

Mitford School Council

Mitford School Council AGENDA

Date: Tuesday November 1st, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

LEARNING COMMONS & ZOOM MEETING

In attendance: **Melinda Birmingham- Chair**

Brooke Sabourin- Vice-Chair

Shelly Rowe- Teacher

Breanna Storey- Acting Principal

Nathan Crowe – Acting assistant Principal

Alexandra Phillips- Secretary

Anne H.- parent

Melissa- parent

Karen S.- parent

Amanda- parent

Fiona- RVS

1. Call to order - **6:30 PM**
2. Welcome and Introductions

Melinda Birmingham- Chair

Brooke Sabourin- Vice-Chair

Shelly Rowe- Teacher

Brianna Storey- Acting Principal

Nathan Crowe – Acting assistant Principal

Alexandra Phillips- Secretary

Anne H.- parent

Melissa- parent

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Karen S.- parent/ Friends of Mitford

Amanda- parent

Cara- Parent/ Friends of Mitford

Fiona - RVS

3. Approval of the Agenda

-Charlotte approved 2nd Alexandra

4. Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting from **September**

Approval Melinda, 2nd Melissa

- a) Review
- b) Business arising from minutes
- c) Approval

5. Presentation by Mrs. Rowe on how to navigate the Public Portal to view student progress.

<https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/cms/one.aspx?portalId=21765915&pageId=52410352>

-Link for Power school on RVS website.

-Request for school to provide information regarding differences between app and computer for parents.

-Find link and provide for parents

6. Report from Mitford Administration

Mitford School Council



Mitford School



Peter Fultz

Principal

Phone: (403) 932-4457
mitford@rockyview.ab.ca

110 Quigley Drive

Cochrane, Alberta T4C 1Y1

Brianna Storey

Assistant Principal

Principal Report for School Council 04 OCT 22

Student Population: 318

Classes: Grade 5 (three classes), Grade 5/6 (One Class), Grade 6 (two classes), Grade 7 (three classes), Grade 8 (three classes)

Welcome New Staff:

We are excited to welcome Ms. Peterson and Mrs. Gilmour as our two new Learning Assistants, and Ms. Kuziw as our new grade 5/6 teacher.

Learning Support Team:

The Learning Support Team is led by our Learning Support teacher, Mrs. Clark. The team also includes two Child Development Advisors (Mrs. Mcmanus, and Mrs. Facey) to offer additional support for social emotional wellness post pandemic. Mitford has four Learning Assistants (Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Kyle, Ms. Peterson, and Mrs. Gilmour providing additional support for students during the school day. Starting soon Mitford is welcoming back Ms. Lim, an Art Therapy practicum student that will be available to work with students every Wednesday until April 25th.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Mitford School participated in learning activities the week of September 23 – 30 to build awareness, understanding and to honor Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. On Thursday, September 29th students and staff recognized Orange Shirt Day. The orange shirt is

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thus used as a symbol of the forced assimilation of Indigenous children that the residential school system enforced.

New Student Resources & Equipment:

- Four New Chromebook Carts for Grade 5 & 6
 - Mitford has one to one tech devices for Grades 5 & 6 students to support student learning via the Google Classroom platform
 - Mitford has Chromebooks available for loan to grade 7 & 8 students that opt not to purchase a tech device as recommended through the One-to-One Program
- Outdoor Education outbuilding (Funded by Mitford Reserves)
 - Twenty- eight Mountain Bikes & accessories (Funded by FOM) for CTF (Career and Technology Foundational) and Homeroom class use
 - Seventy pairs of snowshoes for CTF and Homeroom class use

Literacy & Numeracy Focus:

Mitford teachers will be focused on data collection and professional learning to forge a path to support and foster real progress for students impacted by the disruption of learning due to COVID. Mitford will do its best to affect growth and change in these key areas of learning. RVS (Rocky View Schools) Learning Specialists will be facilitating this professional learning with us.

The October 7th professional learning day will focus on digging into the data from the math and literacy assessments completed this past month. Mitford will purpose a plan that informs instructional practice as we adjust approaches and routines to maximize impact for learning.

Additional Classroom

The unexpected enrollment increases at Mitford created larger than expected class sizes in grade 5 and 6. RVS has allocated an additional teacher to accommodate the increase. We are in the process of creating a new grade 5/6 class from our existing three grade 5 classes and two grade 6 classes. The Mitford team is working to recreate balanced classes that will best serve the needs of our grade 5 and 6 students. This additional allocation will make a positive and significant difference for our school.

