



Cooper's Crossing School Council Minutes

April 10, 2024

Meeting started at 6:03 pm

Present:

Jennifer Cudmore	Kiran Dhaliwal
Jonathan Klinger	Kara McCrae
Diana Logan	Amanda Baldwin
Alicia Cubillos	Shauna Sargent
Meghan El Sogheir	Fred Burley
Danielle Vienneau	James Smith
Dean Boucher	Alisha Smith

1) Welcome – Kiran Dhaliwal

2) Principal's Report – Diana Logan

-RVS website has been updated. CCS will go live with the website April 28, 2024. The new email address for CCS is cooperscrossing@rockyview.ab.ca

-RCMP spoke to grade 4 classes about bike safety.

-Tim Hortons smile cookie sales, benefiting the Airdrie Health Foundation, will start April 19, 2024 and run until April 26, 2024. Cookies can be purchased using school cash. Cookies will be delivered Tuesday April 30, 2024. CCS will send the cookies home with the students.

-RVS community clean up is set to happen between April 22 – 26.

-The NED show is coming to CCS May 2, 2024 at 8:30 am. This is a free show related to mental health. It is a pay it forward show. CCS is selling yoyos to help raise funds.

3) Trustee Report – Fred Burley

- Budget 2024, announced by the provincial government Feb. 29, included a 4.4 per cent increase in education funding to support enrolment growth and students with specialized needs.

- RVS received funding for five highly anticipated school projects: Full construction funding for a Kindergarten – Grade 8 (K – 8) school in South Windsong in Airdrie. Full construction funding for a K – 8 school in Bayview in Airdrie. Full construction funding for a K – 8 school Rivercrest in Cochrane. Design funding for a high school in Southwinds in Airdrie. Design funding for a Kindergarten – Grade 9 school in Dawson's Landing in Chestermere.

-As the specific details (known as the funding profile) for RVS have not yet been received, understanding the implications of the Province's increased education funding is difficult. The funding profile should be received shortly and will help the division understand the impact of Budget 2024.

Three-Year Capital Plan Highlights Continuing Need for More Space for Students

- RVS' Capital Plan 2025 – 2028 requests government approve funding the construction of 10 additional new schools across the division in the next three years. These are needed to address the ongoing growing utilization in RVS schools even after the opening of the three recently announced new schools expected to take place in 2027, the opening of Horseshoe Crossing High School in Langdon in September 2024 and completion of a previously approved expansion to Bow Valley High School in Cochrane in 2026.
- Despite recent government approval of construction funding, school utilization is projected to continue to rise due to ongoing population growth in RVS' fastest-growing communities of Airdrie, Cochrane, and Chestermere.
- RVS is years behind in government funding for new schools, additions, and modular classrooms as approvals have failed to keep pace with rising enrolment.
- Each school division in Alberta is required to submit a list of capital requests, in order of priority, by April 1 of each year. The Board will continue to advocate to government to provide funding for new schools where they are urgently needed in RVS' communities. The 2025 – 2028 Capital Plan is available on the RVS website, rockyview.ab.ca

-As enrolment in RVS continues to rise, modular classrooms are needed to provide appropriate space for students to learn and achieve their very best. RVS requested 22 new modular units and the relocation of another 12 classrooms and one bathroom unit to mitigate ongoing enrolment growth until new schools can be built.

-On March 14, Alberta Education announced the approval of nine new units and the relocation of one washroom unit for the division. This announcement is well below what RVS needs. It is unknown at this time when the new units will arrive or when the relocation of the one approved existing unit will take place.

-Balancing Student Spaces – RVS board will make all decisions based on stakeholder feedback this month. Most changes that will be implemented will affect the 2025-2026 school year.

4) RVS Finance query – Diana Logan

I contacted our RVS Financial Analyst, Cindy Stuart, to inquire about the likelihood of RVS taking back money from our school council fundraising account. Please see her response at the very bottom and here:

Any dollars raised through school cash could be adjusted by RVS but I have not heard that they have any intention/interest in doing that to date.

They (school council) should only be raising funds with the intent to spend it in the current year on the current student population so there should not be an excessive sum of money left at the end of the year.

Money that is currently in the School Council account(s) will NOT be transferred to the Society as we do not 'donate' funds to them.

Hope this answers your questions.

As well, I thought I should ask her about Council donating funds back to Society and her answer is that we cannot do that. Please read below to see her response:

Any monies collected on behalf of School Council on SchoolCash or any other ways can not be given (donated) to the society. RVS can not collect any fund on behalf of the Society. The thought of giving funds to the Society is not feasible.

I want to give you all time to consider this prior to us discussing the motions or ideas from last month, as it will likely impact some conversations and decisions.

5) Review of Motions – Kiran Dhaliwal

-Kiran Dhaliwal and Alicia Cubillos had a meeting to create some motions to guide future CCS Council and Society members.

-Much of this Council meeting was taken up by members who did not agree with the wording in the motions that were put forth.

-Decided to table these motions for another month. The wording needs to be reworked by Kiran Dhaliwal and Alicia Cubillos. These motions will then be emailed out to members to vote on. The plan for the Council meeting in May will be to have these motions ready to be voted on by members.

Meeting adjourned 7:44 pm

Next meeting May 8,2024 at 6:00 pm.