



**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 3, 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 Business and
Operations Darrell Couture
Associate Superintendent of Schools Murray Besenski
Associate Superintendent of Learning Dr. David Peat
Associate Superintendent of Human
Resources Susan Williams

COMMUNICATIONS:

Director of Communications Angela Spanier
Executive Assistant Karen Dolynny

RECORDING SECRETARY:

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Sylvia Eggerer called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA:

#174 – 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE HELEN CLEASE:

That the Board of Trustees approves the September 3, 2009, Regular Board meeting agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING:

#175 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE DON THOMAS:

That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 18, 2009, as circulated.

CARRIED

#176 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of July 14, 2009, as circulated.

CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SPRINGBANK SCHOOLS WASTERWATER PIPELINE AND LIFT STATION

#177 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE HELEN CLEAVE:

That the Board of Trustees approve the awarding of the Springbank Wastewater Force Main and Wastewater Lift Station tender submitted by Down Under Drilling Inc. without the requirement of prior executed agreements with the City of Calgary and Rocky View County provided informal agreement of both parties has been received.

CARRIED

INFORMATION

H1N1 Update

In preparation for the resurgence of the H1N1 virus, all RVS schools have been asked to put in place the following pandemic protocols, effective September 1, 2009.

Mitigation Strategies

1. Follow RVS' "Flu Reporting Process": As a means to monitor the health of students, schools will track the reasons for student absences. **IF** schools have more than 10 percent of their staff and students out with flu-like symptoms, they have been asked to inform OH&S.
2. Review Self-Care Protocols – Teachers have been asked to review Alberta Health Services Hand Washing Protocols and Cough etiquette (Page 5 and 6) with all students. ([AHS Self-Care Protocols](#))
3. Designate a Flu Isolation Room - Should a student arrive at school with flu symptoms or develop symptoms during the school day, that student needs to be escorted to a flu isolation room, so they can be monitored until they can be picked up. A sick child will not be permitted to take the bus home. A parent, or other person noted on the child's emergency contract information, will be required to pick the child up. ([Flu Isolation Room Poster](#))
4. Display Posters - Hand Washing Posters and Cover Your Cough Poster are to be posted in all bathrooms (if they are not already). (Handwashing [Elementary Poster](#)/Handwashing [Jr. & Senior High Poster](#)/[Cover Your Cough Poster](#))
5. Bus Drivers Cleaning Practices- Bus drivers have been asked to heighten their cleaning practices. They also have been asked to report any students on their bus with flu-like symptoms, immediately upon arrival at the school. ([Transportation Protocols](#))
6. Custodian's Cleaning Practices: Please ensure caretakers are following through with the Custodial Influenza Practices. ([Custodian Protocols](#))

Management Strategies

IF/WHEN a case has been confirmed in a school community, schools are asked to host a staff meeting to discuss the deployment of:

1. Conduct Flu Checks - Classroom teachers are to conduct daily flu checks, morning and afternoon. Teachers should ensure these conversations with students are age-appropriate. Any child exhibiting a fever plus cough, sore throat, aches, or headache should be escorted to the school's flu isolation room until they can be picked up by a parent. (These student will not be allowed to take the bus home).
2. Provide Surgical Masks - Provide staff, caring for students in the school's isolation room, with a surgical mask and students exhibiting symptoms with a surgical mask.

3. Post the "Flu Check Poster" on doors accessed by public. Visitors reporting to the office should be informed that "self care" protocols are strongly encouraged as (1) the school has had a confirmed case of H1N1 and/or (2) the school is working diligently to ensure a healthy school environment. (Feeder schools may be asked to institute these protocols depending on circumstances surrounding individual case, ie siblings in sister school). ([Flu Check Poster](#))
4. Discourage students from drinking directly from fountains, rather use disposable cups.
5. Ask staff to review the Classroom Influenza Strategies and Tips. ([Classroom Strategies](#))
6. Ask parents and staff to keep their children home/stay home if they are feeling ill.
7. Please ask staff to refrain from talking to the media and forward any media enquiries to Communications (403-945-4012).
8. Encourage staff to remain and display calm over the incident.

