

# DIRECTIVE FOR ACTION



TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Item:**                    **Cochrane Accommodation Plan**

**Date of Meeting:**    **October 31, 2019**

**Background:**

Student growth in the town of Cochrane has been increasing by about 4-5% annually, except this past year, in which RVS schools in Cochrane experienced an enrolment growth of 6%.

RVS K-12 Enrolments	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cochrane/Westbrook/Bearspaw	4,718	5,006	5,186	5,450	5,788
<i>Difference</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>288</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>264</i>	<i>338</i>

Fortunately, RVS anticipated this growth and was supported by the Province in opening two new schools in the last three years. Fireside School opened in 2017 and is in a comfortable position with enrolments and capacity.

RancheView School opened in 2016, accommodating students from Heartland, Heritage Hills, and Sunset Ridge. Since 2016, the student population has increased by approximately 100 students annually. The school at full build-out capacity has space for 900 students - this is with three (3) additional modular units. RancheView School population is expected to be over 900 students by September 2020. See chart below.

Rancheview School	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
2016	79	73	62	67	62	57	40	50		490
2017	79	100	71	81	81	70	66	40	54	642
2018	92	101	107	77	87	92	76	73	46	751
2019	93	116	99	111	84	94	96	84	69	846
2020	105	115	121	104	116	89	99	101	89	939
2021	115	115	120	126	109	121	94	104	106	1010
2022	125	125	120	125	131	114	126	99	109	1074
2023	135	135	130	125	130	136	119	131	104	1145

**Current Status:**

The utilization rate of most Cochrane Schools will be 100% in the next two years. New school buildings are needed to accommodate this growth; however, as it takes a minimum of three years from funding approval to opening of a new school it is necessary to find an interim solution that balances the utilization in Cochrane schools.

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## Enrolments/Utilization of Cochrane Schools

ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS	Grade Structure	Sept. 30, 2019	PreK	K	Gr1	Gr2	Gr3	Gr4	Gr5	Gr6	Gr7	Gr8	Gr9	Gr10	Gr11	Gr12	2019/2020 Capacity*	2019 Preliminary Utilization Rate**
<b>Cochrane / Westbrook / Bears paw</b>																		
E. Barrett	K-5	515	17	28	31	26	34	41	40								543	92%
E. Barrett - FI	K-5			46	61	45	57	47	42									n/a
Glenbow	K-5	482		56	41	56	45	54	62								548	83%
Glenbow - FI	K-5			32	35	34	24	25	18									n/a
Westbrook	K-8	180		21	16	26	18	24	21	12	19	23					183	95%
Bears paw	K-8	579		37	49	63	73	72	61	84	66	74					688	84%
Manachaban	6-8	419								64	62	69					480	88%
Manachaban - FI	6-8									82	72	70						n/a
Mitford	6-8	541								64	66	80					622	87%
Cochrane Christian	K-8			45	47	46	36	32	35	33	32	25						n/a
Fireside	K-8	628		88	92	89	70	63	52	68	64	42					788	77%
RancheView	K-8	846		93	116	99	111	84	94	96	84	69					820	101%
Bow Valley High	9-12	739											192	222	167	158	784	97%
Cochrane High	9-12	859											173	148	166	177	994	88%
Cochrane High - FI	9-12												58	52	45	40		n/a
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>5788</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>6450</b>	<b>89%</b>

RVS administration proposes to consult with the Cochrane community to discuss the challenging situation and present possible solutions. After the consultation, RVS administration will bring feedback and recommendation to the Board April 23, 2020.

### Alternatives:

#### Alternative I:

The Board of Trustees directs administration to conduct a level two consultation process as per Policy 25 - Community Engagement to discuss accommodation strategies at Cochrane Schools and bring back recommendations by April 23, 2020.

#### Alternative II:

The Board of Trustees directs administration to pursue an alternate course of action through Board motion.

### Recommendation:

The Board of Trustees directs administration to conduct a level two consultation process as per Policy 25 - Community Engagement to discuss accommodation strategies at Cochrane Schools and bring back recommendations by April 23, 2020.