

Trustee Report – Parent Council

October 21, 2024

- 1) Horseshoe Crossing School Turf Field project is underway. Wilco has been awarded the project and groundwork has started. The field is not expected to be completed until the spring.
- 2) Modular relocations – RVS will receive 12 New modulsars and relocate 12 Modulsars. Modulsars from our area will be relocated to Chestermere High School, Springbank, Crossfield, Cochrane and Airdrie to alleviate space pressures and over utilization in those areas. Funding became available in July for these projects.
- 3) RVS Budget on Track – third Quarter financials show that divisions expenditures and revenues are on target with projections. We have a reserve balance of 2.5% (7.6 million) on our operating budget which is in line with the Government’s request to main reserves between 1 and 3%. Most of the surplus is due to higher revenue in Transportation and lower utilities and insurance expenses in operations and maintenance. The surplus in transportation will be used to cover the 2.1 M budgeted deficit in 2024/2025.
- 4) Chestermere Student Accommodation is open. Despite receiving design funding approval for a K-9 school in Chestermere, the pressure on existing schools is still great. A working group conducted a review over the 2023/2024 school year and determined that changing grade levels at East Lake School and redesignating some communities to Rainbow Creek and Prairie Waters will alleviate some of the pressures. Administration has a consultation plan to engage the community through RVSEngage and an in-person meeting at Chestermere Lake Middle School tomorrow night at 6:30. Presentation 6:30-7:00 and small group table talk 7:00-8:00.
- 5) The RVS Learning Department provided an update to the Board on professional development opportunities presented to classroom staff and school administrators in 2023/2024 which support inclusion and diversity guidelines. Providing student-centered education that is inclusive, safe and supportive is one of RVS’ multi year Strategic Plan.
- 6) Feedback was shared regarding the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 School Calendars. Just slightly less than 30000 responses were collected. The 2025/2026 calendar was approved at the October 19th Board Meeting and is a traditional RVS calendar approach (there were 3 to choose from). A revised 2026/2027 calendar will come back to the board for consideration at a later date. The calendar will be posted to the website soon.
- 7) The Board approved their Advocacy Priorities – Space for Students and Supports for Students for the current year.
- 8) Updates were made to the Student Transportation Policy 17 – Student Transportation. No changes to service levels or current practices were made. The revised policy will take effect December 1st, 2024. Safety of students was a main focus of the policy.
- 9) Exemplary Practice – Airdrie AE Bowers French Immersion Students (Grades 1 and 2) collaborated with Parks Canada to develop a tool which encourages users of the park to

pick up after themselves. They designed a 3D garbage receptacle that attaches to picnic tables. They also made a bilingual music video for Parks Canada.

- 10) Exemplary Practice – Mitford School teachers spoke to the Board about their 18-minute daily focus blocks they have implemented to improve students’ numeracy and literacy. They follow a weekly cycle: Mon and Weds – word study and vocabulary; Tues and Thurs – number sense with targeted math skills and Fridays – writing and making learning visible. Students advance in their own learning, and this aligns with Goal # 1 of our Education Plan – advancing students’ numeracy and literacy skills. Staff at the school are willing to share their techniques with interested RVS staff.
- 11) Student enrolment – we have increased by 641 students this year. Of our 53 schools, 27 are either full or over full.
- 12) The Board has requested the Town of Cochrane provide service school site as previously agreed in the community of Horse Creek. The town has asked for an extension to 2029 but base on the MOU the town was to provide a serviced site at the end of 2024, and we have asked them to honour the date. The new High school in Cochrane is #6 on our Priority List for 2026.
- 13) Superintendent to retire at the End of School Year – Greg Luterbach announced he would retire at the end of the school year after 34 years of enriching the lives of students as an educator, administrator, and Superintendent. He has been in this position for more than eight years and his dedication, guidance, and good humour will be missed by the Board and staff alike.
- 14) Changes coming to the Board as part of Fall 2025 Election Year. The Board approved one more trustee for the Cochrane area, as well as combining Wards 2 and 4 (Crossfield, Beiseker, Kathryn, Langdon and Indus and rural areas in between) The overall numbers of trustees remain at 8. The reason for the consultation was to address inequities in population numbers between wards due to growth in Airdrie, Cochrane and Chestermere. This will be in effect in October of 2025.

Shelley Kinley

Trustee

skinley@rockyview.ab.ca

(403)371-7860