



School Council

**Minutes of the ÉEVE School Council Meeting
September 10, 2024
1:00pm In-person and Zoom**

SC Executive:

Chelsey Conrad, Chair - present
Kirsten Inglis, Co-Chair - present
Judi Hunter, School Board Trustee - present
Jennifer Tanguay, Secretary - present
Sharelle Stitt, Treasurer - present

School Administration Members:

Simon Pols, Principal - present
Jodie Clease, Assistant Principal - present

Attendees:

Janelle Wimpris, Tanya Martindale, Logan Martin, Robin Somji, Kare Wallace, Kim Burchby, Caley Remington, Katarina Trutina.

1. Call to Order

Chelsey called the meeting to order at 1:06pm.

2. Welcome

Welcome Simon and Jodi, our new Principal and Vice Principal. Thank you to all of our volunteers on council. It's a new year, looking forward to it - increased involvement each year since Covid. June minutes sent out - some unfinished business. Going forward, will follow items brought forward to be discussed on agenda, open floor for anything additional, time permitting.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Chelsey motioned to accept the agenda and minutes as circulated; no objections; motion carried.

4. Administration Report



École Elbow Valley Elementary

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Mr. Simon Pols
Principal

Ms. Jodie Clease
Assistant Principal

School Council Meeting September 9, 2024

Numbers: Total 550



Kinder	Grade One	Grade Two	Grade Three	Grade Four
AM: 17, 17 PM: 12 FI AM: 14, 14	FI: 19, 19 English: 21, 21, 21	FI: 25 English: 26, 27 English 2/3: 22	FI: 25 FI 3/4: 24 English: 29, 29, 29	FI: 28 English: 29., 29, 29

Staffing Update: (Simon)

- **Grade 3FI:** Please welcome Cara Nelson to Elbow Valley. Cara is an RVS teacher with experience in French Immersion having taught Grade 1 at East Lake School for three years. Cara will be at Elbow Valley on August 29th.
- **Learning Commons Facilitator:** We are currently working with RVS to secure a new LC Facilitator (Librarian)
- **Katie Gibson:** A quick note to let you know that Katie will be away from Elbow Valley from September 5th to October 6th. In her place we will be welcoming Raegan Dahlstedt. Raegan will be available to provide support in your classroom and assist with upcoming assessments.
- **Kaitlynn Dukart / Kristine Boucher:** Kaitlynn will be teaching grade 2FI and Kristine will be providing support to classroom teachers (shoulder to shoulder / assessment / small group work) until mid-October.

School Education Plan (Draft Goals)

Goal Number One:

Advancing students numeracy and literacy skills

Outcome: Students are numerate and literate.

Outcome: Students are actively engaged in meaningful and relevant learning.

How Might We: Improve student literacy results in both English and French programming.

School Goal: Through responsive teaching methods to address the needs of individual students, the median reading score will improve by 10%.

2024/2025 Strategies:

- Daily targeted literacy instruction (small group, large group, one to one)
- Targeted and explicit instruction using data supported pedagogy (French sons-au-graphe is a UFLI translation TBD)
- Parent involvement (read in school and read at home)
- Possibly review attendance data and address any concerns
- Learning Strategies Teacher in-class with students and grade 4 model could be rolled out school-wide.
- Possible cross-grade meetings to support consistency

Goal Number Two:

Building future-ready students

Outcome: Students demonstrate strong abilities in critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, collaboration, managing information, cultural and global citizenship, creativity and innovation, and personal growth and well-being (Alberta Education student competencies).

Outcome: Students graduate high school prepared to be successful in any path they choose.

How Might We: Increase students' opportunities to learn and appreciate cultural diversity.

School Goal: Students will demonstrate cultural and global citizenship.

