

Agenda – Sarah Thompson School Council

Date: January 15, 2024 at 8:35am

Sarah Thompson School

In Attendance: Brenda de la Mare, Chantelle Everett, Chris Sidorenko, Ryan Siemens, Sheena Noppen, Shelley Kinley, Jen Olsen, Chelsea Burnett, Betty Peddle, Nicole Porquet-Seitz

1.	Call Meeting to Order at 8:35am	
2.	Introductions and Land Acknowledgement	<i>"Rocky View Schools would like to acknowledge the land and recognize all the Indigenous Peoples whose footprints have marked these lands from time immemorial. Together, we can learn and honour the ways of knowing of Indigenous Peoples for all future generations."</i>
3.	Approval of previous meeting minutes	Brenda, Chantelle 2 nd
	Approval of Agenda	Chantelle, Brenda 2 nd
4.	Trustee Update – Shelley Kinley	<p>Ø Happy New Year and welcome back to the second half of the 2023/2024 School year. I look forward to working with your Council for the rest of the year.</p> <p>Ø The school decision was made at the December 14th Board Meeting – the new school will welcome Grades 9-11 in 2024/2025 and then Grades 9-12 in 2025. Sarah Thompson will remain K – 5. Langdon and Indus Schools will become K – 8 Schools. The decision was made after careful consideration from what the Board and Administration heard during extensive public engagement with community members, both in person and online. The Board thanks residents of Langdon and area for participating in the public engagement and looks forward to celebrating the opening of the new school with the community next school year.</p> <p>Ø Current Grade 10 students of CHS who live in the new school's attendance boundary would need to apply as an out of area student to attend CHS for the 2024/2025 school year and RVS transportation would not be guaranteed.</p> <p>Ø The Board has directed the Superintendent to investigate opportunities to bus Chestermere students to and from Langdon area schools starting in September of 2024 and report findings to the Board Planning Committee by the end of March 2024. French</p>

		<p>Immersion may be part of this discussion along with balancing spaces in Chestermere area schools.</p> <p>Ø The AD HOC naming committee is hard at work choosing a new name for the School. The committee is comprised of community members, local staff, a student, and the Trustee. Two names will be put forward by the committee to the Board and one will be chosen at the beginning of February.</p> <p>Ø Exemplary Practice – Cochrane Christian Academy students are being encouraged to discover a love of reading through a program called CCA Reads. More than 75% of the students are participating. Students track how often they read outside school hours. For every 25 hours they read, they win a prize. A coveted prize is the ability to have Pizza with the Principal once students accumulate 150 nights. This program aligns with Goal # 1 of our Education Plan.</p> <p>Banded Peak Schools Winter Market – In December students hosted their 3rd Winter market which allows students to showcase their talents and creativity. Students either – played in the band, selling items they produced or participating in an outdoor performance. Young entrepreneurs (Grades 5-8) shared how they built a small business including how to produce, market and sell their products. This market achieves several of RVS’ Education Plan outcomes (numeracy, communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills along with community engagement.</p> <p>Ø Supplemental Growth Funding supports but does not solve Instructional Funding Shortage. Based on enrollment numbers. And the weighted moving average, there are approximately 720 students not included in the divisions base instructional grant. After applying the government’s formula, the supplemental enrolment grant will generate an additional 1.2 million. However, even with this grant we receive 3.3 million, less than if every student was funded. Infographic available on the Rocky View Schools website.</p> <p>Ø RVS has invited Danielle Smith to visit Chestermere High School to see students in Cosmetology and Culinary Arts career connection programs. The Premier indicated a willingness and desire to visit schools across the province. Future Ready students is one of our Goals.</p> <p>Ø Division Education Plan Update - Goal #1 – In response to assessment results which indicate improvements in literacy and numeracy are needed, schools developed goals and</p>
--	--	--

