

École Elbow Valley School Council Meeting

Decemeber 11, 2018, 7PM

ATTENDANCE

Tina Andiel Carlson

Katie Mayer

Amal Jomaa

Arlene Abboud

Shelley Lambie

Tammy Hangs

Judi Hunter

Victoria Ross

Chris Kelly

Tannis Bo (via Zoom)

AGENDA

A. Welcome

Tina Andiel Carlson / Naomi Shumka

Tina and Naomi welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending and being involved.

B. Approval of Agenda

Tina Andiel Carlson makes the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Naomi Shumka. Motion carried.

C. Approval of October 2018 Meeting Minutes

Tina Andiel Carlson makes the motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Seconded by Katie Mayer. Motion carried.

D. School Trustee Report

Judi Hunter

Judi had the opportunity to see some learning and innovation recently at the Can Gala. She is trying to get videos of some of the innovation to be shared across the community and posted on Twitter.

Rockview is hosting representatives from 3 schools in Iceland and representatives. It is an opportunity to learn from different cultures.

Judi continues to try to emphasize the importance of getting a community centre for our area which would provide a central place for activity and for kids to be together.

The use of cards on the bus has been emphasized over the last month allowing the Board to collect good data on bus usage and assess cost optimization. Usage of scanned bus cards has increased from 20% to 80% since the focus has been placed on using bus cards. As an example, one day last month resulted in 3000 bus cards scans in Rockyview, 567 had no bus pass or a pass which was not registered and 2100 kids did not scan or ride the bus. The Board is also further assessing how to best address the special needs transportation costs.

On January 22nd, there is a seminar at the University of Calgary from 7pm to 9pm – “How Gaming and Social Media are Designed to Keep Teenagers Hooked”. To register, please go to <https://sinneavefoundation.org/event/cam-adair-presentation/>

Judi advised school council that she has discovered a program called AbilityHub at University of Calgary that works with special needs kids. This is a great resource which should be shared with parents in the community.

On Thursday, the focus of the School Board meeting will be playgrounds. There is a significant amount of investment made in playgrounds every year and the Board will be assessing how to optimize expenses

specifically unexpected expenses related to playgrounds. Considerations will include selecting 5 preferred suppliers who provide good rates and also assessing how the community may also wish to invest in the playground as it is used by the general community, not just the school.

Key Notes from Last Board Meeting Included For Reference Below:

Audited Financial Statement (AFS)

- RVS ended the school year in a strong financial position, reporting a surplus of \$3.2 million that can be attributed to a \$600,000 operational surplus and the recognition of \$2.6 million from reserves to capital to purchase land for a future high school in the City of Airdrie.
- Revenue for the year rose to \$277 million – up by 7.6 per cent over the previous year, resulting from increased enrolments of 1,073 new students and funds received through the government's new Classroom Improvement Fund.
- Of the total revenue, 76.55 per cent was spent on Instruction, 14.07 per cent on Plant Operations and Maintenance, 6.41 per cent on Transportation and 2.98 per cent on Board Governance and System Administration.
- RVS hired 141 new staff last year, largely to accommodate increased enrolments in schools and to improve student experience.
- RVS continues to face inflationary increases in contracted services, fuel prices and utilities costs without corresponding matching grant increases.
- Transportation reserves were exhausted to cover funding shortfalls caused by the government's new restrictions on transportation fees.

2018/19 Fall School Fee Update

- In line with the government's new school fee regulations, schools are permitted to submit fees for approval in May and revisions in November of each year limited to activities, extracurricular and/or non-curricular travel fees.
- Schools recently were given the opportunity to submit new and revised fees to accommodate changes in programming, resulting in a total of 70 fees submitted to government for approval by 20 schools - 39 activity, 22 extracurricular and 13 non-curricular travel.
- Revised fees, once approved by the minister, will be posted to school websites under Our School / School Fees in early 2019.

Annual Education Results Report (AERR)

- RVS submitted its 2017/18 AERR to Alberta Education on Dec. 1, 2018. The 15-page report details progress made in Year Three on 2015-2019 Four Year Plan action plans and summarizes trends from RVS' 2018 Satisfaction Survey and provincial Student Achievement Results.
- RVS' drop-out rate is 1.2 per cent, well below the provincial average of 2.3 per cent. FNMI results were equally strong at 2.8 per cent, versus the provincial average of 4.8 per cent.
- In comparison to provincial results, more RVS students are completing high school within three years of entering Gr. 10 (84.9 per cent vs 78 per cent).
- Jurisdictionally, satisfaction levels remained strong among parents and staff on all questions. Areas that call for exploration are the low percentage of students who feel they have a voice in their education and who believe the skills they are being taught today will help them once they leave school. These themes are explored in RVS' 4YP planning process.
- Parents are encouraged to look for the AERR online on RVS' website under Publications/Annual Education Results Reports.

Land Acknowledgment

- RVS established a Wisdom and Guidance committee to guide the collaborative creation of a Land Acknowledgment statement. A Land Acknowledgment is an act of reconciliation and meant to honour and respect both the land and the Indigenous Peoples in our local area. It also is meant to be an expression of gratitude and appreciation.
- Using the Wisdom and Guidance committee's initial draft, the Board made a few
- modifications and approved the following statement: *"Rocky View Schools acknowledges and recognizes 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, and all peoples, for future generations."*
- Guidelines on the use the Land Acknowledgment are in development.

