



School Council

**Minutes of the ÉEVE School Council Meeting
November 12, 2024
7:00pm 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:

Katarina Trutina, Shawna Clark, Bertha Taylor, Tanya Martindale, Olia Vavriychuk,
Meredith Cann, Kare Wallace, Kim Burchby, Robin Somji

1. Welcome

Welcome everyone. Chelsey called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

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

3. Administration Report



École Elbow Valley Elementary

244209 Range Road 33, Calgary Alberta T3Z
2E8

Phone (403) 242-1117
email: evalley@rockyview.ab.ca



**School Council Meeting
Admin Report
November 12th, 2024**

Collaborative Conferences:

- **Teacher-Parent Engagement:** Parents valued one-on-one time for focused discussions on their child's progress.
- **Involving Children:** Including students was appreciated for the opportunity it provided to see interactions and receive direct feedback.
- **Classroom Insights:** Viewing classroom work and projects gave parents a better understanding of daily school life.
- **Specific Feedback and Tools:** Individualized feedback with self-evaluation tools helped parents understand and support their child's growth.
- **Scheduling Convenience:** Evening time slots and easy booking software facilitated attendance.
- **Time Management:** Effective practices like door signs kept conferences on schedule, and parents suggested adopting these more widely.
- **Extended Time Preference:** Many parents preferred longer sessions to allow deeper discussions.
- **Option for Parent-Only Meetings:** Some preferred child-free sessions for more candid conversations.
- **Frequency of Conferences:** Parents suggested more than two conferences per year to stay updated on progress.
- **Comparative Performance Information:** Some parents wanted insights on their child's standing relative to peers.



Professional Learning Update:

- **October 11th:** Robotics

- EVES staff worked with the RVS Learning Design Team to explore coding and robotics with a focus on:
 - **Build Foundational Coding Skills:** Students begin by exploring simple coding concepts, such as creating basic algorithms and understanding sequences, loops, and conditions, to solve straightforward problems or complete tasks.
 - **Create Simple Digital Projects:** Students use block-based or introductory coding tools (like Scratch or code.org) to design small digital projects, such as animations or interactive stories, learning to sequence steps, test, and make adjustments.
- **November 1st :** Self Directed Professional Development Day
 - This was an opportunity for teachers to explore their own Professional Learning tied to their growth plans. Many teachers chose to work in their Communities of Practice (Global Citizenship, Literacy, PBIS)
- **December 2nd:** School Based Professional Learning Day (University of Florida Literacy Institute)
 - Staff at EVES will be exploring UFLI with the support of staff from Calgary Academy.
 - UFLI stands for the **University of Florida Literacy Institute**, a research-based literacy program developed to support reading instruction and intervention. UFLI offers systematic, explicit instruction that emphasizes phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.
 - It's commonly used by teachers to help students, especially those who struggle with reading, build foundational literacy skills.

Class Reviews:



School Spaces Updates:

- **Learning Commons:**

- Welcomed Mrs. Sonja Allen to EVES
- Mrs. Allen has asked for support organizing the Learning Commons, reshelving books, and helping with Book Fair in the Spring

- **Maker Space:**

- Cleaned, organized, and available for class use.
- We are hoping to have a few parents who can take on helping maintain the space throughout the school year.

- **Resources Room:**

- Resources have been unboxed, categorized and are now on shelves and available for teacher use.

Discussion:

- Parent teacher interviews comments via survey: wanting longer time - not possible with assignable time, but can always reach out and ask for meeting with teacher, IPP meetings separate (20 minutes), unable to provide rank/order of where student compares to others except in general terms.

- PL days: AM together, PM focused on SEP. Robotics - equipment purchased last year, part of curriculum K-4. UFLI will be implemented school-wide this year, next year won't need to do grade 3/4. French equivalent will be used.
- Class reviews: met with each teacher 1 month in, compiled strengths/stretches/trends/strategies. Will continue to check-in with teachers every 3 months, 30-60 minutes/teacher. Unable to quantify data, maybe in future, but connects with data that is quantifiable.

4. School Trustee Report

October 2024 Newsletter Ward 5 Trustee Hunter

Students 'Unique Invention Protects Parks Through Hands-on Learning

Grade 1 and 2 French Immersion students from Airdrie's A.E. Bowers Elementary School collaborated with Parks Canada in 2023/24 to develop a tool to keep our national parks and picnic areas clean. Students developed critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, collaboration, creativity, innovation and citizenship skills all key to building future-ready students which is one of the goals of Rocky View Schools '(RVS) Education Plan.

Board to Requests the Town of Cochrane Provide Serviced School Site as Previously Agreed

The Town of Cochrane and RVS signed a memorandum of understanding in 2021 which required the Town to provide a serviced site in the community of Horsecreek by the end of 2024. The Board will send a letter to the Town mayor and council requesting the Town honour the terms of the memorandum of understanding. The new high school in Cochrane is number six on RVS 'Capital Plan priorities list for 2026 and a necessary addition of student spaces. Municipalities play an important role in ensuring school sites are ready when they are needed as part of the Provincial government's school project approval process.

Chestermere Student Accommodation Engagement Open

RVS 'schools in Chestermere are experiencing enrolment pressures that require new school builds as soon as possible, but despite design funding being approved for one Chestermere school in Budget 2024, this pressure on existing schools will continue until this much-needed school can be built. A Board accommodation decision will be made at the public Board meeting on Jan. 23, 2025.

Supporting Inclusion and Diversity Update

The RVS Learning department provided an update to the Board on professional development opportunities presented to classroom staff and school administrators in 2023/24, which support RVS 'inclusion and diversity guidelines Providing student- centered education that is inclusive, safe and supportive is one of the goals of RVS 'multi-year Strategic Plan.

Ward Boundary Decision

The Board has approved the recommendation of the consultant for the Board Boundary review. The change will see an additional trustee in the City of Cochrane and the combination of Wards 2 and 4 as one trustee position and adding one trustee position to Cochrane, leaving the Board composition of 8 trustees.

Search for a new Chief Superintendent begins

Superintendent of Schools, Greg Luterbach, has given notice. We thank him for his eight plus years of service and his commitment to providing quality learning for the students of Rocky View Schools.

2025/26 School Calendar Approved

The Board has approved the 2025/26 school calendar. The calendar is now posted.

2024/25 Advocacy Priorities Focus on Space and Supports for Students.

The Board has approved the priorities to guide its advocacy work for the current school year – Space for Students and Support for Students. These thoughtfully developed advocacy priorities are specific areas where increased government support is essential to address critical needs that impact the educational experience and outcomes of students.

Alberta's opt-in bill for sex education

The legislation requires parents to be notified each time a teacher addresses gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality instruction.

Metis learning to be implemented

Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools in Okotoks have recently announced a new educational services agreement with the Rupertsland Institute, to help students at local Catholic schools learn more about Métis history and culture.

Ottawa to mull restricting protests outside 'vulnerable' institutions

Over the past few years, protests at schools, places of worship and other community places have increased. The City of Ottawa is considering enacting a bylaw to protect such institutions from harm, intimidation and vitriol.

Inflation impacts Purchase of New Buses

Rising costs have impacted the purchase of new buses and vehicle parts for the Northern Lights Public Schools Division (NLPS). "We have seen prices rise to 70 percent on new buses in the past five years," said a spokesperson for the school division, who explained that some vehicle parts have increased in price by as much as 200-300 percent in the same period.

Labor unrest hits education

Edmonton Support Workers vote for strike action.

Discussion:

- Board chair requesting school council support advocating for more space
- Province growing, 4 million up from 2.5 in a couple of years
- 30 new schools/year x 3 from government accelerated funding, money there but need workers
- Since 2023, 30 new portables, move 20 around division, gives space to 1,200 students, asked for additional 27, running out of space for them, some sites have up to 12 already but still growing and running out of space
- Requesting support, write letter, RVS website advocacy page has info for writing letter to MLA
- Self-reflection tool to evaluate staff understanding re: indigenous learnings
- Boundary review: number of trustee's the same, collapsed ward 2 and 4, added trustee to Cochrane
- Superintendent resigned, hiring process started, aim to offer position in April
- AHS links: work with AB Ed, respiratory illness
- Will discuss book on dysregulation next meeting

Questions: Letter from independent parents to MLA and councillors needed, Harmony growth not as big as other areas but RV in need, advocate land (72 acres) near high school, controlled by RV council not school division, to be set land aside for new high school or expansion of existing high school. Land is north-east of baseball diamonds, set aside for recreation for municipal purposes.

5. Co-Chair's Report

Skating:

Bussing and equipment needs to be discussed, in the past we help out with this.

PJ Drive:

Very successful last year, plan to do this again.

Meeting with Admin last week:

Conferences - feedback: too short, reassure teachers always available.

Christmas Spirit Week:

Carolling with Mrs. Baretelli, last year daily themes, class specific activities. Concert wanted by parents, hasn't happened in years. Tea - retirement home, bus drivers.

Upcoming Events and Initiatives:

Budding Artists, Book Fair, Bylaws - solidify by end of year, Cheese fundraiser - Kare looked into this, issue arose which is pickup the 19th after 4pm (right before break) which isn't ideal - also, Springbank Cheese not related to Springbank, suggest something connected to the community like Spolombos, who has been very supportive, in the new year? Need fundraiser for French, cheese fundraiser only source of revenue

to provide programming - need more help, can FI teachers ask parents? Possible flowers for Mother's Day, tie-in with FI week. Suggestion: "Growing Smiles".

