

EMMS Parent Council Meeting Minutes, April 30, 2019: 6:30 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm by Tara Courte.

1. Present: Tara Courte; Anne Kromm; Jennifer Yersh; Leah Pearce (recording minutes); Fiona Gilbert; Trish R
2. Regrets: Lisa Preston, Kat Hryciw; Jason Helfrich
3. Approval of Minutes from March 2019: motion by Leah P, seconded by Tara C, motion carried
4. Approval of Agenda Motion by Leah P, seconded by Tara C, motion carried
5. Trustee Update (As written, submitted and presented by Fiona Gilbert)

Manachaban Middle School Council Trustee's Report April 30, 2019

Joint Board School Council Meeting

Thank you to those who attended the Joint Board School Council meeting on April 4th. There was great discussion and conversation and the Board was able to take away lots of suggestions for community involvement in the 4YP as well as different ways to support School Councils.

2020 – 2023 Three Year Capital Plan

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) Board of Trustees voted April 4, 2019, to approve the jurisdiction's 2020-2023 Three Year Capital Plan, which emphasizes an immediate need for new facilities in the municipalities of Langdon, Airdrie and Cochrane and an emergent need for facilities in Chestermere, Springbank and Crossfield. As outlined in the plan, the jurisdiction is requesting 13 new facilities and one addition over the next three years. Priorities for the 2020 budget year are:

1. New Langdon Middle/High School
2. Addition to Bow Valley High School
3. New Airdrie K – Gr. 9
4. New Airdrie K – Gr. 9
5. A new Cochrane K – Gr. 5

Changes to transportation services and fees

Anticipating a zero percent increase to transportation grant revenues, coupled with the continued escalation of costs, the Board of Trustees approved to adjust transportation service levels and increase fees. Effective September 2019, families accessing RVS' transportation services will see:

- A five percent increase to fees for resident students who reside within 2.4 km of their school and/or attend a program of choice, raising fees per student from \$294 to \$308;
- A new fee of \$157 for resident students requiring an additional stop location in the a.m., p.m. or both;
- An increase for non-resident students accessing a school bus inside RVS' boundaries, raising fees per student from \$472 to \$625;
- An increase for non-resident students accessing a school bus outside RVS' boundaries, raising fees per student from \$1050 to \$1,250; and
- Removal of the family maximum, with the first two children in a family paying \$308 each and all additional children paying \$154 each

Also, students will no longer be able to accompany a friend to his or her house, unless it's their normal bus route, and Gr. 5 – 12 urban students will no longer be permitted to catch any bus to their desired location within the municipality. This will allow RVS Transportation to maximum the spaces on each bus.

Airdrie Student Accommodation

Significant growth in Airdrie communities south of Yankee Valley Boulevard and east of the Queen Elizabeth II Highway, coupled with no new capital approvals and a delay in the opening of Northcott Prairie School, called for a review of RVS' attendance areas and grade configurations for schools in the East Airdrie and the community of Hillcrest. After public consultation, the Board approved changes to the grade configurations of RJ Hawkey, Heloise Lorimer and Meadowbrook schools, as well as a temporary accommodation plan for students designated to attend Northcott Prairie. These new grade configurations reflect feedback heard during the public consultation to have RVS' youngest students served in their community and to allow peer groups to move together.

Chestermere Student Accommodation

In November 2018 RVS launched a public consultation for families in Chestermere, to discuss possible changes to attendance areas and/or grade configurations to accommodate growing K - Gr. 9 student enrolments. Utilization rates for schools in Chestermere are currently between 86 – 94 per cent. With continued growth and a lack of approval on modular units, RVS is exploring three accommodation scenarios to help alleviate overcrowding in Chestermere area schools. The Board will deliberate its decision May 2, 2019.

Cochrane Student Accommodation

Like the communities of Airdrie and Chestermere, the student population continues to grow in Cochrane and with a lack of capital announcements and modular approvals, schools in Cochrane continue to feel the pressures of space. While details and timelines are still yet to be confirmed, RVS anticipates that a public consultation will be needed soon (likely Fall 2019) to gather feedback on how best to accommodate students within our current facilities.

