



School Council

**Minutes of the ÉEVE School Council Meeting
May 13, 2025
1:00pm In-person and Zoom**

SC Executive:

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

School Administration Members:

Simon Pols, Principal - present
Jodi Cleese, Assistant Principal - present

Attendees:

Kim B, Kare W, Julia H, Katarina T, Bertha T, Mrs. Baratelli

1. Call to Order

Chelsey called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

2. Welcome

Welcome everyone, and Mrs. Baretelli, here to talk about MusicFest: tremendous success, record 2100 attended, first time opening second balcony. Student attendance was one of the highest ever: 94% for E-I-E-I-O, 86% for Circus Circus, handful missing from kindergarten. Thank you to FÉEVES for helping out with cost. Kids were proud, guests were happy and thought it was great.

Thank-you, it takes tremendous organization and effort to put on musical theatre, for each group. 13 years running, since Mrs. Baratelli first began, planning for next year has already begun.

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

244209 Range Road 33, Calgary Alberta
T3Z 2E8

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



Mr. Simon Pols
Principal

Ms. Jodie Clease
Assistant Principal

School Council Meeting Admin Report May 13th, 2025

Musicfest: (Please welcome Kristi Baratelli) Thank you for your incredible support of this year's Music Fest. Your encouragement, enthusiasm, and presence helped make this evening such a meaningful celebration of the arts. Whether cheering from the audience, helping your child prepare, or simply showing up with a smile, your involvement enriches our school community and reminds our students how valued their creativity is. We are truly grateful to be part of a community that champions music, performance, and the joy of learning together.

UFLI and Core Phonics Information (Appendix A)

1. **Short vowels in CVC words:** CVC stands for Consonant-Vowel-Consonant. This category involves words like "cat," "dog," and "pen," where the vowel sound is short.
2. **Consonant blends with short vowels:** This category includes words where two or more consonants are blended together, followed by a short vowel sound, such as "bl" in "black" or "st" in "stop."
3. **Short vowels, digraphs, and -tch trigraph:** **Digraphs** are pairs of letters that make a single sound, like "sh" in "ship" or "ch" in "chat." **Trigraphs** involve three letters making a single sound, such as "tch" in "match."
4. **R-controlled vowels:** These are vowels followed by an "r" that alters their sound, like "ar" in "car," "or" in "fork," and "er" in "her."
5. **Long vowel spellings:** This category includes words where the vowel sound is long, often represented by combinations like "ai" in "rain," "ea" in "seat," or silent "e" as in "cake."
6. **Variant vowels:** Variant vowels are vowel sounds that are spelled in different ways, such as "oo" in "book" and "ou" in "soup."
7. **Low frequency vowel and consonant spellings:** This category covers less common vowel and consonant combinations, such as "au" in "author" or "ph" in "phone."
8. **Multisyllabic words:** These are words with more than one syllable, like "basketball," "elephant," and "university."

Funding Requests:

- \$210.00 for Freezies (Sports Day, Friendly Helpers, Terry Fox Run/Walk)
- \$700.00 for new banners (Kelso's Choice, PBIS, Welcome)
- \$500.00 for Games for Recess Club
- \$200.00 for a new cart for Recess Club
- \$150.00 for Principal of the Day
- **Total:** \$1760.00

Classes / Staffing Update:

- **Homerooms:**
 - 13 English Homeroom Classes
 - 7 French Homeroom Classes
 - AM / PM Kinder English
 - AM / PM Kinder French
- **Staffing:**
 - New 0.6 FTE Music Teacher
 - Hiring for a Full Time Grade 2 teacher for Mme. Boucher (Full Year)
 - Hiring for a Full Time Grade 3 teacher for Mme. Mattice (Half Year)

Padel: Thank you to Karla Lima for volunteering her time to teach our grade 4 students Padel. Karla was at Elbow Valley this morning and will be returning to the school on Thursday morning. Next year we will explore the option of broadening this experience to other grades.

COPE (Collaborative Outreach Preventing Exploitation): Springbank Middle School, in partnership with SMS School Council, has invited the [Collaborative Outreach Preventing Exploitation](#) (COPE) Program to our community to provide valuable information about students learning to navigate independence and the challenges the face.

