



**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE EDUCATION CENTRE
2651 CHINOOK WINDS DRIVE S. W.
AIRDRIE, ALBERTA**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Chair, Ward 3 Sylvia Eggerer
Vice-Chair, Ward 2 Bev LaPeare
Ward 4 Helen Clease
Ward 1 Jennifer Avery
Ward 6 Dr. Bruce Pettigrew
Ward 7 Don Thomas
Ward 5 Colleen Munro

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Superintendent of Schools Greg Bass
Associate Superintendent of Learning Dr. David Peat
Associate Superintendent of Schools Murray Besenski
Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Susan Williams
Director of Finance Bob Willson
Director of Communications Angela Spanier
Executive Assistant Karen Dolynny

RECORDING SECRETARY:

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Sylvia Eggerer called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

IN - CAMERA:

#183 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE DON THOMAS:

That the Board of Trustees move into in-camera at 9:35 a.m.

CARRIED

Chair Sylvia Eggerer called a recess at 12:25 p.m.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer reconvened the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

#184 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE :

That the Board of Trustees move out of in-camera at 1:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Rocky View School Division No. 41

Chair – Board of Trustees

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA:

#185 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE HELEN CLEASE:

That the Board of Trustees approves the September 3, 2009, Regular Board meeting agenda with the addition of:

- Amendment to the Notice of Motion

CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING:

#186 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 3, 2009, as circulated.

CARRIED

ITEMS FROM IN - CAMERA:

#187 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE HELEN CLEASE:

That the Human Resources Report for September, 2009, be accepted as presented, for information purposes.

CARRIED

#188 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BRUCE PETTIGREW:

That the Financial Report for September, 2009, be accepted as presented, for information purposes.

CARRIED

#189 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

That the Student Suspension/Expulsion Report for June to September, 2009, be accepted as presented, for information purposes.

CARRIED

#190 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BRUCE PETTIGREW:

That the Board of Trustees approves that effective August 31, 2009, that the salary for Employee Number 7012 be adjusted as recommended by the Labour Relations Committee.

CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

INFORMATION

Links to Learning 2009

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.

#191 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BRUCE PETTIGREW:

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

CARRIED

Healthy Eating Initiatives

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.

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.

#192 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

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

CARRIED

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sylvia Eggerer Reported:

- City of Airdrie now have two Resource Officers in RVS Schools and being received well
- George McDougall High bathrooms were replaced
- Bert Church High heat pumps were repaired
- Tour of Genesis Place Facility Phase II (large enough to hold high school graduation ceremonies)
- September 11 - Ribbon Cutting at East Lake Athletic Park
- Speak Out Forum Provincial Initiative being held at Bert Church High on October 15, 2009
- September 4 – Zone 5 ASBA meeting with Heather Wellwood, ASBA President
- September 9 – 2010/2011 Budget Planning meeting with Minister Hancock
- September 10 – RJ Hawkey School Council meeting
- September 11 – Airdrie Centennial Celebrations which included RVS School Choirs
- September 11 – Football Games between George McDougall and Bert Church High
- September 11 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for East Lake Athletic Facility
- September 12 – ASBA meeting in Edmonton
- September 14 – Tour of East Lake Recreation Centre
- September 15 – Ecole Airdrie Middle School Council meeting
- September 15 – George McDougall School Council meeting
- September 16 – Bert Church High School Council meeting
- September 17 – Board Planning and Regular meetings

Bev LaPeare Reported:

- September 3 – Planning and Regular Board meeting
- September 4 – Zone 5 meeting
- September 8 – Chestermere High School Council meeting
- September 9 – Meetings at Prince of Peace, Chestermere Lake Middle School, Rainbow Creek and Prairie Waters Schools
- September 9 – Agenda Planning meeting
- September 10 – Meeting with Mayor Patricia Matthews and Town Administration at Chestermere Town Hall
- September 11 – Pancake Breakfast at Langdon School
- September 11 - Pancake Breakfast at Chestermere High School
- September 12 – Meeting in Edmonton with ASBA (Alberta School Boards Association) with Board Chair/Vice-Chairs and Superintendents from across the Province
- September 15 – Meeting with RVS Board
- September 16 – Prairie Water’s Council meeting
- September 16 – Langdon School Council meeting
- September 19 – Chestermere Library Fundraiser Run

Helen Claise:

- August 17- 19 - Attended ASBA Leadership conference
- August 21 - Met with Deborah McLaren, Principal, Banded Peak
- August 22 - Presentation from Ted Menzies to Greater Bragg Creek Trails Association
- August 22 - Met with Harvey Buckley
- August 26 - Attended Board sponsored BBQ at Education Centre
- August 27 - Board Planning Meeting
- September 3 - Board and Planning Meeting
- September 4 - ASBA Zone 5
- September 8 - Meeting with Zone 5 Chair
- September 9 - Meeting at Banded Peak School
- September 9 - Springbank Middle School Council Meeting
- September 10 - Pick up displays at for Springbank Park for All Seasons fall fair at Ed Centre
- September 10 - Rockyview West Recreation Board Meeting
- September 11 - Set up for Springbank Park for All Seasons Fall Fair
- September 12 - RVS Booth at Springbank Park for All Seasons Fall Fair
- September 12 - Attended Springbank Park for all Seasons Evening Barbeque
- September. 14 - Banded Peak Council Meeting
- September 15 - Meeting Re: ASBA Feedback at Education Center
- September 16 - Bragg Creek Fall Fair
- September 16 - Elbow Valley Meet the Teacher Night
- September 16 - Springbank Community High School Council meeting
- September 17 - Board and Planning Meeting
- September 17 - Springbank Middle School Meet the Teacher night

Don Thomas:

- Airdrie 100 Centennial Celebration – Past, Present and Future, was a success with school participation up to 600 students and 20 teachers.
- School start up in West Airdrie was smooth with teachers and administrators accommodating the increase in student numbers very well

Colleen Munro:

- School start up was smooth with schools addressing the increase in students
- Westbrook Public Kindergarten has an enrolment of 21 students for its inaugural year

Jennifer Avery:

- School start up was successful with increased student numbers in Beiseker, Kathryn and Crossfield Elementary and a small decrease in WG Murdoch
- Town of Irricana has newly renovated their library which is now a state of the art facility

Bruce Pettigrew:

- Cochrane School Councils have begun meeting
- Cochrane High and Bow Valley are sharing programs and space
- Cochrane Parade was a success and represented by RVS Trustees

NEW BUSINESS

Amendment to Notice of Motion

I hereby give notice that the Notice of Motion given May 21, 2009, will be brought to the January 21, 2010, Regular Board meeting, rather than the previously outline October 1, 2009, Regular Board meeting.

That the Board of Trustees approves a grade configuration change for Kathryn School so that it becomes a grade 1 to 9 school with options on the best time line this should happen. i.e. Possible commencement for the 2010-2011 school year.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer called a recess at 1:40 p.m.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer reconvened the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

EXEMPLARY PRACTICE

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, eight 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

Chestermere High School

Renata Urbanik Master in Education (Curriculum) University of Calgary

Chestermere High School

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

Kathyrn 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.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer called a recess at 2:37 p.m.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer reconvened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

#193 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE DON THOMAS:

That the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER