Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 25, 2024 RE: Rocky View Schools Announces Decision on Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces

Today marks a significant step in addressing space pressures within Airdrie schools as the Board of Trustees (the Board) of Rocky View Schools (RVS) has made its decision regarding <u>Balancing Airdrie</u> <u>Student Spaces</u>.

In response to increasing enrolment pressures and to improve space utilization, beginning September 2025 all Airdrie RVS schools except for Cooper's Crossing School will adjust by one grade level and some attendance boundaries will change. It is important to note that no changes will be implemented for the upcoming school year.

"The Board is dedicated to ensuring students and staff have the space they deserve to learn and work," said Chair of the Board, Fiona Gilbert. "Climbing student enrolment has created significant space pressures in many Airdrie schools. These improvements to balance utilizations will help alleviate some pressures while we wait for the three new Airdrie schools recently approved by the provincial government to be built."

Following extensive community feedback received through the Balancing Airdrie Student Spaces engagement, the Board has opted for a school-by-school approach, prioritizing neighborhood cohesion and maximizing available space.

"We recognize there will be a mix of reactions within the community and we want to reassure families our schools have wonderful, dedicated staff who will support students through transitions," said Chair Gilbert.

Key highlights of the decision include:

- No changes until the fall of 2025.
- All high schools in Airdrie will serve students from Grade 10 to Grade 12.
- Several Airdrie communities will be redesignated to different schools to address enrolment pressures and optimize space utilization.
- Grade configurations will adjust by one level in all Airdrie schools except Cooper's Crossing School.
- No attendance boundary changes will be made for French Immersion or Christian programs, with the Christian program extending to Grade 9 (it currently ends at Grade 8).
- A small area in central Airdrie will be designated to specific high schools discontinuing a historical choice area.

"Through the engagement, we heard our communities value keeping neighbourhoods and households together, minimizing disruption and balancing enrolments to achieve the greatest overall improvement of utilizations," said Superintendent of Schools, Greg Luterbach. "We believe the Board's decision honours this feedback and provides the best solution to improve learning environments for all Airdrie students."

"Thank you to all those who provided feedback through the engagement for the Board to consider," said Chair Gilbert. "We value the diverse perspectives and ideas our families, students, staff and community members took the time to share with us."

Further details will be communicated before the end of this school year and throughout next year as plans are confirmed. More information is available on <u>RVSEngage</u>.

Grade Configuration and Attendance Area Changes by School Alphabetically

All changes begin in September 2025. K = Kindergarten

A.E. Bowers – Grades change from K – 4 to K – 5 English, French Immersion changes from K – 5 to K – 6, Edmonton Trail (South) and The Village (South) redesignated to École Edwards.

Bert Church – Grades change from 9 - 12 to 10 - 12, pickup Ridgegate, Edgewater, Summerhill and Waterstone for Grades 10 - 12, redesignate Key Ranch Grades 10 - 12 from Bert Church to W.H. Croxford.

Cooper's Crossing – Grades stay PreK – 5. Prairie Springs redesignated from Windsong Heights to Cooper's Crossing, Cooper's Crossing now feeds into Muriel Clayton for Grades 6 – 9 rather than Northcott Prairie.

C.W. Perry – Grades move from 5 - 8 to 6 - 9, pickup 6 - 9 students from Bayview, Baysprings and Bayside who formerly attended Muriel Clayton.

École Airdrie Middle – Grades move from 6 – 8 English and French Immersion to 7 – 9 English and French Immersion, pickup Silver Creek, The Village (South) and Edmonton Trail (South).

École Edwards – Grades move from K – 5 for English and French Immersion to K – 6 for English and French Immersion, redesignate Silver Creek from Herons Crossing into École Edwards, redesignate Edmonton Trail (South) and The Village (South) from A.E. Bowers to École Edwards.

George McDougall – Grades move from 9 - 12 to 10 - 12, pickup Airdrie Meadows and Downtown for 10 - 12, redesignate Chinook Gate, Cobblestone Creek, Southwinds Grades 10 - 12 to W.H. Croxford rather than George McDougall.

Heloise Lorimer – Grades move from K - 5 to K - 6.

Herons Crossing – Grades move from K – 8 to K – 9, redesignate Silver Creek into École Edwards and feed into Airdrie Middle.

Meadowbrook – Grades move from 6 – 8 for English and Christian program to Grades 7 – 9 for English and Christian program.

Muriel Clayton – Grades move from 5 – 8 to 6 – 9, designate Edmonton Trail (South) and The Village (South) for Grades 6 – 9 to École Airdrie Middle, redesignate Bayview, Baysprings, Bayside for Grades 6 – 9 to C.W. Perry, pickup Grades 6 – 9 students from Cooper's Crossing, Morningside and Prairie Springs.

Northcott Prairie – Grades move from K - 8 to K - 9, redesignate Cooper's Crossing and Morningside in Grades 6 to 9 to Muriel Clayton rather than Northcott Prairie.

Nose Creek – Grades move from K - 4 to K - 5.

Ralph McCall – Grades move from K - 4 to K - 5.

R.J. Hawkey – Grades move from K - 5 to K - 6 for both English and Christian program.

W.H. Croxford – Grades move from 9 - 12 to 10 - 12, pickup Chinook Gate, Cobblestone Creek and Southwinds from George McDougall and pickup Key Ranch from Bert Church for students 10 - 12, redesignate Summerhill and Waterstone Grades 10 - 12 from W.H. Croxford to Bert Church.

Windsong Heights – Grades move from K - 8 to K - 9, Prairie Springs redesignated to Cooper's Crossing K - 5 and then feed into Muriel Clayton and not Windsong Heights.