		<p>measures to guide instructional focus and provide appropriate interventions for groups of students.</p> <p>Ø Goal # 2 – Building Future Ready Students - Administration and teachers at 33 schools formed a Career Connections Strategy group which meets to provide career education and planning for students Grades 6-12 with access to initiatives intended to build career skills development programming.</p> <p>Ø Goal # 3 – focuses on creating inclusive, engaging, healthy learning opportunities for all students through focusing on PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) lessons, expanding their use of “catching kids being good” and rewarding in various ways for positive behaviour.</p> <p>Ø A response letter was sent to the community delegation which presented its concerns regarding human sexuality education in RVS schools. We thanked them for their perspective and shared that we reviewed the details and information received from Senior Administration regarding their presentation. Following the review and consideration of the information presented, the Board believes that current RVS policies, procedures and processes related to teaching sexual health education meet a high standard of care and diligence in providing a welcoming, caring and respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. The Board is confident that it is meeting its mandate to provide human sexuality education in an open and transparent way and is engaging with and including parents as their children’s primary educators</p> <p>Ø Policy 20 – Inclement Weather Reminder - Information can be found on the RVS website under About RVS – Policies & Procedures. Reminder that Parents always have the choice of determining whether to send their children to school on days when weather conditions are a factor. Student Age, distance, bussing are often factors for parents when making this decision.</p> <p>Ø New Where’s the Bus App coming soon – improved technology is being used for students riding the bus. Students are asked to use their RFID card to get on and off from the bus on a tablet system. Usage has been much improved. Soon data will help keep parents informed as to where exactly the bus is and when it will be arriving or dropping off students. The App is not available currently as it is being piloted first.</p>
--	--	---

		<p>Ø Staff benefit from RVS; investment in Professional Learning and Leadership Development – part of our Strategic Plan to bolster our workforce. Programming includes: The Administrative Leadership Program (ALP 1, 2, 3 and 4) - 69 participants, the Education Centre Leadership Development and Support Program – 22 participants along with other leadership and professional development opportunities - 1620 staff have participated in 66 programs. The learning opportunities have a 94% rating from staff. Well done!</p> <p>Ø Three Board Committees have updated their Terms of Reference – Advocacy, Audit and Student Transportation Board Committees.</p>
5.	<p>Admin update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Student presentation – Grade 5 Leadership -Brainstorm new ideas to gain new members for School Council -Volunteer orientation -Kindergarten registration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Presentation by Natalie and Easton, Grade 5, on Clubs being run at the school. Students advocated for more clubs, leadership, and exercise by writing letters to Mr. Siemens. The students then organized the clubs and now are up and running. -Kindergarten registration begins January 22, 2024. The school does it's best to accommodate AM / PM requests however it is not always possible. -The school received learning disruption funding and was able to bring in a new Learning Assistant, we welcomed Ashley Wurz. Mrs. Saunders has gone on leave for the remainder of the year, a substitute will be placed soon. FOSTeS has helped the school with funding our digital subscriptions, the FINS program (Fish in Schools), topping up the battle of the books supplies which begins today, as well as Quest Theatre who will be doing a presentation at the school. -Discussion regarding ideas to increase volunteerism on council. Ideas brought up are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide babysitting at the meetings - communicate the amount of time required - highlight in the newsletter what tasks / jobs are needing to be filled - food and snacks at the meeting - offer incentives like a gift card for attending or a draw for a free field trip - Try offering different days and times - continue with zoom - speak to other council chairs to find out any ideas they might have - have teachers send out information to their parents -Will be offering a volunteer orientation after the March council meeting as well as during conferences.

6.	Chair Update: -	-motion to spend up to \$200 to provide incentives for School Council engagement. Brenda 2nd, all in favor. -Engagement grant – looking at spending it on either increasing engagement or having a speaker on resilience and anxiety for parents
7.	Treasurer Update	
8.	Old Business	
9.	Society Update	Meeting on Sunday, January 21, on zoom and in person at 6:30pm \$1249.50 communicate \$52765.63 casino Looking for volunteers -Request for a bike rack to be installed at the front of the building.
10.	New Business	-Request to have a note sent home to families to follow road signs in and around the school as well as the double parking
11.	Adjournment at 9:30am	
	Next Meeting	March 4, 2024 at 8:35am