

THE BRIEF

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

MARCH 24, 2022

Students Celebrate Read-a-thon Competition at Herons Crossing and Fireside Schools

- Students from Herons Crossing School in Airdrie and Fireside School in Cochrane proudly shared with trustees their reading and fundraising successes as part of a month-long Read-a-thon Challenge. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 tallied the number of minutes they spent reading at home or at school between Jan. 27 and Feb. 27.
- The event encouraged students to demonstrate ownership of their learning, engage in real-world learning opportunities that matter to them and continue to build reading communities in their schools. The schools used the Read-a-thon to raise money for school-wide initiatives and technology at Herons Crossing School and an outdoor learning space at Fireside School.
- The friendly competition resulted in 1,609,267 reading minutes combined from both schools and \$29,054.22 was raised. While Fireside School had the higher total at the end, every minute of reading is the real win.

Approved 2023-2026 Capital Plan Highlights Urgent Need for Space in RVS

- Trustees approved the 2023-2026 Capital Plan which describes the critical need to provide additional space for students in Airdrie, Cochrane and Chestermere.
- All four priority schools are needed now for the hundreds of new students that enrol in these rapidly growing communities each year. Top priorities include a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school in Airdrie, a Kindergarten to Grade 5 school in Cochrane, a Kindergarten to Grade 9 school in Chestermere and a high school in Airdrie.
- Each school division in Alberta is required to submit its list of capital requests, in order of priority, by April 1 of each calendar year.
- The priorities and supporting documentation will be posted on the division's website in the days ahead https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/about_rvs/plans_results.

Board of Trustees Request Funds to Relocate Modular Classrooms

- Schools in RVS continue to need additional modular classrooms to keep pace with growing enrolments. A request for 18 additional units was made to the provincial government Nov. 1, 2021, and the division has not yet received communication regarding approval for its request.
- To help ensure that there are spaces where and when students need them, the Operations department presented information on how existing units on schools not near capacity could be moved within the division to help with urgent capacity needs at schools in Cochrane and Airdrie.

Potential Donor	Type	Receiving
Prince of Peace	A/B	Mitford
AE Bowers	A/A	Northcott Prairie
Ralph McCall	A	Northcott Prairie
Ralph McCall	B	George McDougall
Coopers Crossing*	A	Northcott Prairie
Cooper's Crossing*	B	George McDougall
Elbow Valley	A	Fireside
Elbow Valley	B	George McDougall

- Trustees approved a motion to request the Government of Alberta fund the move of these 10 modular classrooms. If not funded by the Province, the Board reluctantly authorized the use of 2021/22 funds to support the relocation of these modulares as a necessary step, if given no other option. The estimate to relocate the modulares is \$1.6 million.

Maureen McCann Selected as RVS' Nominee for Edwin Parr Award

- Each year RVS nominates a first-year teacher to receive the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Edwin Parr Award.
- This year, RVS' candidate for the award – which is open to any Kindergarten to Grade 12 first year teacher – is Maureen McCann, a Grade 6 teacher at RancheView School in Cochrane.
- The award will be announced at the ASBA Fall General Meeting in November and Maureen will be acknowledged at RVS' annual staff recognition event in June.

Board Approves Change to 2022/23 School Calendar

- In recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Board has altered the 2022/23 calendar to observe Sept. 30, 2022 as a holiday for RVS staff and students. This day has been set aside by the Government of Canada to commemorate the history and ongoing trauma caused by residential schools and to honour the survivors, families and communities who continue to grieve for those who were lost.
- The Board believes it is an important step on our journey towards truth and reconciliation to recognize the history and legacy of residential schools in Canada.

Transportation Route Exceptions Renewed

- RVS offers transportation route exceptions to help maintain the student population of smaller rural schools.
- Maintaining the student population allows the school to offer programming that might not be possible without the additional students and supports parent choice for smaller class sizes and smaller school atmosphere.
- The Board renewed the three existing transportation route exceptions for the next two years which provide busing for students from Langdon to attend Indus School, students from Cochrane to attend Westbrook School and students from Prairie Royal to attend Kathryn School.