Athletics: Mitford School has an Athletic Director that oversees RVS Sports at school. There are many different sports offerings throughout the school year. News and information will be shared as the start of the sports season approaches. Information regarding any need for

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community coaches will be shared in the coming weeks. We appreciate that many of our students thrive with these many opportunities.

Cross Country Running

- Grade 6 -8 – Shannon Sekulich/Kim Bishop

Volleyball

- Grade 6 Girls, Junior B Girls, Junior A Girls, Grade 6 Boys, Junior B Boys, Junior A Boys

Soccer

- Grade 6 Mixed, Grade 7/8 Mixed

Basketball

- Grade 6 Girls, Junior B Girls, Junior A Girls, Grade 6 Boys, Junior B, Junior A Boys

Badminton:

- Mitford Grade 7 – Scott Roen, Mitford Grade 8

Track & Field

- Sprinting / Running, Long Jump/Triple, High Jump, Discus, Shot Put

***Based upon student interest other sports can be considered if consistent with the Alberta Physical Activity Guide for Schools**

Extra-Curricular Activities and Clubs:

There are many different activities and club offerings throughout the school year. Additional news and information will be later for sign up. We appreciate that many of our students thrive with these many opportunities.

Leadership

- School Leadership Events 5/6, School Leadership Events 7/8, Assembly Set Up Leaders, Digital Leaders (Pic & Video), News Team Leaders, Office Team Leaders

Other Clubs include: Yearbook, GSA, Snowshoe Club, Bike Club, Homework Club, Games Club, Grade 5/6 Intramurals, Grade 7/8 Intramurals, Grade 8 Farewell, House Team Assemblies

***Based upon student interest other clubs and activities can be considered.**

Future Presentations:

Mitford School Council

-Are there presentations that the School Council feels would be valuable for future meetings?
Suggestion – PowerSchool/Public Portal/Assessment

-Mrs. Storey is now providing the principal report for school council

-Requested to find out who is providing Zoom link for presentation of cyber safety info night. School or constable?

-Requested solution for literacy and numeracy improvements for students?

7. Report from Board of Trustees

Fiona

Mitford School Council



Share our Story!

Rocky View Schools (RVS) needs more space for students.

RVS is urgently in need of more Space for Students in several of our communities. Many of our schools are running out of spaces for students and we need the provincial government to build new schools in RVS and provide more modular classrooms while these new schools are built. We need to be heard by the government, so they prioritize funding for schools in our most critically impacted RVS communities. Parents/guardians have an important voice about the space needed for their children to do their best in school. We need your help to share our story. Together, we can help to ensure our voices are heard.

What steps can you take?

RVS has created this Share our Story guide to give you some ideas and tools to help you advocate for Space for Students. If you have questions on advocacy, please contact your local trustee.

Share Space for Students

Infographics RVS has produced infographics to highlight our need for space divisionwide and in the highest needs communities of Airdrie, Cochrane and Chestermere. These can be shared electronically or printed in hardcopy.

Tell your Friends, Family and Others

Talk to those around you about the need for more student spaces in your community. Talking about how your children are impacted by overutilized schools with decision-makers and influencers can be very effective. Provide them with key information and ask that they reach out and share with people who can positively influence.

Contact Municipal and Provincial Governments

Write a letter, send a personal email to politicians, pick up the phone and call about your concerns and personal stories about how your child(ren) are impacted by crowded schools.

Consider reaching out to your local councillor and mayor asking them to prioritize getting schools sites ready. Without school sites, RVS cannot even ask the provincial government for new schools.

Send your personal story and Space for Students infographic to your Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), Minister of Education, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Premier.

Share RVS Social Media Posts

Follow our RVS Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds and reshare our Space for Students posts to help us reach as many people as possible.

Watch our Website for Updates and Information

We are focused on advocating for Space for Students and will continue to share updates and information. Check back often!

Tips for advocating for more Space for Students in RVS

RVS recommends when advocating to individuals to always keep the message positive and personal. Whether speaking, emailing, or using social media platforms, we encourage active and respectful dialogue. Use the data provided along with personal stories and impacts you see with your own child(ren) to provide a personalized, impactful message to key decision-makers. Ensure they know you are invested in this issue and that it is an important community-wide issue. We also do not recommend online petitions as effective and positive means of advocating.

