

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2019

RE: Student Accommodation Consultation for Town of Cochrane

Rocky View Schools (RVS) invites residents in the Town of Cochrane and surround rural areas to discuss proposed student accommodation options for K-8 students through a community consultation, running from Jan. 16 to April 23, 2020.

“Student growth in the Town of Cochrane has been increasing by about 250 students annually, resulting in Cochrane schools projected to reach 100 per cent utilized within the next five years,” said Colette Winter. “Ideally, RVS would like to build a school to accommodate this anticipated student growth; however, at this time, an interim solution for balancing student enrolments amongst Cochrane schools needs to be considered.”

RVS will be discussing the possibility of changing attendance areas and/or grade structures for schools in the town. 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. 16, 2020, from 7 to 9 pm at RancheView 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. A second public meeting is planned for Feb. 25, 2019, to share detailed options under consideration and to gather further feedback.

Time also has been reserved at the Board’s March 19, 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 March 9, 2020.

The Board of Trustees will deliberate its decision on possible accommodation changes for the Town of Cochrane Schools on April 23, 2019. A notice will be issued to all stakeholders regarding the decision following the adjournment of the public meeting.

“Our Board understands the uncertainty to be faced by families as we move through this process,” said Board Chair Fiona Gilbert. “We appreciate your patience and ask that you help promote this consultation to neighbours and friends in your community to ensure many voices are brought to the table prior to our Board making a 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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