Board Operations and Trustee Compensation and Development

Following a review of Board Policy 7 – Board Operations, RVS' Board Policy Committee restructured the policy into two separate policies. In addition to becoming its own policy, Policy 27 reflects revised honoraria rates, reflecting federal tax law changes enacted in January 2019. Policy 7 also saw a major reorganization of items, although the components remained the same.

6. Admin Update

a. School Education Plan.

- i. Changes to the School Education Plan are under way to transition from planning to moving towards more of a “play book” where the plan is put into action. Currently looking at inclusion and diversity, in Phase 1.
 - ii. The second piece, now that we are in RTR, will included a going to revamp June 24th is Awards Day and the Gr6 will be included this year, during the day so that students get to see the awards presentation and celebrate as a school. Then the same awards, top band, PE, etc. with a Principal award every grade, CHAT award. Staff agree that the more recognition, the better and to recognize as many students as possible.
7. Trish expressed an interest in the CPF supporting some position of the FI piece of the recognition awards. There was discussion around different ideas and ways in which this could be accomplished.

For example, a French Ambassador award. Further discussion took place around the having parts of the awards program being done in both French and English.

8. Staff Update (As written, submitted Kat and read by Jennifer Y)

Sports

- a. Badminton
 - i. Manachaban won the Tier 3 banner!
 - ii. Several of our Grade 7 badminton players and one Grade 8 student are off to zones
- b. Track and Field
 - iii. Tryouts happening now

Special Events

- a. Many things happening in and around the school
 - i. Learning Commons Design Team
 - ii. Field trips (Quebec in two weeks, all Grade 8 students to SAIT for Junior Achievement "Financial Literacy" program)
 - iii. Band Festival with 7s and 8s
 - iv. Dance before the Spring Break - adorable
 - v. Anne and Jen, please feel free to fill in the blanks of other things... I forgot to check the school calendar before I left!

Additions by Admin to Staff Update written report

- vi. Congratulations to Warrior Gabbie Courte on her first prize win in the *A&E Lives That Make a Difference* Essay Contest (Grade 5 - 8 category), which challenges students to write about an individual who has had significant influence on Canadian society. See articles in Cochrane Now and Cochrane Eagle:
<https://www.cochraneagle.com/article/manachaban-student-tackles-heavy-topics-to-win-essay-contest-20190502>.

9. Parent Council Executive Report

- a. Trish R from Canadian Parents for French: Trish began with an inquiry regarding East Lake and how the discussion will be communicated to the parents impacted by the situation.
- b. Alberta School Council Association meeting was held in Edmonton last weekend– inclusion in the classroom. Does Rocky View sponsor School Council to attend the Alberta Parent Advisory? Fiona confirmed that 14 participants from across the Division attended. With regards to sponsorship for attendees, Fiona advised that the first year the District paid, SC applied to the District for funding 12 applied and 7 were approved in total. The intent is to budget and continue to support this funding. CPF sent information to the meeting.
- c. CPF is working on developing a Chapter in Chestermere. Generally, felt that it would be valuable to have support for the program so as to not have to bus FI into Airdire.
- d. All students should be writing the Diplome d'Etudes de la Langue Francaise (DELF) as a found.

10. New Business

- a. Staff Appreciation Lunch – on June 13th for 1 p.m. – please no apples, mangos and pineapples, or nuts (wait to here on GF) due to allergies/dietary needs - TBC by Anne.

- b. Fundraising: Leah provided a brief financial overview for the current standing of accounts for the MSFS. This included a summary of expenses incurred and paid to date, as well as, expenses, approved, yet still outstanding for the balance of the 2018-19 school year. She advised that this was just an overview as the detailed Financial report will be presented at the MSFS meeting which follows each School Council meeting and are also included in the MSFS meeting minutes.

11. Next meeting: 6:30, May 27; Monday.

12. Motion to adjourn by Leah P at 7:38 pm