Stakeholder Contacts

Mitford School Council

Government of Alberta

Honourable Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta
Office of the Premier
Executive Branch
307 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
premier@gov.ab.ca
780-427-2251

Honourable Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Education
228 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
RedDeer.North@assembly.ab.ca
780-427-5010

Honourable Nicholas Milliken
Minister of Infrastructure
132 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, T5K 2B6
Calgary.Currie@assembly.ab.ca
780-643-1040

Honourable Ric McIver
Minister of Municipal Affairs
320 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Calgary.Hays@assembly.ab.ca
780-427-3744

Angela Pitt
MLA for Airdrie-East
209 Bowers Street Airdrie,
AB T4B 0R6
Airdrie.East@assembly.ab.ca
780-644-7121

Pete Guthrie
MLA for Airdrie-Cochrane
Suite 1B, 60 Railway Street East
Cochrane, AB T4C 1B5
Airdrie.Cochrane@assembly.ab.ca
780-638-3018

Leela Aheer
MLA for Chestermere-Strathcona
503B Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca
587-689-5071

Honourable Nathan Cooper
MLA for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills
325 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
OldsDidsbury.ThreeHills@assembly.ab.ca
780-427-2464

Miranda Rosin
MLA for Banff-Kananaskis
206, 1080 Railway Avenue
Canmore, AB T1W 1P4
Banff.Kananaskis@assembly.ab.ca
780-643-1027

City of Airdrie

Peter Brown
Mayor of Airdrie
400 Main Street SE Airdrie, AB
T4B 3C3 peter.brown@airdrie.ca
403-948-8820

Councillor Candice Kolson
Candice.Kolson@airdrie.ca

Councillor Heather Spearman
Heather.spearman@airdrie.ca

Councillor Ron Chapman
ron.chapman@airdrie.ca
403-992-4604

Councillor Tina Petrow
tina.petrow@airdrie.ca

Councillor Darrell Belyk
darrell.belyk@airdrie.ca
403-862-8643

Councillor Al Jones
al.jones@airdrie.ca

Town of Cochrane

Jeff Genung
Mayor of Cochrane
101 RancheHouse Road Cochrane,
AB T4C 2K8
jeff.genung@cochrane.ca
403-851-2500

Councillor Morgan Nagel
morgan.nagel@cochrane.ca
403-851-2500

Councillor Marni Fedeyko
marni.fedeyko@cochrane.ca
403-851-2500

Councillor Patrick Wilson
Patrick.wilson@cochrane.ca
403-851-2500

Councillor Tara McFadden
tara.mcfadden@cochrane.ca
403-519-9619

Councillor Susan Flowers
susan.flowers@cochrane.ca
403-875-2228

Councillor Alex Reed
alex.reed@cochrane.ca
403-851-2500

City of Chestermere

Jeff Colvin
Mayor of Chestermere
105 Marina Road Chestermere AB
T1X 1V7 icolvin@chestermere.ca
403-207-7073

Councillor Shannon Dean
sdean@chestermere.ca

Councillor Blaine Funk
bfunk@chestermere.ca

Councillor Ritesh Narayan
marayan@chestermere.ca

Councillor Mel Foat
mfoat@chestermere.ca

Councillor Stephen Hanley
shanley@chestermere.ca

Councillor Sandeep
(Sandy) Johal-Watt sjohal-watt@chestermere.ca
587-576-8713

Rocky View County

Don Kochan
Mayor
262075 Rocky View Point

Councillor Kevin Hanson
krhanson@rockyview.ca
403-463-1166

Councillor Crystal Kissel
ckissel@rockyview.ca
403-463-3273

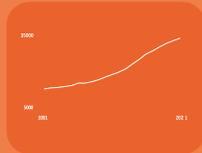
Councillor Samantha Wright
swright@rockyview.ca
403-478-1041

ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS
SPACE for STUDENTS

Cochrane Urgently Needs More Schools

Growing Population

2001 to 2021
171%*



Fastest growing municipality in Alberta and 11th fastest growing in Canada (over 10,000 pop.)