2024/2025 Strategies:

- Multicultural represent population authentically – calendar and celebrations
- Combine and simplify and be intentional
- Imbed Indigenous ways of knowing and learning throughout the year (Tall feathers and school community)
- Francophone imbedded
- Environment (Pack it in, pack it out school wide approach)
- Charities: Veterans – 1 food drive, Nursing home – year long, global budding artists – sept, world vision

Goal Number Three:

Creating inclusive, engaging, healthy learning opportunities for all students

Outcome: Students are happy and healthy, feel they belong and are safe, and experience success in learning environments that are inclusive of every learner and celebrate diversity.

Outcome: Students are self-aware and focused and demonstrate perseverance and resilience.

How Might We: Support and foster a sense of responsibility and belonging in an inclusive school environment.

School Goal: Students will demonstrate that they know how to be respectful, responsible and brave and that they feel this in turn at Elbow Valley School.

2024/2025 Strategies:

- Monthly meetings (starting September) scheduling them in the morning before PL days and including occasional half-day meetings when needed
- Implementation of classroom PBIS/matrix so students can demonstrate they are respectful, responsible, and brave in line with their classroom environment
- Expectation for common areas/whole school
- Continued PL from RVS including our PBIS coach

Cell Phone Policy: ([LINK](#))

- The safest place for students' devices is at home. Should they choose to bring them to school, they must be out of sight and turned off or silent. Parents/guardians and students assume full responsibility if their device is lost, stolen or damaged.
- Students cannot use their personal mobile device in school during instructional time, unless specially authorized by their school's administrator or their teacher for educational purposes. This includes any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet.
- Students with health or medical reasons or special learning needs may be granted permission to use personal mobile devices during instructional time, upon completion of Form AF148A or as indicated in the student's Individualized Program Plan.
- Students will not have access to social media platforms at school over the school's Wi-Fi network and are not permitted to access it at school using their own data plans to ensure students remain focused on educational tasks.
- The AP includes progressive consequences that are designed to have teachers and administrators work with students and parents/guardians toward the common goal of limiting distractions and staying focused on learning.
- **Staff Members:** staff members are asked to always model this behaviour for students.

Real Time Reporting:

- Real-time reporting provides parents with immediate feedback on student progress, improving over infrequent report cards.
- It helps teachers refine their teaching practices to enhance student understanding and achieve curricular goals.

- It allows students to work towards mastering outcomes throughout the year, promoting long-term learning growth.
- The approach is aligned with Rocky View Schools' Instruction & Assessment Guide and relevant administrative procedures.

Assessment and Communication of Student Learning

- Assessment is ongoing, meaningful, and consistent, providing regular feedback to students and parents to enhance learning.
- It uses varied methods to understand what students know and how they achieve outcomes, guiding instructional decisions.
- Assessment is most effective when integrated into learning and aligned with the curriculum, promoting student success.

Upcoming RVS and Alberta Learning Assessments

Kindergarten:

- LENS: January
- PAST: Phonological Awareness Screening Tests (PAST)
- Rapid Automates Naming (RAN)

Grade 1 French and English Required Assessments

- **LeNS** to be completed with all Grade 1 students in January. Students who are deemed to need intervention will be reassessed in later spring.
- **BAS/GB+** to be completed in late winter/early spring with all students.
- **Alberta Numeracy Assessment** to be completed with all Grade 1 students in January. Students who are deemed to require intervention will be reassessed in later spring.
- **Escalire (FI)**
- PAST: Phonological Awareness Screening Tests (PAST)
- Rapid Automates Naming (RAN)

Grade 2 French and English Required Assessments

- **LeNS** to be completed with all Grade 2 students in the fall. Students who are deemed to need intervention will be reassessed later in the spring.
- **CC3** to be completed with all Grade 2 students in the fall. Students who are deemed to need intervention will be reassessed later in the spring.

- **BAS/GB+** to be completed with all Grade 2 students in later fall/early winter and again in later winter/early spring.
- **Escalire (FI)**
- **Alberta Numeracy Assessment** to be completed with all Grade 2 students in the fall. Students who are deemed to require intervention will be reassessed in later spring.