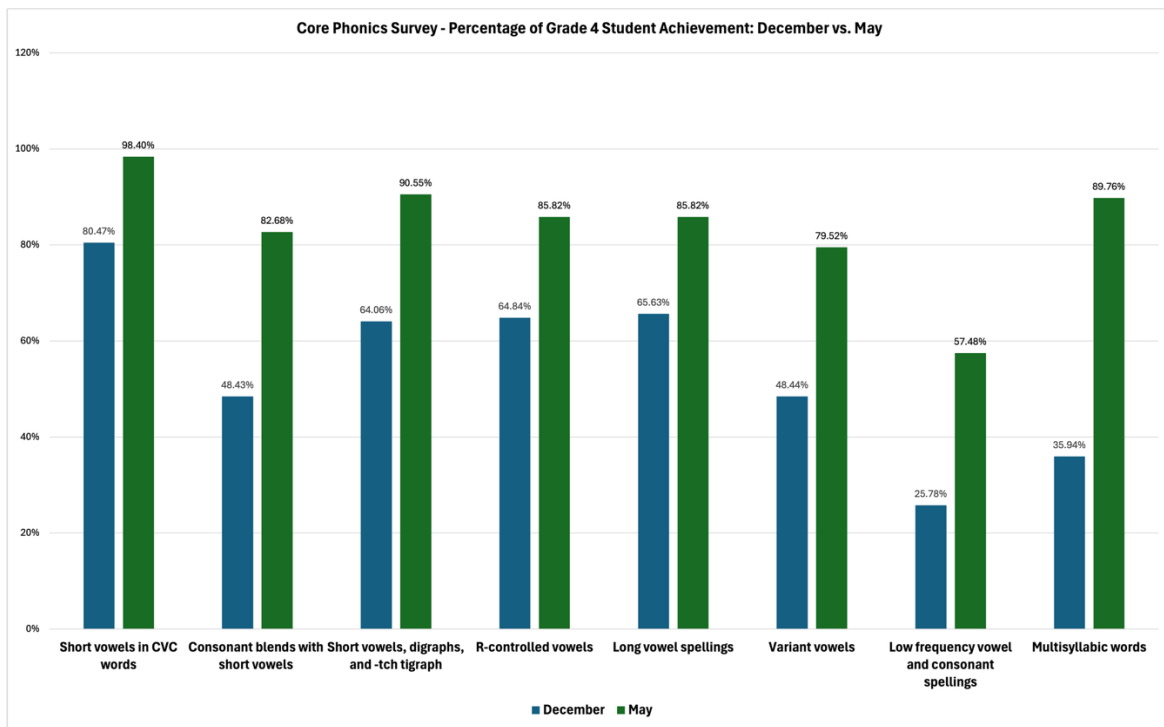
[COPE](#) is a voluntary support program for youth ages 12–24 who may be at risk of, or impacted by, child exploitation—whether in the community or online. Their goal is to work with young people and families on preventative strategies and warning signs about personal safety, healthy relationships, and provide and connect with helpful resources. While this initiative focuses on student safety, it addresses the difficult and often harsh realities associated with child exploitation. As such, this session will be focused on content meant for adults and young adult not suitable for younger students.

COPE will be in our community to provides valuable education and awareness session for our families on topics like healthy relationships, personal safety, and preventing exploitation. Earlier this year, the staff at Springbank Middle School participated in professional learning with the COPE program and recognized the meaningful impact of its message. As a result, we felt it was important to extend this opportunity to our broader community to support awareness, education, and family engagement around this important issue.