Communication to Parents

Depending on the circumstances surrounding the person who has contracted the virus, RVS may send a letter home to parents, specifically RVS would inform parents if the person was in the school community at the point where they were contagious (one day prior to exhibiting symptoms, four days after they have become ill). RVS would not send a letter home if the person was not in their school community when they were contagious.

Vaccination

This fall, the Alberta government will offer a free seasonal influenza vaccine to all Albertans six months and older. Immunization can be obtained through public health clinics and some physician offices and pharmacists beginning in October.

Separate from the seasonal influenza vaccine, the province is also working on its plan to immunize Albertans against the H1N1 influenza virus sometime this fall. Details on that immunization program will be announced when available.

Clinic dates and locations are currently in the planning stage and Alberta Health Services will be announcing details in September.

#178 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the H1N1 Update as information.

CARRIED

Maintenance and Grounds Business Plan 2009-2011

The Maintenance and Grounds Business Plan 2009-2011 may be viewed on Rocky View Schools website at:

<http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/assets/ourboardandpolicies/boardagendasandminutes/board-agendas/boardagenda-09-03-2009.pdf>

#179 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BRUCE PETTIGREW:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the Maintenance and Grounds Business Plan 2009-2011 as information.

CARRIED

Capital Projects Update Report

The Capital Projects Update may be viewed on Rocky View Schools website at:

<http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/assets/ourboardandpolicies/boardagendasandminutes/board-agendas/boardagenda-09-03-2009.pdf>

#180 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE JENNIFER AVERY:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the Capital Projects Update Report as information.

CARRIED

In-Year Government Budget Adjustments

The following memo from Greg Bass, Superintendent of Schools, was sent to School Administrators, and copied to Trustees, Directors, Executive, Education Centre Staff, David Woloshyn, Director, Zone 5 Field Services and Marlene Lambe, Manager, Zone 5 Field Services:

Grant information released by Alberta Education reflecting the Alberta Government's \$430 million reduction in government spending for the 2009/10 school year, reveals the financial impact to Rocky View Schools will not be as detrimental as expected. Alberta Education has responded creatively to its portion of the reduction, estimated at \$80 million, with the hope of having minimal impact to classrooms across the province.

Details and impacts to Rocky View Schools are as follows:

Government Reduction		Impact on RVS
Reduced Ministry expenses by slowing implementation of the student information system, postponed building assessment capacity and adjusted the timing of new curriculum development.		\$0
Reduced Ministry expenses by moving resources online and reducing administrative processes		\$0
Adjusted Relative Cost of Purchasing Goods (RCPA) grant to school boards		\$81,735 Instruction \$35,088 Plant Operations and Maintenance \$18,920 Transportation
Adjusted Socio-Economic Status grant to school boards		\$96,105 Instruction
Eliminated Transportation Fuel Price Contingency Grant		\$135,000 (estimated)
Clawed back accumulated operating surpluses reported as of August 31, 2008 which were greater than 3.25% of each board's expenses		\$0
	Subtotal	\$177,840 Instruction \$35,088 Plant Operations and Maintenance \$150,000 Transportation (estimated)
	TOTAL	\$ 362,928 (estimated)

The net effects of these grant reductions on Rocky View Schools for 2009/2010 is significantly less than the jurisdiction had anticipated and no reduction to school allocations will be necessary. During the next several weeks, the jurisdiction will review its operating budgets to determine where the adjustments will be made.

The difference of opinion on the calculation of the Average Weekly Earning Index (AWEI) raises the possibility that Rocky View Schools may need to absorb close to \$875,000. This adjustment to Rocky View Schools would see the average teaching cost increase from \$88,920 to \$89,850.

This news is far better than RVS had anticipated. The jurisdiction believes it must maintain its focus on continuing to advance its Three Year Plan and its transformation to a 21st Century Learning organization. RVS students both deserve and need this shift to occur to prepare them for a changed society. Together as a dynamic leadership team, RVS will not only prevail, but continue to lead the province in teaching and learning. Lastly, in regard to 2010/11, we will diligently and collaboratively plan for future budget reductions. Tough times don't last, tough people do. I wish you a great start up.

#181 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE DON THOMAS:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the In-Year Government Budget Adjustments correspondence as information.

