

Elizabeth Barrett School Council Minutes

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 6:30pm

Attendees:

Joy, Chantelle, Jennifer, Gerry, Fiona, Lisa, Rhonda, Ashley, Antoinette, Andre

Regrets- Collette, Erica

1) Call to order @ 6:32

2) Adoption of Agenda: first Jen; 2nd Joy

3) Approval of Draft Meeting minutes from October 16, 2024: 1st Chantelle; 2nd Lisa

4) Update from School Administration (Gerry)

- Mrs Preston is on a leave of absence, looking for staffing
- Learning assistant position added and staffing for this
- Hoping to be in place in the next coming weeks
- PL update: focus on 3 goals Mon December 2nd
- First Concert Grade 1 concert December 12- just 1 show. "Holiday Sleepover" theme
- Grade 4 singing in Community GAV Dec 16th. MMD Diller and Mme Amanda classes at Bethany on December 18th
- Student Conferences first week of December. Delayed this year due to book fair late booking (generates important revenue for the school).

5) Update from RVS Board (Fiona)

- Board meeting on Oct 17. School calendar approved for 2025/26. Posted on website. Following feedback from surveys sent out, Did not go forward with November break. Continue to have PL days attached to holiday weekends, come back after Labor Day, usual Christmas, Feb, spring, and Easter breaks.
- 26/27 calendar. Requested changes be reviewed again to better attach the PL days. Hope to have calendar approved by end of this calendar year (Dec).
- Student enrollment- 29243 Sept 30 RVS.
- Ward Boundary- electoral ward boundary: The Board approved a bylaw to amend RVS' ward boundaries in advance of the 2025 municipal election (per RVS website)
- Fall budget update. Added 3.2 million to budget. Support resources (additional staffing). Challenges (no teachers to hire and or no space/ classrooms to support extra teachers)

- Modular classrooms- Requested 7 for Cochrane: 3 for Manachaban, 5 at CCA (replacements due to age)
- Cochrane accommodation: (i.e. 96% schools are filled in Cochrane) launched consultation. Board decided to leave as status quo and will manage growth and enrollments with using modulars. Will need to shift school borders in 2027 due to school opening in Rivercrest. Tricky spots: Projections per mid-September numbers- Fireside. EB stable (86% full). (85-90% is the target). Manachaban 98% capacity with modulars added. CHS at 99% capacity. Tri-school area is stable because it is not a growth area catchment
- Glenbow, Fireside and BVH are the tricky spots due to community growth. Southbow landing is designated to Fireside- looking at short term solutions until Rivercrest school is built.
- Municipal election: New legislation enacted on Oct 31- would you require a trustee candidate to complete a Criminal Record Check and posted publically? DISCUSSION followed.
- Ward boundaries- rep by pop; Cochrane- has added a trustee. Cochrane at large; will be figured out once the 2 trustees elected.
- Nomination packages require several community signatures of support (must live in the ward). Past required 10. Is 10 enough or not? Joy asked about do you have to live in your ward to be elected to a ward? Fiona replied yes but with caveat. Joy and Rhonda felt 10-25 signatures is fair. Candidates must pay a deposit to run- \$100-1000? Feeling is this may not be necessary.

6) EB Fundraising update

- \$4233.30 Art Card Fundraising. Shipping notice has been sent to Joy.
- Fundraising totals for the year thus far- \$6562.70
- Apple pick up was a bit of a logistical challenge. Davison charges \$750 shipping so may consider different company next year.

7) School Business

- Volunteer Coordinator update/information-
 - There's been challenges with lack of breakfast club volunteers. 8-9 AM is the need. Mrs Tina and Mrs Bartels are still trying to do it but challenging with their other job commitments.
 - 169 available positions- have filled 6.
 - Ice baggies are good
 - Staff appreciation dinner sign up will go out tomorrow and in the fan-out.
- Hot lunch Coordinator update/ information

Going well, more volunteers have turned up. Papa Johns have been good. Liking the bread sticks- they deliver here. EBhotlunchcoordinator@gmail.com

8) Old Business

1. Jen will be adding all the minutes to the drive. Will send to Sara to upload to school site.

8) New Business-

- Contact email: SC President- ebarrett-schoolcouncil@rvschools.ab.ca

SC Secretary- eb.council.secretary@gmail.com

- Ashley and Andre concerned about lack of academic intervention.
- Discussion following this concern raised the following points:
- Gerry responded: teacher allocation dedicated to literacy. .2 teacher in ENG and FI. Targeted approach to students with identified needs.
- Numeracy is harder: trying to find ways to find supports for numeracy. A focus on this in the upcoming PL day. Highschool students and parents coming for tutoring but it's a big downturn the last few years. Less parent volunteers. Awaiting for a funding announcement from provincial gov't.
- Ashley asking about an interventionist as this is a K-4 school
- Learning Specialist: helps teachers more
- Learning Support 1.2 FTE allocation: complex learning needs, diagnosis, specialized learning needs.
- Joy: there isn't the funding to support learning needs, so unless there is a volunteer that could privately tutor.
- Interventionist Roles in Airdrie. Covid intervention funding (learning disruption funding) has ended.
- Fiona-Reviewed the "weighted Moving average" of funding (means there is approx. 1000 students in RVS that is not funded for). Staff vacancies - there's no people to hire into them. Substitute teacher shortages. Multiple compounded issues resulting in struggles to meet needs in the schools.

Ashley- mentioned Scope and Sequence Intervention program.

9) Next Meeting: January 15, 2025 then February 26, 2025 (due to Feb break)

10) Adjournment 7:39pm