

Bow Valley High School Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. Learning Commons

In Attendance: Kari Rose (Chair), Judy Heck, Fiona Gilbert, Tracy Bruins, Mandy Kellock, Janet Cheverie, Anne Hayter, Susan Watkins, Jim Reilly (Principal), Ms. Sawby (Assistant Principal), Cst. Bonnie Sauve, Sgt. Ryan Singleton

Regrets: Julia Grohn, Susan Brauss, Mia Kruger

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Kari Rose.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Tracy Bruins, 2nd by Mandy Kellock.

4. Special Presentation

Sergeant Ryan Singleton and Constable Bonnie Sauve, (School Resource Officer) shared information about the role of the SRO in the schools and how changes to cannabis legislation and vaping have impacted youth in our community.

- SROs help develop trust and positive relationships with students, improve communication between students and law enforcement and community building. They support the school and its students. Provide educational opportunities - do presentations on numerous topics. Encourage and report concerns re: safety to School Admin who will notify SRO. Are forming a Youth Council/Committee in the Cochrane detachment.
- Cannabis - see <https://www.alberta.ca/cannabis-legalization.aspx> for detailed information. Must be 18+ to possess, purchase or use cannabis. Adults can possess up to 30 grams of legally produced cannabis in public. Cannabis consumption is not allowed in vehicles. People can be ticketed and charged if cannabis is within reach in the cabin of a vehicle. Penalties are the same as alcohol-impaired driving. Law enforcement are doing screening at check stops. Impaired driving charges have skyrocketed. The officers suggested having their Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) speak at a school council meeting. Distracted

Driving - Melody Battle, founder of Battle Against Distracted Driving (BADD) and a distracted driving crash survivor would be another good resource speaker.

- Vaping: Cochrane and the province are reviewing their bylaws on vaping. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase vapes. Vaping exposes the user to chemicals that cause health risks such as lung damage. Currently, Alberta's tobacco laws do not specifically address vaping products. Can't vape on school property - if caught the user can be ticketed. The Alberta gov't is asking the public to take part in a survey to review the *Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act*. Provide your feedback by taking the [online survey](#) until November 29, 2019. AGLC and Addiction Services are good resources to address vaping.
- Cops, Pops and Pizza - Watch for details of the Cops, Pops and Pizza event to support Special Olympics Athletes (SOA) at Cochrane's Boston Pizza location. Law enforcement members and SOA will be serving customers, collecting donations, and raising awareness.

5. Approval of Minutes of September 12 and October 10, 2019

The minutes of the September 12, 2019 School Council meeting were approved by Janet Cheverie, 2nd by Mandy Kellock.

The minutes of the October 10, 2019 School Council meeting were approved by Janet Cheverie, 2nd by Mandy Kellock.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

January 9, 2020 – Scholarship/Bursary Information - Guest Speaker: Mr. Mike Reece (Guidance Councillor)

March 12, 2020 – Healthy Relationships – Guest speaker: FCSS or Stepping Stones to Mental Health

May 14, 2020 – RCMP Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) instead of Tech Neck.

Telus Wise - workshop and resources to help students and inform parents on how to stay safe online (<https://www.telus.com/en/wise> or email wise@telus.com if).

7. Report from Judy Heck and Kari Rose re: RVS District Joint Council Meeting on November 7, 2019 at the Education Centre in Airdrie.

a. Hour Zero Emergency Response System

Mr. Luterbach reviewed the school emergency program and explained the difference between lock down, hold and secure, shelter in place, etc.

https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/families/assets_parents/RVS-Parent-Summary.pdf

b. Cashless Schools and My Wallet

RVS launched **myWallet** on October 15, 2019. You will see the **MyWallet** menu when you log into your School Cash Online account. You can add funds for your student to

pay for a variety of items, such as hot dog days, field trips, etc, view transactions and get refunds. There is also a move to put field trip consent forms online.

c. Support for School Councils to attend the ASCA in Edmonton April 24-26, 2020. In an effort to encourage school councils to attend the ASCA Conference and General meeting held each year in the spring, the Board has allocated money to support school council members in attending the event (max \$1000 per attendee or \$2000 per school council). Deadline for school councils to request funding is January 17, 2020. Members interested in attending can complete the application (<https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/staff/forms/General/af110-school-council-asca-support>). Two parents/school council members spoke about the benefits of participating in the conference.