6. Treasurer Report

Revenue: Healthy Hunger in Oct: \$1,900; Mabel's Labels: \$170; Apple Fundraiser: \$486

Expenses: Sports Equipment \$2,000; MD Motivator Invoice \$1,575 - same amount as SMS, \$500 grant last year wasn't received, can't apply this years to an event already taken place but have it to use for something else.

Net Balance: \$8,000.00

Outstanding Expenses: Bussing for skating was around \$600 last year; Friendly Helpers hats was around \$1,100 last year.

Discussion:

- Should consider ordering hats in bulk to decrease cost/item, as we know this is done every year
- SMS money for BBQ needs to be followed-up on

7. Yearbook Coordinator Report (Robin)

Is there a direction/theme from the school? Classroom theme/motto needed. Picture of bus drivers at bus driver tea. Need pics from class, from volunteers via reps, teachers - Simon will help facilitate creation of folder they can be uploaded to. Cover - mascot photo from BBQ. Art competition TBD (usually done over Feb break). Chelsey: Thank you Robin for all your work on picture day, helped along with Sharelle on retake day, was a lot of work, thanks for your efforts.

8. Volunteer Coordinator Report (Katarina)

Learning Commons Facilitator help - signup genius out tonight, M/W/F morning's at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00; T/T afternoon's 1:00, 2:00 (Wednesday - need to come in another day to train, facilitator not in that day).

PJ Drive - collecting new kids/adults pj's Dec 2-17, last year had an ornament for students to put on the tree at the front of the school after dropping off a donation. Women In Need and Children's Cottage Society are the 2 places we are considering donating to.

9. Fun Lunch Coordinator Report (Kim)

Confirmed Revenue for October				
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--

	Date	Vendor	# Orders	Sales	Food Cost from Restaurant	Net Profit	% Profit
	01-Oct-24	Subway	215	1,558.75	1,282.76	275.99	18%
	04-Oct-24	Edo	207	1,986.50	1,643.70	321.30	16%
	15-Oct-24	McDonalds	301	2,192.00	1,731.13	460.87	21%
	18-Oct-24	Boston Pizza	314	2,713.25	2,229.30	483.95	18%
	25-Oct-24	Little Ceasars	312	2,138.50	1,645.00	487.50	23%
		October 2024 Summary	1349			2,029.61	

Note: Two missed lunches in October (one Edo, one Little Ceasars)

Projected Revenue for November							
	Date	Vendor	# Orders	Sales	Food Cost from Restaurant	Net Profit	% Profit
	05-Nov-24	Subway	264	1,558.75	1,282.76	275.99	18%
	08-Nov-24	Edo	220	2,180.50	1,807.10	358.40	16%
	15-Nov-24	Boston Pizza	350	3,060.60	2,519.60	541.00	18%
	22-Nov-24	McDonalds	272	2,009.00	1,589.75	419.25	21%
	29-Nov-24	Little Ceasars	261	1,774.50	1,365.00	409.50	23%
		November Summary	1367			2,004.14	

Discussion: Approximately \$2,000 revenue, \$400/lunch. 1350 ordered, only 2 errors (refunded, extras given by vendor in case this happens). November projections: 1360 orders, revenue \$2,000. Add-on's: fruit slices 86 orders, chips/cookies 125 each.

Feedback: McDonald's a lot of work for teachers as per Simon, may need to bring in volunteers to assist handing out in classrooms.

10. Canadian Parents for French Representative (TBD)

11. Community Outreach Coordinator (TBD)

12. FÉEVES Report (Bertha)

Virtual AGM on Nov 20 will include discussion on finances, charity money allocation, future fundraising efforts and planning. Every 2 years, major fundraising/volunteer event at Elbow Valley Casino. Will be held on Dec 18 and 19, time allotted by AGLC. Typically raise \$60-80,000. 8 hour shifts, can split this year. Email will be sent out to explain FÉEVES, what money is used for, casino sign-up genius to follow.

13. Open Floor

Santa Pictures - SPFAS looking into this, possibly Dec 6/7, bring toy or food bank item, need to find photographer and Santa to volunteer time and facilitate this.

Rhonda has confirmed SMS will be sending money for the BBQ, spreadsheet has been updated.

Lifetouch - are they contracted out by school's individually (yes), is it possible to look at another photographer? Would impact yearbook if we did, provider for that is the same.

Remembrance Day Assembly - communication issues re: parents attending. Zoom wasn't possible as 80 students in the school parents have not signed off on pictures/videos. Don't want to separate school into 2 communities so decision made to hold 1 assembly without parents being able to attend.

14. Future SC Meetings

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

15. Adjournment

Chelsey adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.