Superintendent or designate may direct students to attend any school.
2. Attendance area boundaries are not the same as ward boundaries, municipal boundaries or transportation service boundaries.
3. Attendance areas are developed by the Superintendent or designate, and approved by the Board.
4. Attendance areas may be adjusted in order to:
  - 4.1 Make educational programs more viable.
  - 4.2 Make more efficient use of school facilities.
  - 4.3 Make transportation of students more efficient.
5. Students will normally be expected to attend the designated school within their attendance area except for those eligible to attend:
  - 5.1 A French Immersion program in the school offering the program for their particular region area, or
  - 5.2 An Integrated Occupation Program in the school offering the program for their particular region area.



Approved: 1998 10 08

Amended: 2002 11 27

Reviewed: xxxx

---

6. On an annual basis, parents may elect to request that their child be enrolled in a school within the Division other than the school to which the student has been designated. Annual acceptance, for each year the child is enrolled at the school requested, may be provided if:
  - 6.1 There is sufficient facility space, personnel and other resources in the school in which the parents wish to enroll their child (normally this means the school is operating at less than 85% of capacity); and
  - 6.2 The parents agree to provide for transportation to the school they have selected or make arrangements in accordance with policies EEAA and EEAB.

**Legal Reference:** ⇒ *School Act*, Sections 8, 13, 44, 45

**Cross Reference:** RVS Policy:  
⇒ EEAA Transportation: Authorized Passengers  
⇒ EEAB Transportation: Limits of Service



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

## **Directive for Action**

---

**Directive for Action Item:**      **Naming of New Chestermere Learning Facility**

**Date of Meeting:**                      **September 15, 2011**

**Background:**

With the construction of the new storefront learning facility in Chestermere now complete, Rocky View Schools needs to provide an official name for the building. The building is designed to accommodate services offered by the Rocky View Learning Connections – Chestermere Campus, as well as, those provided through Rocky View Community Learning (adult programming) and Student Support Staff (Ship, OT/PT, Program Specialists and Psychologists).

With the triangulation of collaborative supports, community learning, and outreach already being proposed under a new “Airdrie Community Learning Centre”, it is recommended that the facility be named Chestermere Community Learning Centre. This naming convention could also be adopted for the jurisdiction’s outreach facility in Cochrane at a later date.

**Alternatives:**

**Alternative I:**

That the Board of Trustees approve naming the new building in Chestermere the Chestermere Community Learning Centre.

**Alternative II:**

That the Board of Trustees does not approve the name change and therefore the name will be the existing Chestermere Learning Connection.

**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Trustees approve naming the new building in Chestermere the Chestermere Community Learning Centre.