

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mitford School Council

May 5, 2020 6:30pm

1. Call to order

Attendance: Peter F, Melinda B, Melissa E, Fiona G, Brent D, Brianna S, Rosie

Qu (Student), Tracy, Hazel, John, Jamie A, Lisa

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Approval of the Agenda

- Moved by: Tracy
- Seconded by: Melinda
- Carried

4. Minutes from Previous Meetings

a) Review

b) Approval

- Motion to Approve Minutes: Jamie
- Seconded by: Melissa
- Carried

5. Approval of New Policy and Procedures

- Moved by: Jamie
- Seconded by: Brent
- Carried

6. Mitford Administration Update (Mr. Fultz Report Attached)

Student Population: 214

Classes: Grade 6 (three classes), Grade 7 (two classes), Grade 8 (three classes)

Continuity of Learning Plan

Schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year with Learning Plans continuing to be shared with students each Monday morning before 9AM. Families are asked to reach out to teachers should you need any support. Teachers are happy to help in any way they can! Teachers will continue to connect with students through various platforms including Zoom and Google Meets.

Our primary focus in supporting student learning in this way is to minimize student stress while maximizing student learning. We remain committed to teaching and supporting students with their learning to continue engagement; we understand that everyone's ability to engage in this way is unique.

Other Key Links for Support:

- Student Tech Support Hotline - email: studentsupport@rockyview.ab.ca / phone: 403-945-4083
- Resources for students and families can be found at [***RVS Learning From Home***](#)

Boundary Decision:

Many thanks to RVS trustees and RVS staff who have worked so hard, through consultations with the public, to arrive at a balanced decision respectful of Rocky View families and the needs of school communities.

Beginning in September 2020 Heartland students for grade 6-8 have been designated to attend Mitford School, but with the option to remain at their current school for one more year. In 2021/22 Mitford will add grade 5 to its grade configuration. These changes will bring important growth and sustainability to our school community in a significant way.

Mitford School will be reaching out to families that do opt to attend in the coming year once they have made their decision. We look forward to welcoming many new families over the next few years as we grow again.

Projected Staffing and Enrolment

Our current projected enrolment for 2020/21 is 182 students with 2 classes of each grade. The addition of Heartland students and others would potentially result in additional classes being added. Final projections and staffing should be determined this week. Depending on final numbers blended classes are a possibility.

New Bell Schedule for 2020/21

<https://mitford.rockyview.ab.ca/our-school/bell-times>

Professional Learning:

Our teachers are continually seeking professional learning opportunities.

1. **Assessment and Real Time Reporting** – School closures led to the cancelling of the March 16th Professional Learning Day. The focus was to be on RTR or Real Time Reporting and to help teachers prepare for this new assessment reporting approach beginning in the Fall. We are currently in the process of rescheduling for later this Spring and with Follow up in August to ensure we are ready.

RTR involves meaningful assessments posted on a regular, ongoing basis on the Public Portal throughout the school year with one report card in June. Three Way Conferences would continue twice each school year. As always parents are encouraged to reach out to teachers at any time with any concerns they may have.

2. **Literacy and Numeracy** - Professional learning remains an important focus within Rocky View. Admin and Lead teachers are involved with ongoing Professional learning in these key areas online. The professional learning is continuing as staff collaborate to improve instructional approaches to better serve the needs of students.
3. **STEAM** – Mitford has been exploring a STEAM approach to education the last few years and four teachers were supported with the opportunity to attend a professional learning opportunity this year to take the lead on exploring its possible implementation at Mitford.

What is STEAM? (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics)

STEAM is an educational approach to learning that uses **Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics** as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking.

Guiding this approach with students can be accomplished by doing more cross-curricular learning in these areas. It means scheduling Math & Science as well as Language Arts & Social Studies together where possible. It is a scheduling option we are hoping to make work for September despite our smaller size for 2020/21.

Dare to Care:

Mitford has consistently rated very high in the Alberta Accountability Pillar for Safe and Caring. Despite those results we recognize we can do better to address the challenges of bully prevention and peer conflicts. Dare to Care is a bully prevention organization that has had great success working with students on bully prevention. Unfortunately, we had to postpone our planned workshops with students due to the COVID – 19 Health Emergency.

We do plan to reschedule when larger group gatherings are permitted again. For more information check their website at www.daretocare.ca.

New School Vision Art Contest

May 7th is the last chance for students to send in a submission! The winner will receive a new Chromebook! 😊

Mitford's Got Talent Moves Online!

Many students have been excitedly sharing submissions for Mitford's Got Talent online. It is a great opportunity for student to showcase their talents and keep our school connected.

Future Presentations:

Are there presentations that School Council feels would be valuable for future meetings?

END PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

7. Report from Board of Trustees – Fiona Gilbert (Report attached below)

A huge thank you to all parents, guardians, teachers, staff administrators and students for their hard work and adaptability as we have had to move into this at home learning model. Everyone is working hard and doing the best that they can. RVS has sent out a short survey on the Learning Continuity plan and parents are encouraged to provide feedback. Deadline is May 8th.

Announced by government on May 1st, we now know that schools will not re-open for in class learning for the remainder of this school year. Re-entry discussions are on-going with

government and RVS is waiting on provincial direction, both from Education and Public Health, prior to re-opening of schools in September. Likely school start up, whenever that will be, will not look and feel the same as previous years, but health and safety of students and staff will remain top priority.

RVS Budget is due to the province by the end of May and the Board is scheduled to consider the budget at their meeting on May 21st. At the Board meeting on May 14th, the Board will be considering the fee structures for the 2020/21 school year which includes transportation fees and all school fees levied by the division or individual schools (options, extra curricular, activities, travel, etc).

On April 23rd, after a 4-month community consultation, the Board approved changes to the designated attendance areas for 7 Cochrane schools to take effect for September 2020, and grade configuration changes to 4 school to take effect September 2021. For Mitford, this means that students from Heartland are now designated to attend Mitford School, and the grade structure will change to Gr 5-8 for 2021/2022. For impacted students in Heritage Hills and Heartland, a transition year has been approved given the current circumstances of the pandemic and students have the choice to either stay for a year at their current school or move for this September.

END TRUSTEES REPORT

8. Family Q & A on the Continuity of Learning Plans (general questions)

- a. Question about learning assistants and if they were all laid off
 - i. Mr. Fultz indicated that Mitford had to reduce the support from 3.5 assistants to 1.0.

9. Boundary Decision and related planning for Mitford School

- a. Question to Fiona our Board of Trustee about modulars in the future for Mitford
 - i. Fiona indicated she would get back to council to confirm but didn't think modulars were currently being allocated for Mitford.

10. Round Table

- a. Question about Friends of Mitford funds and concern that if not allocated to the school, may have to be donated to another charity.

- i. Some members in attendance indicated they know the Chair of FOM and will reach out to discuss options. Brent from Executive indicated he would be happy to make contact here as required.
- b. Question about timing of refunds for school trips, band, transportation
 - i. Response that all are in process and likely coming closer to the end of May.
- c.

11. Motion to Adjourn

- a. Adjourned at 7:20 pm
- b. Next Meeting – June 2nd.