

# THE BRIEF

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS

Sept. 7, 2023

### Supporting the Leaders of Tomorrow

- With a mission of empowering students to deepen their sense of self and broaden their network of connections, the Rocky View Schools Leadership Academy (RVSLA) allows students to work together on projects, honing their communication, problem-solving and collaboration skills.
- In 2022/23, students in year 3 of the RVSLA planned the Rebooting Student Leadership event, featuring leadership speaker and author Drew Dudley. The students presented on this process including what they learned to the Board of Trustees (the Board) of Rocky View Schools (RVS).
- Students in the RVSLA have also organized a leadership conference for middle schoolers, volunteered in their communities including at the Calgary Food Bank and the Drop-in Centre and developed an Alumni Advisory Committee.
- Current and former students from the RVSLA program shared their experiences with the Board, recounting how the leadership program has impacted them and set them up for success.
- The RVSLA offers a full-year five-credit course for RVS students in grades 10, 11 and 12.

### Enrolment in RVS Schools Climbs 3.8 per cent

- Students returned to classrooms across RVS the week of Sept. 5 – early enrolment numbers indicate an additional 1,052 students joined the division.
- RVS is required to submit its enrolment total as of Sept. 30 to the Government of Alberta. Total enrolment as of Sept. 6 is 28,664; however, it is important to note this number will continue to flex both up to and after the Sept. 30 deadline.
- We welcome all new students and those returning to our schools this September.
- While enrolment growth is positive, it continues to pose significant challenges in two vital areas:
  - space in already full to over-full schools while we wait for new schools to be funded and built and for more modular classrooms, and
  - inequities created by the Weighted Moving Average funding model, which underfunds growing school divisions. For RVS, this funding model means around 800 students will not be funded by the provincial government this school year.
- More information on these advocacy priorities is available on the RVS [website](#).

### School Facility Improvement Update

- RVS takes pride in its high standards for the maintenance of its schools and facilities ensuring they are positive and welcoming places to learn and work.

- The Operations department completed several significant projects during 2022/23, including replacing the roof at Indus School and replacing heat pumps, portable roofing or corridor flooring at a number of schools.
- The largest project was a renovation of the school on Powell Street in Cochrane over the summer to ensure the building was ready to welcome the Cochrane Christian Academy (CCA) to its new home in September 2023. The renovation included new flooring and painting throughout the building, replacing the roof, adding new exterior windows and upgrades to the washrooms.

### **Board Strategic Plan up for Community Engagement Award Through ASBA**

- The Board has submitted its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan engagement process to the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) for an award as an exemplary example of community engagement.
- The Community Engagement Award is given annually to a school board that has engaged its community during the previous school year.
- The Board is proud of its commitment to best practices in community engagement and believes the strategic plan engagement process demonstrates its dedication to this important work.
- Awards are presented at the ASBA's Fall General Meeting.

### **Board Approves Self-Evaluation Report**

- The Board approved their annual self-evaluation report and made a commitment to monitor priorities and suggestions agreed to and bring items forward for the Board's consideration as appropriate.

### **Organizational Meeting Set for Sept. 21**

- An organizational meeting has been set for 9:30 a.m. Sept. 21.
- The Board chair and vice-chair for the upcoming year will be elected by trustees during this meeting.
- Committee appointments will also be determined during this meeting. A regular meeting of the Board will follow the Organizational Meeting.