Grade 3 French and English Required Assessments

- **CC3** to be completed with all Grade 3 students in the fall. Students who are deemed to need intervention will be reassessed later in the spring.
- **BAS/GB+** to be completed with all Grade 3 students in later fall/early winter and again in later winter/early spring.
- **Alberta Numeracy Assessment** to be completed with all Grade 3 students in fall. Students who are deemed to require intervention will be reassessed in later spring.

Grade 4 French and English Required Assessments

- **BAS/GB+** to be completed with all Grade 4 students in fall and again in spring.
- **Math Assessment** to be completed with all Grade 4 students in fall.

Writing Assessments: Writing Assessment [MyRVS Writing Assessment Page](#)

- The Writing Continuum outlines writing skills by grade, serving as a tool for planning writing activities across subjects.
- The Year-Long Writing Rubric helps teachers guide instruction and assess student progress according to curricular outcomes.
- Rocky View Schools expects all teachers to use this rubric to align instructional practices and communicate student learning effectively.

Discussion: Room we are in, Helen Cleese Learning Lounge, was dedicated to Jodi's mom by administration when she passed away, former school board trustee, this school was dear to her heart. Mary hung a sign outside before she left, plans for room TBD. Thank you for welcoming Jodi and I, feel very blessed to be here. Getting to know everyone, looking at what the trajectory was last year, what is our vision and making plans for moving forward. Class numbers are higher in Grade 3 and 4, allowed to have numbers as ratio changes, but at higher end of upper limit. Would prefer 26-27, confident it will be a strong year, talked to RVS, not getting a new teacher but should be

ok. Enrolment here tends to increase in Grade 2 and 3, not sure why, tends to be when more kids move into the community. RVS allocation on a 3 year rolling average, look at community growth, developer projections. Physical space would allow for an additional class. 27-28 is the max we like to see per class, individual student considerations do factor in to class sizes, particularly split classes. Learning Commons Facilitator - waiting for applicant acceptance. SEP - RVS has said not to change goals, just strategies. Will present next month. Cellphone use not a big issue here, some have watches, need to make sure they aren't connected, will deal with on an individual basis. Interest expressed in having Paul Davis present again, has been here twice before, joint effort between all 3 schools. Grade 3/4, SMS, SHS and parent presentation at SHS gym. Could use SC \$500 Grant, look into whether other SC are interested this year. Real Time Reporting in PowerSchool should be done bi-weekly. Admin helping with assessments when appropriate, want teachers in the classroom. Question brought forward about continuing programming - continuing Reflex, U-Fly maybe, TBD.

5. School Trustee Report

September 2024 Newsletter

Trustee Hunter, Ward 5

The summer has just flown by, and we are off to another busy year. There are many changes in the administrative teams of our Ward 5 schools.

Westbrook School

- Darrell Lonsberry – New Principal coming from Springbank Community High School
- Cristy Leonard – New Assistant Principal coming from Rainbow Creek Elementary

Elbow Valley

- Simon Pols – New Principal coming from Principal at Banded Peak School
- Jodie Clease – New Assistant principal coming from Windsong Heights School

Springbank High School

- Rob Makkreel – New Principal coming from Bert Church High
- Tara Sly – New Assistant Principal coming from Fireside School
- Diana Stapor – New Assistant Principal coming from Meadowbrook Middle School

Banded Peak

- Jody Moore – New Principal coming from Assistant Principal at Windsong Heights School
- Richard Dupre – New Assistant principal coming from Springbank Community High School

Alberta's population is booming and causing unprecedented growth in our education system, adding a historic number of new students across the province for the 2024-25 school year.

Alberta's government recognizes the challenges school authorities face with increasing enrolment, rising operational costs and inflation. The government is investing \$215 million to help alleviate these pressures, beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Rocky View Schools has not received its allocation numbers. Once received, decisions on how best to utilize those additional dollars will be made.

