

Rancheview School Council Meeting October 20, 2020

Called to Order: 6:35 pm

Present: Sharon Cronin, Jen Harris, Amy Suelzle, Cody Kempster, Michelle Finch, Tina Pearson, Fiona Gilbert, Kendra Oklobdzija, Diane Kashuba, Jeremy Luterbach, Stacy, Caitlin, Vladimir, Dorian

Approval of AGM Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda - Amy

2nd - Diane

Motion Approved

Review of Financial Statement

Motion to accept commitments for 20/21 financials - Jen Harris

2nd - Diane

Motion Approved

Review Proposed changes to School Council Operating Procedures

- Move to later date

Election of Executive Members

Jen Harris self nominates for role of Chair of School Council

-no other nominations

-no objections

Tina Pearson self nominates for role of Assistant Chair of School Council

-no other nominations

-no objections

Jen Harris nominates Diane Kashuba for role of Secretary of School Council

-no other nominations

-no objections

Amy Suelzle self nominates for role of Treasurer of School Council

-no other nominations

-no objections

Executive board for School Council 20/21 has been elected.

Admin Report - October 20, 2020

It's been quite a month since we last spoke! We successfully navigated many COVID cases that led to students and staff having to isolate... 7 classes in total and 11 staff members. We experienced a tragedy on our site with a fatal accident while the portables were being placed.

Through all of this, we're still smiling and the learning is strong!

Classes are taking the learning outside, the learning commons is up and running with a few twists, recesses are going well, two shoe policy is getting re-implemented, Allison Zimmerman has resigned and we'll be welcoming a new HBO on Thursday, Halloween plans will be sent out to families through homeroom teachers, our daily news is accessible on our website, plans are underway for our Remembrance day service and we'll be announcing our dates for our first set of 3-way conferences in this weeks highlights.

Safe Return to School Funds (Funds allocated to schools from the federal government)

We have been given \$79 per student (from our Sept 30 th count), which equates to just over \$50,000. We are consulting with staff, school council and grade 7 and 8 students about how to spend these funds. The intent of the funds is to help address local issues related to COVID-19 operations. Examples of how the funds could be used include:

sound amplification systems

reading materials and manipulatives

social-emotional learning supports

supervision

break/lunch programming staffing

class pressures

School council is being asked to provide their ideas as to how they would like to see these funds spent.

Once the consultations with staff, school council and students have taken place, admin will look at everything and develop a plan to be submitted for approval from our area director.

Trustee Report

Organizational Meeting

The Board held its annual Organizational Meeting on Sept. 24, 2020, where Fiona Gilbert was re-elected to serve as Board Chair and Shali Baziuk was elected to serve as Vice-Chair for the 2020/21 school year. The Board also approved the 2020/21 Committee Appointments and Representatives membership.

School Start Update

The 2020/21 school year has had a positive start with RVS staff, students and families adapting to new in-class and online learning environments. RVS' has had some confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout the division since the start of the school year and we continue to learn and improve protocols for notifying impacted families and the school community.

RVS continues to review and refine its COVID-19 related protocols, practices and tools based on new information and guidance from the Alberta government as well as feedback from schools. Stakeholders can view up-to-date COVID-19 information for the 2020/21 school year at <https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/school-re-entry-plan>

Government of Canada Safe Return to Class Fund

On August 26, 2020, the Government of Canada funding to support schools to cover additional costs for COVID-related measures. From this fund, \$9,285,850 is being directed to Rocky View Schools (RVS). Trustees approved the jurisdiction's spending plan as follows

- \$2.8 million in additional teacher staffing to support online offerings and address class pressures now and in February 2021
- \$2 million directly to schools for the principal, in consultation with their school community, to decide how to best address local issues related to COVID-19
- \$2 million for additional substitute teachers resulting from COVID-19 related absences;
- \$1 million for centrally funded personal PPE and sanitizer;
- \$900K to maintain bus routes (that could be combined) to minimize the number of riders on the bus;
- \$400K for additional online curriculum resources, technical support and equipment to better support those working from home; and
- \$200K for Education Centre staff to support schools and departments with additional hiring needs as a result of COVID-19 and to help schools with confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Enrolment Numbers Summary for 2020/2021

As of Sept. 30, 2020, RVS had a total enrolment count of 25,289 students, a decrease of 348 students (-1.36%) from the previous school year. This is a new phenomenon for RVS as historically we have grown 3-5% annually. The Sept. 30 enrolment count includes:

- 21,264 in-class students;
- 3,074 online students;
- 629 Community Learning Centre (CLC) students, of which 307 are homeschooled and 322 Gr. 9- 12 are in outreach or other CLC option

New Inclement Weather Policy Approved

Given the feedback RVS has received in previous years, the Board decided to review Board Policy 20 – Emergency Closure of Schools and School Programs at Off-Site Facilities. After careful consideration, it was approved to be replaced with the new Board Policy 20 – Inclement Weather that provides more clarity to families and stakeholders regarding the decision-making process and protocols for closure and cancellation decisions across RVS.

The new policy can be viewed on RVS' website at

https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/board_policies/board-policies/policy-20-inclement-weather/view

Adjourned: 7:40

Next Meeting: November 17, 2020 @6:30pm