



NEWS FROM THE NEST

September 5 - 9, 2022

EAGLES S.O.A.R

(Safe Organized Accountable Respectful)

The sun is shining and the harvest dust is flying behind the combines so it must be time for the school year to get fully underway!

Everyone has had the opportunity to attend one of our two staggered start days and they always prove to help our students with the transition back to school. Students were able to meet their teachers and classmates and function in the school while it is at half capacity which helps to alleviate many of the anxious moments that typically arise at the start of the year. We will be excited to have our entire school population together on Tuesday and look forward to another exciting year. Our staff and students will benefit from the opportunity to have people both from inside and outside our school community join them in person to share their expertise along with having many more external learning opportunities open up again to take advantage of.

There has been much chatter in the community about class sizes and school capacities and like many times where people speculate, they may or may not be sharing accurate information. Our school is closing in on 800 students which may seem like a large number, and it is, but our enrollment was just over 900 during our last year as a K-9 school when we hit our capacity. Some are suggesting that class sizes going up is due to the addition of the Christian Program to our school, and this would be inaccurate just the same as our French Immersion Program or Preschool Intervention Program do not create increased class sizes in other programs. What does cause increased class sizes is new students enrolling from newly developed neighbourhoods, and the development of new homes outpacing the building of new schools in our community. Predicting how many students will be moving into a school's boundary is challenging and we continue to work with all levels of government to ensure that schools can meet the needs of students the best that we possibly can. I can honestly say that being a community that is continually responding and supporting growth in population is a much better challenge than I had working in a jurisdiction with declining enrollment.

Together as a school community we will need to be flexible as we do all that we can to adapt and support our students' learning needs. I thank you in advance for your patience as we once again look to respond to the growth of our community over the coming weeks.

Sincerely,
Jordan Fenton

This Week:

Sept 5

Labour Day Holiday

Sept 6

First day for all students together

Upcoming:

Sept 21

Parent Council Meeting

Sept 23

Terry Fox Fundraiser

Sept 30

Truth & Reconciliation Day – No School

Website: <http://eastlake.rockyview.ab.ca>

Phone: 403-248-1091

Visitors & Volunteers

We are excited that this year we may be able to welcome visitors and volunteers into our building. We will be welcoming volunteers into our building later on in the fall once we have our first volunteer orientation session in place and look forward to once again being able to welcome our community members into our school. Please call into the office to let us know that you are interested in attending an orientation session and volunteering during the upcoming year.

Parent Council & Friends Society Meeting **September 21 6 pm**

One of the easiest and best ways of being involved in your child's educational journey through our school is by becoming involved in Parent Council and our Friends Fundraising Society. They hold monthly meetings that include reports from our local School Board Trustee, School Admin and Student Council. The meetings were blended being both in-person and online and we may look to continue this practice.

Terry Fox Walk/Run Fundraiser **September 23**

We will be hosting our annual Terry Fox Run later on in September as our annual fundraiser for cancer research. Our goal will be to raise \$1600 which is approximately \$2 for every student and staff member in our school, using the slogan, "Twoonies for Terry".

Truth and Reconciliation Day **September 30**

This school year will mark the second annual observance of Truth and Reconciliation Day. Our school will engage in activities leading up to it and RVS will be observing the day by not having school on the 30th.