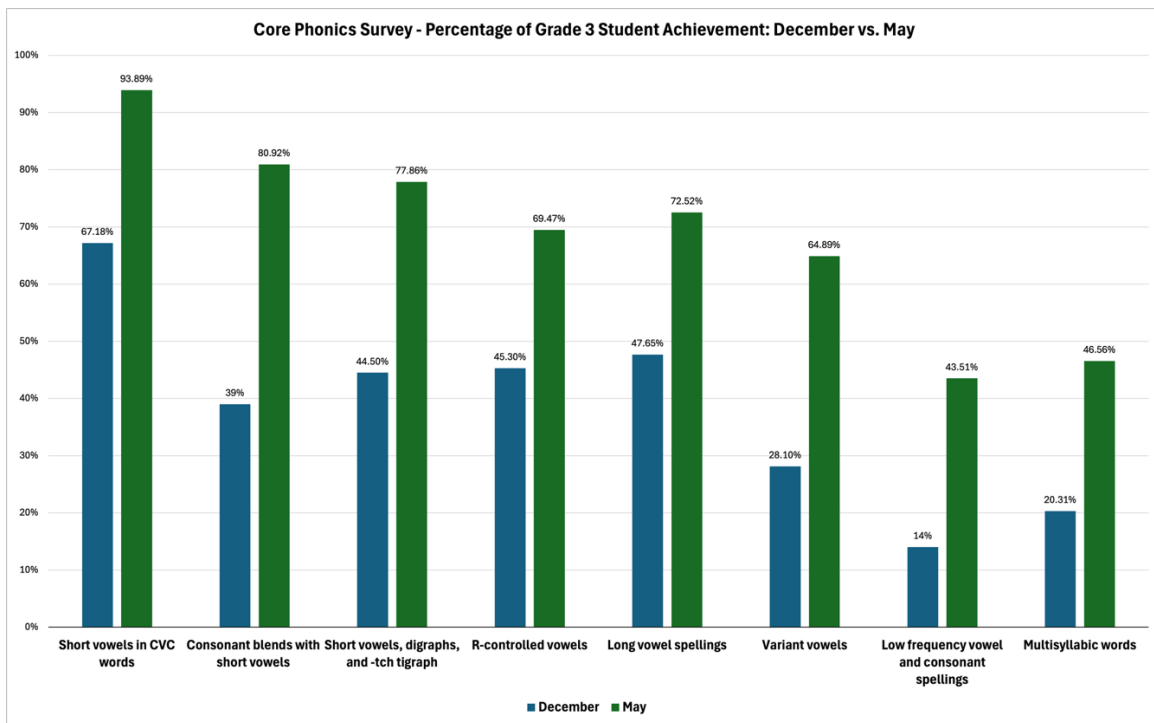
What: [COPE \(Collaborative Outreach Preventing Exploitation Program\)](#)
When: May 27th @ 6:00pm
Where: Springbank High School
Who: Parents

Appendix A:

Overall Grade 4 results



Overall Grade 3 Results



Discussion:

UFLI and Core Phonics

- Jodi working on collecting data
- January: groups formed based on Core Phonics survey, if scored low in one category, placed there (not necessarily low in all categories)
- Groups progressed over 4 months, survey done again to track progression
- Skills progression: initial phonemes (sounds), short vowel CVC words to multisyllabic words – foundation for grade 4 and up (descriptive language for reading/writing)
- Dec (blue bar)/May (green bar): improvement in all categories, for all grade 3/4

- Grade 3: on the cusp of developing strong literacy skills which will help with longer writing pieces in Grade 4 onwards
- Grade 3 FI: first year of English instruction
- Grade 3/4 FI concerns re: English, seeing these results, looks very promising
- Grade 3 overall intense growth
- Grade 4 English: started at higher benchmark, only students who had UFLI last year
- Plan: before end of school year, run core phonics survey for all grade 2's to identify who needs intervention in grade 3 next year. K/1/2 will use UFLI as whole class next year with small group intervention as needed
- Question about how many students present for assessments: All students present for assessment's except in one instance 1 Grade 4 student away, new students who joined mid-year left out of this data along with 1 Grade 4 student who moved away
- Question about grouping: students scoring 13/15 needed some intervention, 12 or lower need more intensive intervention. Graph only showing students achieving 14+ (lots on the cusp, but aren't included in this data)
- Question about how many other schools using UFLI: recommended tool RV has implemented, handful of schools it's required, some receiving additional intervention (using this as a tool)

Funding Requests

- Idea brought forward for game drive instead of winter coat drive next year at BBQ or open house. BBQ Committee needs to set date, Simon to discuss with Mrs Z what specific games are needed, would need to ensure games aren't missing any parts and that we help sort through everything

Chelsey motioned to approve all funding requests except games until further discussion with Mrs Z, BBQ Committee and new council; seconded by Jennifer; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

Staffing/Classroom Updates

- Homerooms: 13 English (up 1 from this year, will bring numbers down slightly), 7 French (same)
- K: AM/PM English and French (3 AM English this year, 2 next year)
- New P/T music teacher (Kindergarten)
- Mrs. McClellan off until Christmas (not on report)
- Question about split-class/configurations: will probably have more than 1 split class, numbers change even over summer so may be able to give some details next month
- SCA newsletter: Bragg Creek Association sponsored 1 hour screening of Screenagers, discusses vaping, gaming, social media

5. School Trustee Report

May 2025, Newsletter

Trustee Hunter, Ward 5

EDUCATION FUNDING

An educated society is one of the cornerstones of a democratic society. There is a cost. For the 2025.2026 school year, almost 11 billion dollars in education funding and another 47 billion over 3 years for school builds and improvements through the School Accelerator Program.

The provincial government implemented a 4.5 percent hike in the Education Property Tax (EPT), which was frozen in the 2024-25 budget year. Municipalities collect the EPT for the provincial government. The EPT is levied alongside municipal property taxes, based on the value of the property. "Even with all those dollars collected province-wide and including this 4.5% increase, the Education Property taxes will only cover 31.6 percent of the K to 12 education budget," Superintendent Luterbach stated in an

interview with Rocky View Weekly. General revenues of taxes collected across the province will pay the remaining shortfall. The educational system's success is important to all taxpayers as our students are our next generation of innovators, leaders and citizens.

Just as our society evolves and changes, so does our educational system. Our schools are responding to many changes. Since COVID, there has been a significant increase in the number of students dealing with emotional issues. As a normal part of the curriculum, students are learning strategies to deal with anxiety and social pressures. The Alberta curriculum has been revised to include financial literacy as a component from K-12. The curriculum also now includes a career development component from K-12. The focus is to provide students an opportunity to explore different careers as they progress through the grades, with high school students can explore the trades, participate in post-secondary opportunities and take on job training.

School systems deal with the many medical needs of students; this includes facility adaptations, specialized equipment, tools and staff.

Literacy and numeracy are more important than ever in our digital world; thus the focus is on ensuring students receive early intervention.

CONSTRUCTION FUNDING

Rocky View Schools has been the recipient of new school announcements from the School Accelerator Program through its advocacy initiatives and support from parents and communities. There are a total of 8 projects approved for Rocky View to address our need for classroom space for students.

Approved Projects and Location	Capacity	Funded Type	Opening**
. K – 9 School Airdrie South Windsong	905	Construction	Fall 2027
. K – 9 School Airdrie Bayview	905	Construction	Fall 2028
. K – 8 School Cochrane Rivercrest	905	Construction	Fall 2028
. K – 9 School Chestermere Dawson's	905	Construction	TBD**
. 10 – 12 School Airdrie Southwinds	1,810	Construction	TBD **
. K – 9 School Airdrie Lanark	950	Planning	TBD **
. 10 – 12 School Chestermere Chelsea	950	Planning	TBD **
. Cochrane Bow Valley Expansion	1450	In Progress	Fall 2026

Timelines will be updated when confirmed by the provincial government. **

CARBON TAX

ASBA (Alberta School Board Association) has been advocating both provincially and nationally on the position statement related to carbon tax: *That school boards be fully rebated the cost of the carbon tax or levy* (SGM 2016). Following his swearing-in as Prime Minister, Mike Carney removed the consumer carbon tax effective April 1 through an Order in Council (OIC). Further details will be available in the federal [OIC database](#) soon. School Boards are advocating for this tax to be removed from school boards.

EDWIN PARR NOMINEE

Cochrane High School teacher Connor Benson is this year's Rocky View Schools (RVS) Edwin Parr Award Nominee. The Edwin Parr Award annually recognizes excellent first-year teachers across Alberta. Every year, teachers from ASBA member school boards across the province are nominated to receive the award. RVS is part of ASBA Zone 5. The Zone 5 celebration takes place on May 30, 2025.

Discussion:

- 3 SHS students achieved 100% on their Bio 30
- Hope incumbent will push for SMS expansion (on 3 year plan but at the end)

Standards of Education:

- Demands for dealing with neurodivergence and medical issues is difficult, unions have brought up during negotiations, offer rejected
- If child coded, money does not go to that child, a percentage of pot of money does
- Division looks at how to best serve needs of those kids

- Gifted/talented, medically fragile (tube feeds, injections, diapering) kids used to be in hospital and teachers went there. In 1975, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) changed everything, moved kids into the classroom
- Kids kept alive earlier with multiple problems, rise in Autism and medically fragile
- First placement is regular classroom, sometimes pull-outs or nurse brought in
- 3 PBIS specialists, Stepping Stones mental health coaching from community, supervisor, 5 psychologists, SLP, OT, PT, family liaisons, learning supports, deaf and blind aids
- Special Education Act amended June 20, 2004
- ASBA resolution 8 years ago, requested best practice and how to fund that (hasn't come because of cost)
- Teachers finding it hard, something has to happen
- Parents challenging what's happening in schools, lawsuits
- Adaptive equipment, modified bathrooms
- Allocation of space (extra for special needs)
- Awareness, advocacy for change in this area needed
 - o EA learn medical?
 - o LPN learn learning support?
 - o What's easier/best, hiring LPN vs EA (one school did)
- 27,000 students in RV (1% severe behaviour, 5% just below)
- 65 Learning Support (LS) centrally, 1.36 LS teachers plus assistants (IES funding isn't enough to cover needs)
- How can we re-structure schools, addiction counselors in high schools now, society changing in so many ways
- Want to be inclusive, everyone getting the best they can, current structure not working
- Psychologist's work with staff, don't assess
- Some most severe might go to specialized setting for 6 weeks after months of attempting intervention, but ultimately up to school to manage
- Supports brought in: shadow teacher, provide insight/coaching, IPP, meet with parents
- Teachers supported by admin
- Parents: advocate to MLA's
- Schools put on a good face, but very complex and not getting easier

6. Co-Chair's Report

Met with admin last week:

Family Dance:

- Was a success, no major issues
- Next year would like to consider other options for timing, not piggybacking onto Spring Break

MusicFest:

- Biggest turnout

Year End Activities:

- Sports Day (in past: water gun fight, Grade 4 tug-of-war)

Bylaws Update:

- SGM to ratify, requires 3 days notice to parents
- Will send final draft out to parents along with notice of SGM
- TBD (before AGM)

AGM Next Month:

- June 10
- Co-Chair open, incumbents will put their nominations forward if they wish to continue
- Need 30 days to notify parents (technically have as all meetings for the year are on the minutes each month, but will send specific email out)

Parking:

- Not adhering to signs/parking lines has been noticed (those in attendance agree)
- Can anything be done by the school to enforce, as poses a safety risk and impedes traffic flow in all directions/areas

7. Treasurer Report

Revenue in April:

Healthy Hunger \$2,100

Dance \$2,300 (door and concession)

Expenses: Dance \$1,700 (profit \$600)

Net Balance: \$10,400

8. Yearbook Coordinator Report (Robin)

319 copies sold to date

9. Volunteer Coordinator Report (Katarina)

Family Dance:

- Went well, no major issues
- Parent feedback was that it was tamer, less crowded
- Next year maybe we can increase numbers (were 600 people actually there?)

Newsletter:

- AGM info

Apple Fundraiser:

- Would CPF like to take this on next year, since SC isn't supposed to be fundraising?
- Minimal effort required, SPFAS organizes with Davidson Orchards. We just sent an email out with order form and received a percentage of profit
- Profit: \$485 last year (September)

- Julia (CPF): yes, thank you, happy to take this on to benefit FI kids

Planning for Next Year:

- Can we set dates for everything next year at AGM?
- Simon: calendar will be set next week, can take a look at things
- Jennifer: have set dates previously at AGM, can always be adjusted, at minimum should set date for Welcome Back BBQ as first event of the year

10. Fun Lunch Coordinator Report (Kim)

Update from Healthy Hunger for the minutes.

