



JUNE 3, 2021 ■ VOLUME 2 ■ ISSUE 17

## Staff Excellence Recognized by the Board

- Each year, the Rocky View Schools (RVS) Board of Trustees (the Board) recognizes staff members who demonstrate lifelong learning by obtaining post-secondary degrees or professional certificates or being nominated for the Alberta School Board Association's Edwin Parr Award.
- This year, the Board recognized 27 staff members who completed a degree or certification, and five first-year teachers who were nominated for the Edwin Parr Award.

## Government Approves Modulars for RVS

- The Board received an update on its modular unit request to Alberta Education, which was submitted Oct. 22, 2020, and revised April 1, 2021.
- On May 21, the government approved funding for 16 new modular units and for the relocation of nine units. The units will provide additional space at Bow Valley High School and Manachaban Middle School in Cochrane and W.H. Croxford High School and Bert Church High School in Airdrie.
- While waiting for government approval, RVS worked proactively to secure the required development and building permits for these units where possible. The new units will likely not arrive until the fall and will not be ready for students until late fall or early winter. Relocation of the existing RVS units will be scheduled as soon as permits and timing allow and should be ready in the early fall.
- While appreciative of the modulars, RVS will continue to advocate for new schools and permanent additions to address the growing student numbers in our communities.

## New Board Policy Establishes Framework for Strategic Planning

- The Board approved Board Policy 9 – Strategic Plan. This new policy provides the framework for the creation of a divisional strategic plan.
- High-level strategic planning is an integral component of the Board's leadership and governance function. This new policy will set the stage for RVS to successfully advance its vision – “Rocky View Schools is a world-class learning organization where all students achieve their absolute best” – and purpose to, “connect with all students to ensure that everyone learns, belongs and succeeds.”

- Policy 9 articulates the importance and reason for a divisional strategic plan; allows for flexibility by providing guidance without being overly prescriptive; and provides direction to both the Board and the superintendent of their collaborative roles in developing and championing the divisional strategic plan.
- Intent is for future education plans (4YP) and other operational plans (budgets, capital plans, etc.) to be closely aligned with a new overall divisional strategic plan.
- Development of the new RVS strategic plan is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2022.

## **Trustees Set 2022/23 School Calendar and 2021/22 Calendar Exceptions**

- In separate motions, the Board of Trustees approved the 2022/23 school calendar and exceptions to the 2021/22 school calendar.
- Under the approved calendar, the first day of school in 2022/23 will be before Labour Day on Aug. 29, 2022. Winter break will run from Dec. 22, 2022-Jan. 9, 2023. The final day of instruction is June 27, 2023. The calendar includes 195 operational days, 181 instructional days and eight professional learning days.
- Approved exceptions to the 2021/22 school calendar fall into one of two categories: Kindergarten gradual entry and up to three days for a start-of-year staggered entry for all schools. These are days where not all students are in attendance at school. Details will be provided by each school to their school community based on their local plan.

## **Agreements Approved for Future Langdon School**

- The Board also approved the Accountability Agreement and Tri-Party Agreement, as required by the province, for the public-private partnership (P3) paving the way for the future school in Langdon.
- The future Langdon junior-senior high school was one of five schools announced in a P3 bundle by the government of Alberta in September 2020. P3s are a funding model that divide building and maintenance costs of infrastructure projects between the government and private contractors.