

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 2, 2019**

**RE: Student Accommodation Consultation for Kathryn/Irricana/Beiseker Residents**

Rocky View Schools (RVS) invites residents in the communities of Kathryn, Irricana, Beiseker and surrounding rural areas to discuss the continued delivery of strong educational programs at Kathryn and Beiseker Community schools through a student accommodation consultation, running from Jan. 22 to March 19, 2020.

“Enrolments at Kathryn School have been steady for the last four years, though not strong,” said Director of Facility Planning Colette Winter. “Kathryn School has a 52 per cent utilization rate, which is not expected to increase unless accommodation changes are made. Enrolments also have been decreasing at Beiseker Community School, yet the school is still at a reasonable 79 per cent utilization rate. Our goal is to set up both schools for future success.”

RVS will be discussing the possibility of adjusting attendance areas and/or grade structures of Kathryn and Beiseker schools. Prior to any decisions being made, Winter said it is important RVS trustees hear from the families who could be impacted by these decisions.

According to Winter, a public meeting is planned for Jan. 22, 2020, from 7 to 9 pm at Kathryn School. At the meeting, RVS will share information on enrolments, school capacity trends, and possible accommodation changes, then engage participants in roundtable discussion to hear their thoughts on the information presented and solicit other ideas.

Time also has been reserved at the Board’s Feb. 6, 2020, public meeting to hear delegations from residents impacted by any proposed changes. Those residents unable to make a delegation are being invited to provide a written submission by Jan. 31, 2020.

The Board of Trustees will deliberate its decision on possible accommodation changes for the Kathryn School, Beiseker School, and/or rural residents of East Lake and Chestermere Middle schools on March 19, 2019. A notice will be issued to all stakeholders regarding the decision following the adjournment of the public meeting.

“Based on voices from the community we are moving forward with a review of these schools’ attendance boundaries,” said Board Chair Fiona Gilbert. “We would ask that residence in these communities help promote this consultation to ensure many voices are brought to the table before Trustees deliberate their decision.”

The consultation process, meeting resources and further communications will be posted to RVS’ homepage under 2019/20 Student Accommodation Consultations.

**For more information, contact:**

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