YTD Sept-May	2024-25	2023-24
# Orders	11,054	8,724
Sales	87,164	63,606
Net Profit	16,250	14,904
% Profit	19%	23%

Confirmed Revenue for April

Date	Vendor	# Orders	Sales	Food Cost from Restaurant	Net Profit	% Profit
01-Apr-25	Subway	248	1,825.65	1,509.00	316.65	17%
04-Apr-25	Boston Pizza	299	2,717.40	2,236.50	480.90	18%
11-Apr-25	Edo	232	2,316.60	1,926.65	374.95	16%
17-Apr-25	Little Ceasars	295	2,047.50	1,575.00	472.50	23%
28-Apr-25	Mucho Burrito	173	1,233.00	1,016.50	216.50	18%
April 2025 Summary		1247	10,140.15		1,861.50	

Projected Revenue for May

Date	Vendor	# Orders	Sales	Food Cost from Restaurant	Net Profit	% Profit
02-May-25	Little Ceasars	277	1,943.50	1,495.00	448.50	23%
06-May-25	Subway	270	1,970.55	1,627.35	343.20	17%
09-May-25	Edo	218	2,245.80	1,870.20	360.60	16%
15-May-25	McDonalds	300	2,319.75	1,835.48	484.27	21%
20-May-25	Subway	241	1,788.45	1,476.82	311.63	17%
23-May-25	Boston Pizza	276	2,522.50	2,078.85	443.65	18%
30-May-25	Little Ceasars	243	1,690.00	1,300.00	390.00	23%
May 2025 Summary		1548	12,537.05		2,333.35	

Suggestions for next year:

- Add A&W (no fries)
- Add Pizza 73
- French Culture Week Treats: Jelly Modern Donuts (Maple Bacon) and/or A&W Poutine

- Special cookie days from Out of Chaos Comes Cookies for consideration:
 - St. Patricks Day Shamrocks - May 17, 2026
 - Star Wars - Tues May 4, 2026
 - Literacy week? (book decoration)

Discussion:

- \$90K sales
- \$19K profit
- 12-13K orders
- 47 days (up from 42)
- 19% profit (down from 23%)
- New vendor: A&W (a lot of requests)
- Try half McDonald's/A&W (compare end of next year)
- Vendor packing of meals for distribution in classroom an issue with McDonald's
- Fries requested, problem is they get cold and are hard to distribute
- Pizza 73 suggested as an option for next year
- Mucho Burrito: will keep for variety of options throughout the year
- Special Days: would like to have in schedule for beginning of year for those who order the entire year in advance
 - French Culture Week: Maple Donut from Modern Jelly Donut
 - Jennifer: SMS has special days that go to Grade 8 Grad, only those parents are allowed to sign-up to help. Could we have CPF do some special days like Poutine from A&W during French Culture Week, where FI parents sign-up to help distribute and the profits go to CPF?
 - May the 4th: Star Wars cookies
 - March 17th: Shamrock cookies
 - Open to other ideas, can be planned throughout the year

11. Canadian Parents for French Report (Julia)

Been busy gathering info, sorting things out. Stephanie leaving, Judi staying on. Need a Director of Communications and Treasurer.

Official role is Vice-President of the Springbank Chapter, willing to also act as our School Rep.

Plan is for every school to have 3 signing members: a school rep, trip coordinator, communications.

Not-for-profit: need 10 signing non-paid members to maintain status, which we need to be able to run casinos and apply for grants to generate funds.

Grade 8 events happening, parent night, working with Mme Boras to attend and present at Kindergarten orientation.

Would like to identify needs of teachers, are there supports in school needed (ie. Interpreter for zoo)?

Sports: would like to connect with francophone schools in Calgary (volleyball).

Trips: reports from kids

12. FÉEVES Report (Bertha)

Working on database. Ideas: outdoor classroom/spaces/playground, desk for Sonja in the Learning Commons. Next meeting May 21.

13. Open Floor

- Judi: Congratulations to Brendan Trinca, one of our former Principal's, who has accepted a director position with the division
- Katarina: Is there going to be a Grade 4 field trip? Unknown, Simon will look into this.
- Julia: is it possible to have a FI teacher meeting, perhaps at lunch? May be hard to do that, at that time, Simon will connect with FI teachers to identify needs/suggestions and report back.

14. Future SC Meetings

AGM June 10, 2025 at 1:00pm

15. Adjournment

Chelsey adjourned the meeting at 2:47pm.