Exemplary Practice

- Langdon School was recognized as an exemplary practice for its *Going Global with Games* initiative, which saw grade 7 students create original science-based games working with an expert from Electronics Arts Studios.

E. Council Reports

1. Chair's Report

Tina Andiel Carlson / Naomi Shumka

There will be a presentation at the December of January meeting about seatbelts on buses.

During 2 weeks in December, there will be an initiative to collect gently used backpacks for the Boys and Girls Club of Cochrane and the Calgary Immigrant Support Society. There will be bins set up at the office and students will be asked to bring in their new of gently used backpacks and lunch packs. This will be communicated in the newsletter and letters will also be sent home.

There is a bridge building event hosted by the Springbank Community Association on Friday, November 16th. The event will be held at the Springbank Park for All Seasons. You can register online and registration includes a membership to the communication association.

2. Principal's Report

Kim Agnew

Rockyview School Division has published an update to admin and school council procedures intended to provide clarity on formation, role, limitations and ongoing governance. It has been clarified that the school can accept personal donations but not for any fundraising requiring a license. Kim provided copies to School Council and FEEVES representatives.

There have also been recent changes on guidelines for administering medications based on Alberta Health Services recommendation. The child's information must be clearly stated on the bottle containing the

École Elbow Valley School Council Meeting

Decemeber 11, 2018, 7PM

medication, the medication cannot be outdated and the school requires doctor instructions on how the medication should be administered. The doctor instructions must be signed annually.

There have also been clarifications that parent/volunteer criminal record checks can be transferred between schools at the principal's discretion. There is also consideration as to whether a volunteer code of conduct may be helpful.

There will be a shift in curriculum to be more context based. There will be train the trainer sessions for administrators in January. Parents will be provided more information after the training has been launched.

The backpack/lunch bag collection program is going extremely well and the school and organizers hope it can be an annual event.

Mathathon was a success with significant excitement throughout the school. The excitement was partially driven by the ongoing math residency program. Mathathon was a celebration of math. There will be some essential math resources purchased for each classroom.

Lindsay and a few teachers are headed to Atlanta this week to see and learn from the Ron Clark Academy which of a culture of learning based around arts. Everyone is encouraged to view the video of the Academy and their learning philosophies on the Ron Clark Academy web site.

3. Treasurer's Report

Katie Mayer

Katie presented the Treasurer's report highlighting the money which was received from the special lunches and the Mathathon to date. There is more money expected from the Mathathon in December.

<i>Elbow Valley Elementary Parent Advisory Council</i>			
<i>Statement of Revenue and Expenditures</i>			
<i>as of November 30, 2018</i>			
	2018/19	2018/19	2017/18
	Actuals	Budget	Actuals
REVENUE			
Special Lunch Program - rebate	4,473.72	15,000.00	13,756.50
Mathathon	3,821.00	20,000.00	20,833.00
Family Fun'raiser	-	10,000.00	14,907.00
Yearbook	-	1,000.00	-
Mabels Labels	-	250.00	282.75
Total Revenue	8,294.72	46,250.00	49,779.25
EXPENDITURES			
School Programs			
Grade Teams	870.68	10,000.00	8,343.66
Robotics Training	-	2,000.00	-
Robotics	-	5,000.00	15,000.00
Math Residency	-	18,000.00	-
Committees			
Volunteer Coordinator	-	500.00	1,342.32
Spirit of Caring	-	250.00	-
Bussing/Field Trips			
Financial Assistance	-	1,000.00	-
Special Programs/Events			
Special Programs	1,209.39	10,000.00	9,003.94
Special Day	-	2,000.00	-
In-Line Skating	9,383.30	11,000.00	10,902.08
Sound Kreations Residency	-	5,000.00	4,622.80
First Aid	-	500.00	460.00
Sports Day	-	500.00	661.79
Books	-	10,000.00	9,136.05
Family Dance	-	1,500.00	605.20
Parent Workshops	-	1,500.00	349.99
Lions Club Funds	-	-	641.16
School Council Expenses	-	1,500.00	73.36
ASCA AGM	-	1,250.00	1,118.56
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	11,463.37	81,500.00	62,260.91
NET INCOME	(3,168.65)	(35,250.00)	(12,481.66)
Opening Book Balance	17,739.34	17,739.34	30,221.00
Net Income	(3,168.65)	(35,250.00)	(12,481.66)
Closing Book Balance	14,570.69	(17,510.66)	17,739.34

Katie Mayer makes a motion to put the financials on file. Seconded by Tina Andiel Carlson. Motion carried.

4. Teacher's Report

Shelley Lambie

The hip hop residency is going well and being enjoyed by the children. The instructor is extremely good and getting the kids engaged.

It is important as a teacher that you try to focus on activities that reach every type of learner and different kids will learn differently.

The robotics program continues to be a success for grades 2, 3 and 4.