8. Administration Update - Jim Reilly

- a. Term 2 has started, new options being offered. In the spirit of BVCares, school admin is connecting with students on a monthly basis & the first meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2019.
- b. Advisory classes for students is during Flex time. Each Advisory teacher will now have the same group of students for 4-5 years. The Advisory teacher will be the 'go to' person for students wanting academic support.
- c. Christmas Hamper will be done by the students through Advisory.
- d. Final Exams, PATs, & Diploma Exams will not be conducted in the gym this year. Staff want to make the testing environment more comfortable for students and more manageable for staff. Exam schedule should be finalized by December 1.
- e. Budget: The budget will not affect staffing this year, Admin is minimizing the impact on staff and students as much as possible.

9. Report from the Board of Trustees - Fiona Gilbert

a. Student Enrolment Numbers

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) official September 30 enrolment count revealed the jurisdiction grew by 923 students or 3.73 per cent over the previous year for a total of 25,637 students, with Airdrie and Cochrane showing the largest growth overall and Crossfield and Beiseker also experiencing increased enrolment. Utilization rates are at 85 per cent across the jurisdiction with Cochrane and Chestermere area schools averaging 89 per cent and four schools with utilization rates over 100 per cent.

b. Modular Unit Request

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) annual modular submission to Alberta Education requests the relocation of seven modular classrooms to Westbrook and Indus and the installation of 21 new modulators at schools in the City of Airdrie and Town of Cochrane. Three have been requested for RancheView, 2 for Bow Valley High School, and 8 others TBD dependent on community discussion re accommodation. Anticipate that approvals will be announced in the winter 2020.

c. Cochrane Accommodation Consultation

Although Cochrane saw the opening of two new schools in the last three years, utilization rates are anticipated to climb to 100 per cent by 2022, prompting the Board to launch a community consultation to identify alternative accommodation strategies for the Town's students and schools. With recommendations to be tabled with the Board by April 23, 2020, the consultation will get underway shortly with affected families receiving a letter detailing public engagement dates.

d. Budget 2019

While anticipating a status quo provincial budget, an initial review of provincial grant rates released with Budget 2019 has determined Rocky View Schools (RVS) will need to find \$10 million to balance its books for the 2019/20 school year. An unanticipated outcome of the budget being felt by most boards in the province is the reallocation of Alberta's class size grants and school fee/transportation replacement grants to fund growth. In RVS, these grants amounted to \$15 million, which the government will offset by a one-time transition grant of \$5 million.

Dedicated to providing the best education RVS can afford its students, the Board directed administration to address the budget shortfall by:

- Utilizing system and school reserves, while striving to maintain levels at 3.5 per cent of operations, a reasonable limit recognized by the Auditor General as sound fiscal management;
- Avoiding mid-year staffing reductions, recognizing reductions are likely in 2020/21; and
- Introducing additional student transportation fees to offset the loss of the government's Transportation Fee Replacement Grant.

RVS' budget will be tabled with the Board of Trustees, Nov. 28, 2019, for consideration

e. Additional Transportation Fees

To offset a \$1.4 million shortfall in the student transportation budget, resulting from the province's reallocation of its Transportation Fee Replacement Grant, Trustees voted in favour of introducing additional student transportation fees of \$308/student applicable to riders who attend their designated school and live 2.4 km or further from that school, who for the last few years have not been required to pay bus fees. Those families who have already paid a fee this year, are not being asked to pay more.

f. Funding Framework Review

The Board is participating in the government review of the funding and assurance frameworks and the expectation is that there will be a new model on place in the spring just in time for Budget 2020.

g. Choice in Education Survey

Parents are encouraged to complete the survey regarding the anticipated Choice In Education Act at www.alberta.ca, take the [online survey](#) by December 6, 2019.

- h. To stay up to date on what's happening, you can subscribe to Board Highlights at http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/board_policies/board-meeting-highlights

10. Bobcat Backers Society Fundraising Update

The Bobcat Backers Society unfortunately had to cancel the movie fundraiser showing *Charlies Angels* on Friday, November 15, 2019 as ticket sales were very low. Stay tuned for additional fundraisers and how you can help!

11. New Business

Social Media Account: Mr. Ho is responsible for the BVHS FaceBook page. Action: It was suggested that a link to the schools FaceBook page be included in the Bobcat Tracks Newsletter. Ms. Grant has started an Instagram account, but it is mainly for posting photography students work. BVHS also has a Twitter account (Bow Valley High School @BVHS_Bobcats).

12. **Next Meeting**

The next School Council meeting will be Thursday, **January 9, 2020 @ 7 p.m.** in the Learning Commons. **Presentation:** Scholarships and Bursaries - Mike Reece

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. by Kari Rose.