



## Board Meeting Highlights



Date: March 21, 2019

### Modular approvals

- In October 2018, Rocky View Schools' (RVS) Board of Trustees submitted a request to Alberta Education for 39 modular units to alleviate overcrowding in eight schools in Airdrie, Chestermere and Cochrane.
- RVS recently received notice that the government's Capital Planning Branch granted only seven (7) approvals for 2019/20 school year.
- Alberta Education will pay for the modulares and the reasonable cost associated with installation. RVS will be responsible for any costs associated with connecting the units to the school.
- RVS administration is currently reviewing the approvals in light of ongoing student accommodation consultations in both East Airdrie and Chestermere and will bring forward a recommendation to the Board for the placement of these seven modular units.

### Northcott Prairie School temporary accommodation plan

- RVS' new school in the Airdrie community of Hillcrest will be ready to welcome students in January 2020, however the seven modular units requested by the jurisdiction to house students at the school in September 2019 were not approved.
- Based on this change, the Board of Trustees approved a temporary accommodation plan that aims to minimize the impact on all students and families and keep peer groups together as much as possible.
- Northcott Prairie will open as a K – 6 school and grow to Gr. 8 over the next two years, with K – Gr. 6 students starting their school year in September 2019 with their teacher and classmates, but at different locations.
- Kindergarten – Gr. 1 students will start at Cooper's Crossing, Gr. 2, 3, and 4 will start at Herons Crossing and Gr. 5, 6 and school administration will start at Muriel Clayton Middle.
- Grade 7 students previously slated to attend Northcott Prairie will remain at Windsong Heights School for the next two years.
- Working with the administrators of the receiving schools, temporary learning environments have been designed that are to the standard of the jurisdiction and that promise rich instruction.
- All students will move into Northcott Prairie in January 2020, once construction is complete.
- RVS will host an information session, April 17, 2019, to provide parents/guardians with an opportunity to meet the school principal and learn more about these accommodations and how RVS will support transportation to and from the temporary locations.

### Technology reserve funding expenditure request

- To place the most up-to-date technology in the hands of educators, Trustees approved the use of \$250,000 from capital reserves to fund the begin replacement of an aging fleet of teacher-assigned

laptops.

- These funds will be used to replace approximately 205 MacBooks that are between seven and 11 years old.
- RVS' Technology for Learning has been replacing teacher-assigned devices annually for the past six years and a restricted fund was created for this intended use.

### **Edwin Parr Award nomination**

- The Board announced Sarah Hawley as its nominee for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award presented annually by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) to six outstanding first-year teachers from across the province.
- Hawley has demonstrated a natural aptitude for teaching in her Gr. 4 class at Cochrane Christian Academy, where she has implemented planning, instruction and assessment practices that are commonly seen in more seasoned educators.
- Adept at creating authentic learning experiences for the wide range of learners in her class, Hawley also is known for inciting accountability to empower her students.
- She models this behaviour in her own life, taking on extra-curricular responsibilities, actively participating in collaborative team planning and engaging in meaningful professional learning opportunities.
- The Edwin Parr Teacher Award was established in 1964 to honour long-time Athabasca-area school trustee Edwin Parr, who also served as president of the Alberta School Trustees' Association (now the ASBA) from 1956 until his passing in 1962.
- The Edwin Parr Teacher Awards will be presented at the ASBA Fall General meeting in November.

### **Student Showcase – Singing for Seniors**

- The Board of Trustees recognized Kimberley Lee's Gr. 4 class for helping to bring joy and happiness to seniors at the Airdrie Bethany Care Centre.
- In November 2018, the Herons Crossing teacher introduced the concepts of altruism and volunteerism into her classroom and led students through a brainstorming session to foster ideas for ways they could support their community.
- Students decided that putting on a Christmas concert at the Bethany Care Centre would help alleviate some of the loneliness felt by seniors during the holidays.
- After completing a market analysis project to determine how much money they would need to bring their concert on the road, students raised more than \$600 selling handmade candy kabobs at the school's Christmas fair.
- They used the proceeds from the fair to cover the cost of transportation to the Bethany Care Centre for their Dec. 13, 2018, performance and to purchase hot chocolate, cookies, cards and gifts for the seniors.