Additional good news, the government has heard Rocky View Schools urgent request for additional modular units to help alleviate some of the crowding in our full or over-full schools. These additional modulars will provide temporary relief in those communities while we await new schools to be built. A plan for where best to place the 12 new units and 12 relocated units is being developed to maximize their use and help ensure our students have appropriate space in which to learn and achieve their very best.

Congratulations to Callista Tay, the only student from Springbank Community High School was one of the lucky 31 students selected for the highly coveted HYRS research program. 2 years ago, Jordan was the last student from SCHS to complete that.

Alberta Health is providing the following information link to a number of articles on parenting concerns myhealth.alberta.ca/Topic/pediatric-rehabilitation/Pages/webinars.aspx

Most of these sessions are hosted live by pediatric rehab healthcare providers. You can ask questions during the session. Sessions are offered free with many date and time choices.

Trouble registering for a webinar, email childrenyouthhealth@ahs.ca

Discussion: Admin changes in 4 out of 6 schools, this school has had a lot in particular. Admin changes not mandated by RVS, affected by retirement, admin moving or needing a change. Experience is 5-6 years, time for a change. Report published in High Country News and sent out to all SC. Lego Club - interest there, suggest winter instead of spring, when kids want to be outside, perhaps Jan-May. French classes - interest there, will look into as helping with CPF.

6. Co-Chair's Report

*Review of Calendar dates set in June:

Volunteer Orientation: Katarina (Volunteer Coordinator) requesting change date from Sept 25 to 23, will be held in Helen Cleese Learning Lounge, co-chair's will be there, no one else from SC required to attend. Teacher's should send out notice to parents, will promote at BBQ. Teacher's to select 1 parent to represent SC (not all have class reps) and send info to parents. Want to increase communication with class reps this year re: volunteering opportunities in the classroom and SC committees.

Katarina motioned to move Volunteer Orientation from Sept 25 to 23, 2025 at 9:00am; seconded by Kirsten; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

School Dance: April 17, 2025 (day before spring break). Theme - Hoedown

Staff Appreciation Week: April 1-4, 2025

Literacy Week: TBD - Admin needs to discuss and set date

*SC Initiatives Discussion:

PJ Drive: Last year 430 sets donated and delivered to Women In Need - Kensington location. Kids got a house team bead for each donation, school-wide PJ Day to celebrate. To be held in December.

Discussion: Teachers concerned asking too much of school community to donate throughout the year (pj's, food, socks). Opportunity to give, not mandatory. Historically collecting donations for Food Bank twice/year - not in favour, consensus for SC initiative in spring as opposed to fall, when drives are traditionally held. Frequency of asks should be spaced out, fall in line with what classrooms are doing.

Possible backpack drive - concerns around timing, kids need their backpacks until the last day of school, announce in June, collection in September. Winter clothing drive in conjunction with BBQ, put out bin, sort and deliver week after - Judi will identify school in need donations could be sent to, but needs to remain anonymous.

Chelsey motioned for the Welcome Back BBQ to include a winter clothing donation bin for jackets, pants, boots, toques, mittens that are washed and gently used for donation to a school with children in need in the Calgary area; seconded by Jennifer; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

Welcome Back BBQ: Sept 19, Robin and Katarina organizing, no staff involvement. Discussion on time, supervision - none being provided, 3:30-6:00pm. SMS wants to be involved, 50/50 split, \$750 from each SC. Spolombos donating 500 pre-cooked sausages and buns. \$160 total from Safeway and Co-Op. Need to purchase: 500 hot dogs and buns, condiments, napkins, chips and cookies. Location: field in between schools. Remington donating use of chuckwagon grill. School partially-open, Grade 1 doors, for washroom use and kitchen access. Tables, garbages from school. Simon will arrange teacher volunteers to check washrooms. Sign-Up Genius for shifts to help with set-up, food prep, runner, clean-up. Name tags for SC.

