

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

May 12, 2022

Heloise Lorimer School Shares its Journey to School-Wide Mental and Physical Health

- Physical education teacher Adam Pratt has taken his personal commitment to health to new levels with his leadership of the school's Comprehensive School Health (CSH) initiative. CSH considers the physical and mental well-being of students, staff and the community. Initiatives such as taking classroom learning outside, active living field trips, community partnerships and other strategies help boost student success, motivation and attendance while improving behaviours and connection with others.

Board-approved RVS Education Plan Sets Areas of Focus for Year Ahead

- RVS reviews I CAN goal results annually against the outcomes and performance measures set out in the Four-Year Education Plan. Through the review, the division identifies progress made and areas that require more attention as well as other factors that may have had an impact that year. From that, RVS determines areas of focus for the year ahead and if any changes need to be made to the measures.
- Schools bring the Four-Year Education Plan to life developing workbooks that serve to showcase the goals and progress made each year, along with what professional learning and other resources are required to achieve these goals.
- In this final year of the Four-Year Plan (4YP) adjustments were made to the outcomes of goal two to focus on implementing division-wide literacy and numeracy assessments. This important data will help bring a clearer picture of student learning needs and how RVS can best meet these needs at the division and school level. This will also reflect the requirement of the province for early years literacy and numeracy assessments announced by the government in April 2022.
- To help ensure RVS is responsive to the needs of our students and school communities and to gain valuable insight into how we are doing to achieve the goals and outcomes of the 4YP, an Education Plan survey was provided to all families, students, and staff. The anonymous survey is available on the RVS website and is open until May 15.

Board Approves 2022/23 School Fees

- The Board approved RVS' proposed school fee schedule for the 2022/23 school year, which will limit increases to existing optional course fees. These fees cannot be set higher than four per cent from the previous year recognizing the need to balance increased costs of materials and transportation with financial burden placed on parents/guardians.
- Highlights of school fees include:
 - No increase to any optional course fees by more than four per cent
 - No additional school-wide fees and system-wide fees
 - No fee can be charged for routine school supplies
 - No fees for Christian and French Immersion programs

- No new alternative program fees for Programs of Choice like Building Futures, The Farm, etc.
- Sports academies with external partners will have a fee determined between the partner and RVS

Community Use Fees to be Maintained at Current Levels

- RVS is committed to community use of its facilities and grounds and the benefits these facilities can provide in the communities we serve. Given the current economic condition and to minimize barriers to access, RVS will maintain community use fees at the currently established level.

Board Shares Plans for Advocating for More Space for Students

- The Board shared its plan for how it will approach advocacy efforts over the next year to secure critically needed additional space for students – the Board's top advocacy priority.
- Details on a wide range of approaches to share a year-round narrative on the urgent need for more schools and modulars are outlined with several initiatives already progressing.

Attendance Areas Approved for Cobblestone Creek and Wildflower Communities

- Students located in Cobblestone Creek, a new community in southwest Airdrie, and Wildflower, a new community in northwest Airdrie, will now have designated schools beginning September 2022 according to the attendance areas approved by the Board. These changes will be updated on the RVS website shortly.

Schools Have the Option of Staggered Entry Start in September

- For the last two years schools have had the ability to spread the first day of class in September over more than one day rather than having all students return at once. Initially a change due to COVID-19, this staggered entry was found to have benefits for students such as a smoother transition back to school, reduced anxiety, and an overall more positive start to the year. The Board supported continuing to provide schools with this flexibility next school year if they feel it will benefit their school communities.