In Comparison

Calgary
52%*

Leduc
124%*

Medicine Hat
24%*

St. Albert
28%*

*Source: Government of Alberta

Rising Enrolment

by 2026
4,783
K-8 students

3,901
K-8 student spaces

=
882
more students than spaces

2022
expansion to Bow Valley High School approved by government

=
~ 500 
additional high school student spaces by 2025/26

Need for Schools

~ 300
new K-8 students each year in Cochrane, enough to fill a new school every two to three years

2017
last Cochrane elementary school opened



Top Capital Plan Priority for Cochrane:

- Kindergarten – Grade 5 school

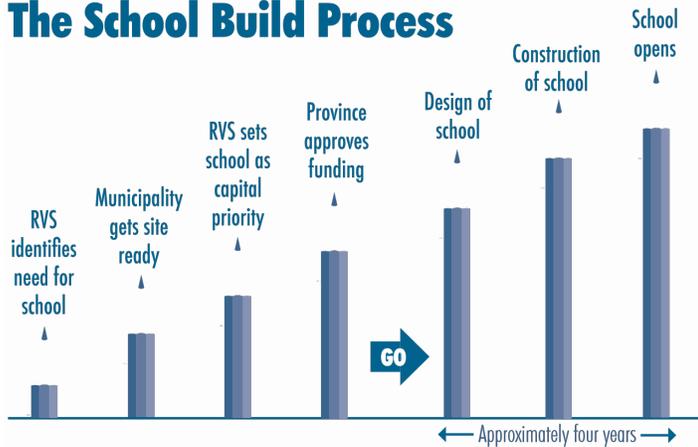
Cochrane Urgently Needs More Schools

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Once the provincial government approves a new school **DID YOU**
or an addition it takes about four years to plan and build. Pressure on our schools and
students intensifies. **KNOW?**

The School Build Process



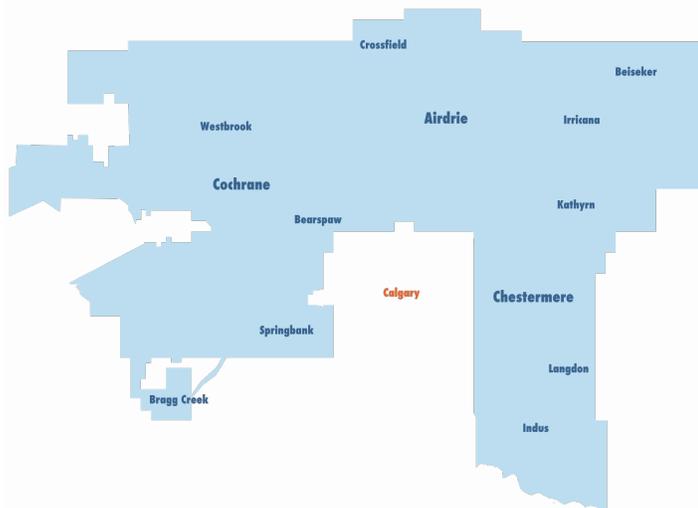
RVS provides a positive, quality learning experience to 27,000+ students in pre-K-12.

Student enrolment in RVS increased by 91% from 2001 to 2021.

Unless new schools are approved, the overall utilization rate in RVS schools will exceed 100% by 2026/27.

Rocky View Schools Boundary Map

Our students come from a wide and diverse geographic area in rural and urban locations.



#spaceforstudents

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-Fiona spoke about questions regarding where will there be space for students and possible short term solutions.

-Informed council RVS is projected to have 4800 students k-8 by 2026

-Discussed the problem of running out of options for student placement at all grade levels.

-RVS is requesting parents to share their stories on how over-capacity is affecting their students. -Link to be provided by Fiona (Board advocacy)

8. Friends of Mitford update

-Discussed the immediate need for new members for FOM and how to bring awareness to the parents of the student body and their required involvement.

-Ideas included posters at school entrance ways, an announcement during the band performance in the gym, mass email, continued notice in weekly Mitford Beats and Buzz.

-Treasurer report – Cara Sealock

-No change in accounts

-Winter fundraiser \$1221 as of November 1. Closing November 17th.

Pick-ups TBD.

-Money in both casino and general use accounts available to use.

9. Discussion and planning of School Council's year ahead

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-\$500 grant coming for another presentation, planning, ideas to discuss further at next meeting.

-Next council meeting set for February 7th.

-Continue discussion of ideas regarding literacy and numeracy specialist for students. (Calgary regional consortium was mentioned as a potentially helpful resource. Are we able to contact them?).

- Continue parent presentation ideas for spring at next meeting

10. Round Table

-Nothing brought forward.

11. Motion to Adjourn- 8:01 PM

Next Meeting: February 7th, 2023, at 6:30 PM