

I CAN

CONNECT • ACHIEVE • NAVIGATE

ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

2019-2023 FOUR YEAR PLAN



Our Commitment

Rocky View Schools' 2019-2023 Four Year Plan, *Innovators by Design*, is based on the hopes and desires of students, parents, staff, trustees, business/community leaders, and service providers who provided direct input into the development of a learning narrative and the plan's new goals, outcomes, performance measures, design principles and strategies during an extensive 15-month Four Year Plan Consultation Process, which commenced May 2018. Through a series of design thinking protocols, stakeholders voiced strong support for RVS' I CAN goal and outcome statements and its strategic direction towards inclusion, instructional design and system redesign. Follow the journey at [2023 By Design](#).

The Education Plan for Rocky View Schools for the four years commencing Sept. 1, 2019, was prepared under the direction of the Board of Trustees in accordance with the responsibilities under the Education Act and the Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act. This plan was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used its performance results to develop the plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results. The Board approved the Education Plan for 2019-2023 on Nov. 28, 2019.

CHAMPIONS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

Rocky View Schools' trustees are community members from all walks of life, elected by the community to provide thoughtful oversight of the public education system.

The community entrusts them with creating the conditions in which students and teachers can do their best work. They're asked to chart ambitious education and capital plans and to create budgets, then hold the superintendent responsible for turning their vision into reality.

As leaders, trustees also are asked to model the type of real-world, problem-solving learning that permeates Rocky View Schools. In other words, they model collaboration, teamwork and an innovator mindset.

Like RVS students do in their own work, trustees begin with big questions: What learning outcomes are most important to students, parents, teachers, our local communities and provincial government? What conditions are required to foster innovation? What stands in the way of students achieving their potential and how can we move beyond these barriers?

To answer such questions, trustees keep open doors and open minds, engaging in deliberate consultations and actively listening to a wide variety of stakeholder groups.

In crafting solutions, Trustees collaborate as they review and consider information from expert multiple sources. Exercising critical thinking, creativity and innovation, Trustees align direction, identify priorities, allocate resources and review performance, unifying efforts across the system towards achieving its goals. It's a tall order and few citizens put their names forward for the challenge.

What unites trustees is a passion for community and a deeply-held belief that the key to a bright future is to provide the best supports possible to the development and growth of our youngest citizens.

Trustees are champions of education willing to roll up their sleeves and work with all who share their commitment to providing the best possible education for every student in Rocky View Schools.

[See the Video!](#)



MISSION & VISION

Mission We inspire a love of learning and community, engaging learners for life.

Vision We engage all learners through meaningful and challenging experiences, preparing them to understand, adapt and successfully contribute to our changing global community.

INNOVATORS BY DESIGN

[See the Video!](#)



In Rocky View Schools, we believe...

Children are born innovators.

It's how they learn the tough stuff, like walking and talking, feeding themselves and tying shoes. They try a lot and fail a lot. Once they've learned to say the word why, they just won't stop – and at Rocky View Schools, we don't want them to.

Innovators ask a lot of questions and tackle problems that matter, to them, their families and their communities. They consult with expert sources and people, far beyond the classroom. They bounce possibilities off fellow students and teachers and spark ideas that just might work. They test their ideas in the real world. Trying, failing, asking more questions, redesigning, until they've earned success.

In the process, we work with families and communities to ensure students' basic needs are met and guide them to acquire and practice fundamental math, reading and science skills. They learn to value diversity, and build cultural understanding and the foundation for healthy relationships. They grow as critical thinkers, communicators and collaborators. And they develop self-reliance, empathy, resilience and perseverance.

In short, innovators accept the challenge of reaching their full potential. They are in demand in every

sector of society and most likely to succeed at any endeavour.

That's why at Rocky View Schools, the development of innovators happens by design.

- A design that engages students as co-designers of their learning, empowering them to follow their passions and challenging them to new heights.
- A design that moves beyond classroom walls to the natural world, building sites, farms, engineering firms, hospitals, zoos, museums and theatres.
- A design where students share what they learn, so when one learns, we all learn.
- A design that meets students where they are and supports them in the journey to where they need to and want to be.
- A design that supports and encourages teachers, administrators and support staff to be innovators themselves.