For next school council meeting, Shelley will engage some kids in the presentation.

5. Volunteer Committee's Report

Amal Jomaa/Arlene Abboud

Mathathon in November was a success. The donations are slightly lower than last year, but there are also 100 less students participating. It is expected that Mathathon will raise close to \$18K with the donations online from School Cash still outstanding.

There will be a volunteer request for book labeling which will be circulated in the coming couple weeks.

6. Special Lunch Coordinator

Tannis Bo

Thanks to all who have volunteered for helping with the Pizza lunches.

I emailed the Lunch Lady and proposed that we could use the Healthy Hunger platform if she set her prices on it without the 0.35 per entrée fundraising amount she gives back to the school and we could set the prices to be in align with our Special Lunch fundraising goals. I have not heard back from her yet.

There was a question as to why more lunch options are not offered. There are many reasons why pizza, Mucho Burrito and Subway were selected as the 3 vendors including price, messiness, location of school and the required volunteer commitment with some of the other vendors.

7. Library

Jill Johnson

There is no report from Library this month.

8. Yearbook Committee

Lee-Ann Tai

Yearbooks are currently available for purchase through school cash online for \$25.

Visit schoolcashionline.com and sign into your account to purchase yours today. We have sold 156 so far with a goal of 350.

The Yearbook Committee is looking for someone to take over creating the book for the 2019/20 year. The Lifetouch program is easy to use and our rep is a great source of knowledge and help. Unfortunately, if we are unable to find someone to take over this role, this will be the last year EEVE will be creating a yearbook. If this is something you might be interested in, please let us know at elbowvalleyyearbook@gmail.com

The yearbook cover contest will take place in January after the winter break. Stay tuned for details.

It was suggested that there is a volunteer posting created to take pictures for school events and that this person have a yearbook badge created so that everyone knows why they are at the event taking pictures. This idea will be discussed with Lee-Ann.

Tina will post signs for school council positions required for next year.

9. French Immersion / CPF

Stephanie Rosenbaum

Springbank Cheese fundraiser is underway and distribution of cheese will be this **Thursday, December 13th at the middle school between 2:30 and 5:15**. Any cheese that is not picked up will likely be in the refrigerators in the staff room in the elementary. While we opened the fundraiser up to all students at EVE, we didn't see that much of a difference in sales from last year to this year.

At the CPF AGM we discussed opportunities for events. French Culture week is the last week of January. We intend on having the Bonhomme costume available and the teachers had mentioned that they would like to do a movie night that week but we aren't sure if we can turn that around in time.

Additionally, we are selling the French Keys pamphlet which is a nice resource for parents who don't speak French to communicate with their kids at home with useful vocabulary, expressions, and grammar. Best use for this are parents whose kids are grade K-3.

Lastly, CPF donated \$600 in funds to the elementary school for French learning resources. Hopefully more to be donated in 2019!

10. Grant Writers

Cate Wilkins / Victoria Ross

The garden/beautification grants that we are eligible for have been reviewed by Lindsay and we have been given the go ahead to start submitting applications.

Cate and Victoria have determined the grant deadlines for the first quarter/half of the year, and spit them between the two of us as follows:

Cate - Alberta Emerald Foundation

Victoria - Alberta Community Faciltiy Enhancement (This grant can only be applied for through a non-profit)

Victoria - Inside Education, Nutrients for Life - Learning Garden

For the Inside Education, Nutrients for Life - Learning Garden, do they required the Learning Garden vision, plans, budget, plus how much student input will be given. More information will need to be gathered for this particular grant.

Victoria will work with Chris to ensure she is using the right non-profit entity to apply for the grants.

It is important to note that all the grants being applied for are between \$500 and \$1000 so they will not cover the entire costs of some of the priorities. It is also rare that a grant will require matching funds. It was suggested that we may be able to request donations if grants are received for specific items which require additional funds.

Before any grants are applied for related to the front entrance, Victoria will require some renderings of the proposed structure. Kim and Lindsay will work on securing the required renderings.

11. Spirit of Caring

Pauline Hall

There is no report from the Spirit of Caring this month.

F. FEEVES Report

Chris Kelly

There was a FEEVES Board meeting yesterday with good attendance. The insurance is almost in place the FEEVES is working through role definitions. Chris will be meeting with Lindsay in January to align on the key role that FEEVES should play. There will be 5 members minimum required for the FEEVES Board based on the updated guidelines.

G. Other / Open Floor

There was a question raised as to the Elbow Valley's student electronics use policy as there has been some videos being viewed by the grade 3s. Kim advised that there have been more cases of ipads and phones being

École Elbow Valley School Council Meeting

Decemeber 11, 2018, 7PM

used at the school over the last month and even though students are told their devices must remain in their backpacks, there are a few that have been discovered on the playground and in the classroom at lunch. It is very difficult to monitor and especially to control what is watched on the devices which have access to the Internet. It is also important that parents continue to team children about good and bad choices as it relates to their electronic use.

There was recently a very strict electronics use policy put in place at the middle school which the elementary school may wish to put in place as well. Kim will speak with Lindsay about whether a similar policy should be put in place at the elementary school.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting Date: February 12th at 1pm