Sports Equipments Purchase: Motion approved in June, this in addition to that motion:

Indoor soccer balls (7 sets of 6 = \$530); Badminton kits (3 sets of 25 = \$688); Parachute (30 foot = \$362), Playground balls (2 sets of 30 = \$145). TOTAL: \$1,725.00

Chelsey motioned that SC provide up to \$2,000.00 for the purchase of sports equipment by the school; seconded by Kirsten; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

Future SC Meetings: Historically held 2nd Tuesday of the month, have tried day/evening, find members at large attending does not change regardless of time of day. Daytime favourable to those with positions. Proposed dates/times (subject to change):

Caley motioned that the future SC meetings for the 2024-2025 school year be held on Oct 8 1:00pm, Nov 12 7:00pm, Dec 10 1:00pm, Jan 14 1:00pm, Feb 11 1:00pm, Mar 11

7:00pm, Apr 8 1:00pm, May 13 1:00pm, AGM June 10 1:00pm; seconded by Robin; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

7. Treasurer Report

Revenue: Healthy Hunger in June: \$2222.00; Mabels Labels: \$130

Outstanding Expenses: MD Motivator - \$500 AB School Board Grant, remaining \$700 does not appear to be covered by previous Admin despite commitment to do so, unfortunately no paper trail at this time. Caley and Rhonda looking into invoice to ensure payment is made. Everything else accounted for, need this rectified by month-end for Financial Report.

Net Balance: \$10,000.00

Discussion: SC has means to cover outstanding MD Motivator bill of \$700, invoice needs to be submitted. Need to notify parents that portion of Mabels Labels orders kicked back to school, not widely known.

Sharelle looked into policy around carrying forward SC funds. As per Admin procedure 5.11.9 carry over of \$150/student is allowed, which we do not exceed.

Last year SC approved funding for House Teams, Terry Fox, BBQ, Friendly Helpers hats. Freezies for this years Terry Fox run purchased at same time as Sports Day freezies. BBQ funding already approved. Cost of hats last year was \$1,168.00.

Sharelle motioned that SC provide \$700 to cover outstanding bill for MD Motivator; seconded by Kare; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

Chelsey motioned that SC provide up to \$1,500.00 for the purchase of hats for Friendly Helpers; seconded by Robin; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

8. Yearbook Coordinator Report (Robin)

Plan is for June distribution again, open to suggestions, will be working on succession planning for new coordinator next year. Helping out with school photos this year as not happy with quality, Lifetouch aware.

9. Volunteer Coordinator Report (Katarina)

Apple fundraiser went well, minimal effort, awaiting cheque and final numbers. Approximately \$7-10/order goes to us, \$1 to them.

10. Fun Lunch Coordinator Report (Kim)

Up and running, available to order 1st Tuesday of the month, every Friday, every Tuesday after a long-weekend for a total of 47 days this school year. Average profit is \$400/day. In June discussed doing a fun donut day, Admin can discuss and let us know their thoughts. Added snacks and salads to this years menu. No drinks.

11. Canadian Parents for French Report (Caley)

No report given.

12. Community Outreach Coordinator (TBD)

No report given.

13. FÉEVES

No report given.

14. Open Floor

Discussion on future speakers SC could bring in, like Paul Davis. Upcoming SC contributions may include activities during Christmas/French Culture Week. Admin brings forward requests to SC, suggestions welcome.

15. Future SC Meetings

October 8, 2024 at 1:00pm
November 12, 2024 at 7:00pm
December 10, 2024 at 1:00pm
January 14, 2025 at 1:00pm
February 11, 2025 at 1:00pm
March 11, 2025 at 7:00pm
April 8, 2025 at 1:00pm
May 13, 2025 at 1:00pm
AGM June 10, 2025 at 1:00pm

16. Adjournment

Chelsey adjourned the meeting at 3:05pm.