At Rocky View Schools, we know our students go on to change the world. As contributing adults, they'll bring their personal best to that important work.



INNOVATORS CAN

In Rocky View Schools (RVS), we design learning so innovators...



Connect to passions, interests and people

RVS teachers understand students have an innate curiosity and eagerness to learn. By intentionally designing learning activities that connect students to what and who they care about, teachers expand learning beyond the classroom and support students in understanding why their learning matters and how it can make a difference. Along the way, students develop creative confidence, communication and social skills, and agency in their lives.

Achieve their potential

RVS teachers understand that not all students learn in the same way, at the same age, to the same performance level, in all areas of study. By designing classroom instruction to address students' personal learning styles and capabilities, students develop foundational skills and core competencies to acquire, create, connect, and communicate knowledge in a variety of contexts. In partnership with parents, teachers communicate high expectations, motivating students to expand their individual potential, pursue excellence and overcome challenges.

Navigate successfully as global citizens

RVS teachers understand students thrive in schools that care about the development of the whole child – physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually. Fostering learning environments that value student voice, opportunity, fairness, compassion, citizenship, choice and diversity, teachers instill a sense of belonging, building empathy, resilience and the desire in students to take an active role in their community, and work with others to make the planet more equal, fair, vibrant and sustainable.

GOAL ONE

Connect to passions, interests and people

Outcome:

Students engage in real-world, hands-on learning experiences that matter to them.

Performance Measures:

- (RVS) Percentage of students who state they have had opportunities to engage in real-world, hands-on learning experiences.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who state that students' voice counts in their school.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who indicate their schoolwork is meaningful.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who are absent less than 10 per cent during the school year.
- (ABed) Overall teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, careers, technology, and health and physical education.

Outcome:

Students demonstrate ownership of their learning.

Performance Measures:

- (RVS) Percentage of students who understand how they learn best.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who expect to succeed in school.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who document and reflect on their learning through a portfolio.
- (ABed) High school completion rate of students/First Nations, Métis and Inuit students within three years of entering Gr. 10.
- (ABed) Annual drop-out rate of students/First Nations, Métis and Inuit students ages 14 to 18.
- (ABed) High school to post-secondary transition rate of students/First Nations, Métis and Inuit students within six years of entering Gr. 10.





GOAL THREE

Navigate successfully as global citizens

Outcome:

Students are healthy, safe, resilient and value diversity, cultures and traditions.

Performance Measures:

- (RVS) Percentage of students who report they have been provided with opportunities to learn about other cultures and peoples.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who feel they can overcome obstacles.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who report they live a healthy lifestyle.
- (RVS) Percentage of students excessively absent due to health matters.
- (RVS) Percentage of student conflict incidents reported.
- (ABed) Overall teacher, parent and student agreement that students are safe at school, learning the importance of caring for others, learning respect for others, and are treated fairly at school.
- (ABed) Overall teacher, parent, student satisfaction with the overall quality of basic education.

Outcome:

Students make a positive difference in their life, school, community and the world.

Performance Measures:

- (RVS) Percentage of students who understand how to make a positive difference in their school and in their community.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who report they participated in fundraising, volunteer activities and community service projects.
- (RVS) Percentage of students who understand the importance of digital citizenship.



DESIGN PRINCIPLES

As we approach our work, together, we will LEARN:

Leverage the capabilities of students and the community to make a positive impact on the lives of students, staff, parents and the world.

Engage in purposeful work designed to build foundational skills and competencies through projects that foster deep understanding.

Appreciate and promote diversity in ideas, cultures and ways of knowing, being and learning.

Reflect on learning through meaningful assessments to inform and showcase growth.

Nurture positive relationships built on trust, support and care for one another.