CARRIED

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Sylvia Eggerer read a letter from Jack Hayden, Minister of Infrastructure, Alberta Education, authorizing Rocky View Schools to sell one third of its interest in property within the City of Airdrie. The proceeds of the sale must be used towards future capital expenditures, or with the approval of the Minister of Infrastructure, towards expenditures for operating and maintaining an existing building.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer read a letter from Jack Hayden, Minister of Infrastructure, Alberta Education, authorizing Rocky View Schools to complete an exchange of land within the Town of Chestermere with Melcor Developments, in order to create a property line which transects the proposed building on a straight line.

Chair Sylvia Eggerer distributed a flyer from the Electoral Boundaries Commission regarding the electoral map of Alberta.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sylvia Eggerer Reported:

- June 18 – Attended Board and Planning meetings
- June 18 – Attended Joint School Council meeting
- June 19 – Attended Zone 5 meeting
- June 22 – Teleconference with Minister Hancock regarding ASAP I, P3
- June 23 – Attended George McDougall Celebrating Success Committee meeting
- June 25 – Attended George McDougall High School Graduation
- June 26 – Attended Meadowbrook Middle School Awards, Talent Show and Barbeque
- July 1 – Participated in the City of Airdrie Canada Day Parade as a Rocky View Schools representative
- July 13 – PSBAA conference call
- July 23-26 – Attended the Airdrie Plus 55 Summer Games as a RVS liaison

- July 28 – Attended a Student Placement Appeal Hearing
- August 10 – PSBAA conference call – Ad Hoc committee working on re-structure and new job descriptions
- August 14 – Attended Stephen's Backpack Organization and brought greetings from RVS, assisted with the distribution of 1000 pairs of shoes, and planned school involvement
- August 18 – Conference call PSBAA regarding AD Hoc Committee
- August 19 – Attended the RVS Charity Golf Tournament at GlenEagles in Cochrane
- August 20–22 – PSBAA in Leduc, Dr. Ray Sherman, MLA, Edmonton, spoke about the communities responsibility for student wellness, reviewed the AB School Act and Executive job descriptions
- August 25 – Attended New RVS Staff Orientation in the morning and New Administrators Orientation in the afternoon
- August 26 – Attended Leadership Team Meeting and Board sponsored Barbeque lunch for Education Centre staff and Administrators
- August 27 – Attend Board Planning meeting and conference call with Minister Hancock regarding the budget adjustments
- August 28 – Interviews with the Airdrie Echo and Calgary Herald
- August 31 – Attended RJ Hawkey Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast, Edwards Open House and Bert Church High grade nine tours
- September 3 – Attended Board Planning and Regular Board meetings

Bev LaPeare Reported:

- June 18 – Attended Board Planning and Regular Board meeting
- June 18 – Attended School Council Orientation Workshop at Education Center
- June 19 - Attended Rainbow Creek Elementary School Council meeting
- June 19– Attended the screening of the documentary film, “Nipaihtapiwahsinnanii, Our World” which was done by the grade 7 students in Langdon School
- June 24 – Attended the Healthy Community Initiatives meeting at Chestermere Town Hall
- June 25 – Attended the Board Planning meeting
- July 14 – Attended the Special Board meeting
- July 28 – Attended a Student Placement Appeal Hearing at the Education Center
- August 26 – The Board hosted a Welcome Back BBQ for Education Centre staff and Administrators
- August 27 – Attended Board Planning meeting
- September 3 – Attended Board Planning and Regular Board meetings

Helen Clease:

- Walking/Bike trails are being constructed in Banded Peak leading to the school.
- Springbank Fall Fair on September 12, 2009

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONFERENCES

Trustees Bruce Pettigrew and Jennifer Avery attended the Canadian School Board Conference in Nova Scotia. Information and highlights:

- Saskatchewan no longer tax school boards
- Manitoba Boards are working with the Government to create a province wide collective bargaining process
- Quebec Curriculums in English and French will be released at the same time
- Liaison with other Trustees was very valuable

ADJOURNMENT:

#182 - 09 MOTION BY TRUSTEE BEV LAPEARE:

That the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER