

EAST LAKE SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Date: Wednesday, November 20th, 2024

Scheduled Start Time: 6:30pm

Executive Members Present:

Janelle Savage (Chair)
Jenn Collins (Vice Chair)
Shannon Duque (French Immersion Rep.)

School Administration Present:

Susan Noble, Assistant Principal
Alexis Gross, Assistant Principal
Karen Hanks-Craine
Lori Lew
Rhonda Baptiste-Lacasse

RVS Trustee Present:

Shali Baziuk

In-person Attendance:

Attendees → Jenn Standish, Larissa Lees, Kate Haddad, Kyla Simms

Zoom Attendance: (<https://tinyurl.com/bdh7sk2d>)

Attendees → Claudia, Christine Young Adjei, Elise Walle, Namrata Mangu

- **Welcome and Call to Order**
@ 7:14pm

- **Approval of Agenda**
Approved by: Jenn Collins

- **Approval of October 16th Meeting Minutes:**
Approved by: Jenn C and Kyla S

- **RVS Trustee Report** – Shali Baziuk

CHESTERMERE STUDENT ACCOMODATION CONSULTATION

There were approximately 204 responses to the survey and 67 in person attendees, and one delegation shared with the board on Dec 12th. The delegation topic request was to move FI grades 7- 9 to East Lake school.

The intent is for the board to decide on January 23rd, to take effect for next September, the 2025-26 school year.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

The province has indicated that school boards may require criminal record checks as part of nomination papers if they so choose. To do this, the board needs to pass a bylaw enabling the requirement.

Update – the bylaw has passed first reading. Two more readings must pass before Dec 31st for this requirement to be put in place.

Two bylaws regarding elections have passed third reading – one requiring 20 signatures for nomination papers (up from 10), and one requiring a \$100 deposit to accompany nomination papers.

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2023/24 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS APPROVED

Each year, school divisions are required to submit their audited financial statements to the Minister of Education by Nov. 30. Again, this year, the auditors gave RVS a clean report for the 2023/24 audited financial statements. Congratulations to all staff involved in preparing the report and supporting the audit process.

Final revenues were \$314.7 million, and expenses were \$314.2 million, resulting in a small surplus of approximately \$500,000.

RVS ended the year with \$7.7 million in total operating reserves (2.4 per cent of operating budget), well within the government's mandated range of 1 to 3.2 per cent for 2023/24. Most of those reserve dollars are within the Transportation function and cannot be used for other purposes in RVS. The audited financial statements are posted on RVS' website.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR EDUCATION

Bill 27 – Education Amendment Act

The bill would require teachers, principals, and school staff to get parental consent before agreeing to a student's request to change his or her preferred name or pronouns. Parents of students aged 15 and under must give consent before allowing the use of the new preferred name or pronouns. For students aged 16 and up, the school board will not need to get parental permission but will still have to notify parents.

Sexual health education will be an Opt In rather than Opt Out process – in other words, permission slips must be received by the school for students to participate in this class.

Bill 29 – Fairness and Safety in Sport Act

This bill would require that only biological females be allowed to participate in sports divisions where females make up the team.

- **Chair Report – Janelle Savage**

- Reminder that Public Consultation online survey closes November 26 and decision will be made by January 23, 2025 (move meeting from Jan 15th to 30th?)

- <https://rvsengage.com/chestermere-student-accommodation>

- Quick update from Janelle Sandboe (City Council), and she has been advocating for speed bumps as per last meeting, budgeting process is happening now, not guaranteed but she is working hard for us! As for the K-9 site, it sounds like the soil has been moved and she wasn't super clear about the A/R to the HS site? Schools are standing item on agenda and council gets updates every 2 weeks

- Went to Joint Council Meeting in Airdrie – We learned about new career centric programming within curriculum and teaching – Prairie Waters and Rainbow Creek Elementary schools are interested in combining council funds to facilitate an event that supports this program – it was thought that it would be nice to bring all the elementary schools together with the potential changes upcoming? – Each elementary school gets \$760 = \$500 from Annual ASCE Grant + \$260 from school

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budget. What would parents like to see? What do you think your kids would like? And if we could work something out, when do we want to plan this?

- Request to have Canadian Parents for French AB come speak to the Council and parents about how to advocate for French language programming – reached out and haven't heard back yet
- want to give a HUGE shout out to the school's team for translating the News from the Nest regarding Public Consultation, could we add French and keep this going for all NFTN?

- **School Administrative Report** – Susan Noble
 - Fall budget is balanced and submitted
 - Learning cycles with learning specialists – building thinking classrooms, using data analysis to discuss – observations, different approaches, trends across the grades
 - Education plan is on the website, just submitted fall plan, AERR also available on website and included in the plan, staff will be having festive holiday lunch
 - Festive Chapel Dec 13 – in the gym, available to anyone
 - Hosting more volunteer orientation and will meet one on one, 250 volunteers to date
- **Student Council** – Susan Noble
 - Grade 5/6 leading activities in class
 - Upcoming events, fun facts, public speaking, Be Bright day
 - Scavenger Hunt – numeracy activates, candy canes – holiday themed
- **New Business**
 - Concerns about double parking in the bus lane during kindergarten pick up and drop off, buses are struggling with access and safety concerns? It is understood that the bus loop isn't to be used for parent parking, has anyone else noticed issues?
 - ✓ Emailed parents already, can't police during teaching hours
 - Is there interest in a tour of the school to see what amenities are available? Can we plan for January's meeting? Meet 15 minutes early to walk around the school to see the different classrooms and spaces (ex: wood shop, kitchen, music/drama, etc.)?
- **Next School Council Meeting**
 - No December meeting
 - Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 15th and there is no meeting planned/scheduled in February. Do we want to postpone the January meeting to the 29th so we can talk about RVS decision?
 - ✓ No, media release is immediate! Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday Jan 15, 2024, starting at 430, meeting will start with a school tour to see classrooms and amenities, then will proceed to Friends Society meeting to discuss projector quote/laptop/technology process

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- Calendar is posted on our Facebook group

Adjourn @ 8:26pm

- Next meeting is January 15th @ 430pm, will start with school tour and proceed immediately to Friends Society meeting to discuss projector/laptop and technology process