STRATEGIES

To achieve our plan, we will focus on:

School Priority Areas

- **Student Engagement** – Enhance and measure student voice in the co-construction of their learning.
- **Inclusion** – Refine and implement an inclusive framework to ensure all students are equally valued, safe and have their diverse needs met.
- **Instructional Practices** – Align pedagogical approaches to ensure instruction is relevant and meaningful for all students.
- **Make Learning Visible** – Enhance the visibility of all students' learning journey and growth.

System Priority Area

- **System Redesign** – Redesign RVS' collaborative, organizational and planning structures to maximize resources, professional learning opportunities, teamwork and innovation.



Morgan



2020-2023 CAPITAL PLAN

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) student population increases by 900+ students annually - equivalent to two schools! This increase is mainly in the municipalities of Airdrie, Cochrane, Chestermere and Langdon. Approval of new schools is required each year to keep pace with increasing student enrolment.

CAPITAL PRIORITIES

RVS' Three Year Capital Plan, for the 2020-2023 budget years, requests 13 new facilities, and one addition. The top five priorities are:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
1. Langdon 5-12 School	New School	900
2. Bow Valley High School	Addition	700
3. Airdrie K-9	New School	900
4. Airdrie K-9	New School	900
5. Cochrane K-5	New School	600

IMR PROJECTS

Approved June 30, 2019, Infrastructure, Maintenance Renewal (IMR) Projects to be undertaken in 2019/20 include:

- Modernization of Indus School
- Modernization of Manachaban's Makerspace (Phase 2)
- Dismantal/reclamation of Springbank lagoon
- Upgrade of Beiseker's mechanical room
- Replacement of boilers at A.E. Bowers, Cochrane High and W.G. Murdoch
- Replacement of roofing at 10 school sites
- Upgrades to washrooms at various school sites

2019/20 BUDGET

Rocky View Schools is committed to providing the best education it can afford students. Annually, over 77 percent of its budget is directed to schools, providing school administrators the autonomy to address the needs of their school community.

BUDGET PRINCIPLES

June 30, 2019

Rocky View Schools' annual budget is driven by the goals and strategies of its Four Year Plan to foster innovators in their learning journey, while addressing the operational needs of the jurisdiction. Recognizing that the superintendent will demonstrate fiscal responsibility by continuing to pursue efficient and effective services, the Board of Trustees has identified the following key priorities to guide the 2019/20 budget process:

- Direct classroom instruction;
- Direct classroom support for learners with complex needs;
- Mental health supports; and
- Literacy and numeracy skill development.

*Additional as of Nov. 14, 2019

- Utilizing system and school reserves, while striving to maintain levels at 3.5 per cent of operations – a reasonable limit recognized by the Auditor General as sound fiscal management;
- Avoiding mid-year staffing reductions, recognizing reductions are likely in 2020/21 school year; and
- Introducing additional student transportation fees to offset the loss of the government's Transportation Fee Replacement Grant.

**RVS' Board of Trustees added to its budget priorities in the fall 2019 to respond to the elimination of classroom size grants and school and transportation replacement fee grants.*

REVENUES

Revenues - \$272,696,074

Instruction & Administration	\$219,612,899
POM	\$ 36,688,332
Transportation	\$ 16,204,058
External Services	\$ 190,875

Revenues received by the Alberta government were \$10 million less than received in the 2018/19 school year.

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures - \$278,728,632

Instruction	\$ 216,367,821
Administration	\$ 8,172,564
POM	\$ 36,878,628
Transportation	\$ 17,118,834
External Services	\$ 190,785

Administration and governance costs represent 2.9 per cent of budget, well below the provincial cap of 3.6 per cent.





LEARN MORE ABOUT RVS

Rocky View Schools is committed to working collaboratively with its stakeholders in the planning and delivery of educational services. In addition to copies of RVS' [Four Year Plan](#), [Capital Plan](#), and [Budget](#) being distributed to school councils, staff, and/or educational and municipal partners, these documents are accessible through:

- Rocky View Schools' [public website](#)
- Rocky View Schools' Education Centre at 2651 Chinook Winds Drive, SW, Airdrie
- Members of the Board of Trustees

School plans are built and shared with school councils and are available at the school, on the school's website, or on the jurisdiction's website.

