

Board Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

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Board of Trustees

Murray Hollman - Chair Dorraine Lonsdale - Vice Chair Sharla Heistad Monique LaGrange Cynthia Leyson Kim Pasula Anne Marie Watson

Administrative Procedure 458 - Duty to Report:

The Secretary Treasurer presented the Administrative Procedure 458 - Duty to Report to the Board of Trustees, and highlighted that this procedure was communicated to all staff within the Division. For more information regarding Administrative Procedure 458 - Duty to Report, please click <u>here</u>.

Superintendent Report:

The Superintendent presented the report to the Board of Trustees, emphasizing the first Faith Formation evening for new probationary contract teachers. This gathering, which included administrators and Faith Coaches, senior administration, and trustees, gathered together for Mass held at St. Mary's Parish on September 19th. The invitation for this Mass was extended to all Division staff via the Superintendent's Weekly Update and school emails.

The Associate Superintendent of Curriculum shared that RDCRS is taking a measured, teacher-centered approach to curriculum implementation, emphasizing collective leadership and, acknowledging that implementation is a gradual process similar to learning accommodating various paces and approaches. School administration teams held spring meetings to plan and establish support systems, while the Division has launched a website for curriculum resources and encouraged schools to prioritize professional learning for this implementation.

This September, students across our Division are also learning from the finalized curriculum in:

- Kindergarten Grade 3 French Immersion, Language Arts and Literature
- Kindergarten Grade 3 Science
- Grades 4 6 English Language Arts and Literature
- Grades 4 6 Mathematics

The Division has also received \$227,745.00 for resource allocation and \$223,600.00 for professional learning and collaboration for the new curriculum implementation from Alberta Education.

In addition, the Superintendent and the Associate Superintendent of Curriculum met with Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) President and Vice President, Academic & Student Experience at the Confluence Campus in Rocky Mountain House. The meeting aimed to introduce the new RDP leadership to the facility, assess community needs, and discuss future partnerships, particularly focusing on dual-credit programs and workintegrated learning opportunities for students within the school division. For more information regarding the Superintendent Report, please click <u>here</u>.

Joint Meeting with The City of Red Deer:

The Superintendent informed the Board about upcoming stakeholder engagement meetings and acknowledged the Board's request for more time for discussions with City of Red Deer Councillors. The Superintendent welcomed suggestions from the Board, and a variety of potential topics were discussed including future land availability for Catholic schools, improved accessibility to recreational facilities, youth and training programs, more frequent review of City transit contracts, safety concerns at the Collicutt Centre, and the potential for recreation facilities to support structured programming. The Board of Trustees is also interested in a GH Dawe Community Centre presentation and how the facility could be utilized by Division schools.

Secretary Treasurer Report:

The Secretary Treasurer provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School Capital Project, highlighting the Division's ongoing efforts to finalize both the school construction and its financial aspects. Additionally, emphasis was placed on the Division's anticipation and enthusiasm for the upcoming grand opening event of St. Lorenzo Ruiz. For more information about the Secretary Treasurer Report, please click <u>here</u>.

School Bus Advanced Funding:

The Secretary Treasurer shared with the Board of Trustees that on September 8th, RDCRS received notification from Christine Sewell, Assistant Deputy Minister Financial Services and Capital Planning, regarding new funding for school boards managing their transportation fleets. Due to transportation guideline changes for 2023-2024, RDCRS will require 10-15 additional buses. The Division is currently in the process of determining the exact number of buses required before applying for the School Bus Advanced Funding Program. For more information, please click <u>here</u>.

The next Board Meeting will take place on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

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Murray Hollman, Board Chair www.rdcrs.ca

