

Chestermere High School Council Meeting Minutes January 21, 2025

Those present: Chris, Amanda Jo, Debbie, Shali, Amanda D-S, Amiah D-S, Orrin D-S

Amanda Jo called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. Amanda approved the agenda and Amanda Jo seconded that. Amanda Jo approved the last meeting's meeting minutes and Amanda seconded that.

Chris gave the admin report:

HR Updates

- Mr. Purewall will be joining our staff as a humanities teacher in second semester.
- Ms. Malhi will be joining our staff as a math/science option teacher in second semester.
- Ms. Perry will be returning to the English department in second semester.
- Ms. Perez has joined the Main Office Staff.
- Ms. Aldie is joining our Learning Support as a Learning Assistant.
- Ms. Schulli is joining our Learning Support as a Learning Assistant.

School Council Tour of CHS CTS/Option programs.

- Thank you to everyone who joined us for the CTS/Option class tour on December 16, 2024.

PL Days Review

- December 2 – presentation from Ms. McCallum, RVS Indigenous Learning Specialist. We undertook PL on IPP implementation. Updated SEP. Diploma and SEP analysis.

Remembrance Day Ceremony

- Excellent performances and organization from leadership, drama, cadets, and band students. Very solemn and dignified ceremonies. Thank you to our distinguished guests.

Literacy Initiative – Word Walls

- Sample showed to School Council.

Athletics Update

- Basketball – our Varsity Boys Basketball team is top of the RVS division with a 5-0 record.
- Badminton – new season is starting up.

Talent Show

- Phenomenal performances from our gifted and talented students.

Band/Choir - Thank you to everyone who attended. They were all spectacular events.

- Choir sang at Agricultural Society Rec Centre
- Santa Claus Parade

- Winter Lights Festival
- Mass Band with CLMS
- Winter Band Concert

Europe 2026 Trip

- In the organizational phase of sending student to Europe in 2026.

PTIs

- March 6, 2025 for semester 2 and term 3 classes.

Winter Formal

- Excellent night of music and dancing. Leadership students did a great job decorating. We even had an Eiffel Tower from the My Life with the Walter Boys production.

Fall Awards

- Thank you to Shali and Amanda-Jo for presenting. First year for the Perseverance Award. Excellent ceremony.

Diplomas

- Have been running without issue. Students will continue writing until Monday, January 27, 2025. Two Organizational days then Semester Two and Term Three start on Thursday, January 30, 2025.

Chestermere Public Library Presentations

- I attended the night to answer questions from parents regarding educational options in Chestermere.

CHS Registration Forms 25-26

- New forms and tentative schedule shared for feedback.
- Tentative Timetable Scheduling for 25-26 School Year
 - CLMS Tour of CHS options classes – Jan 27
 - CLMS Presentations – Feb 11 & 12
 - CHS Presentations - Feb 13
 - CHS Admin Wall – Feb 25, 26, 27
 - CLMS Admin Wall – Mar 12, 13

Grease

- Let the excitement begin. The Performing Arts Academy will be starting work on the production of this year's musical in second semester. More details to come.

Shali gave the trustee report:

RVS Trustee report for School council

January

CHESTERMERE STUDENT ACCOMODATION CONSULTATION

A delegation in support of moving grade 7-9 French Immersion program from CLMS to East Lake school was presented to the board for consideration. The intent is for the board to make a decision regarding grade and boundary changes to Chestermere schools on January 23rd, to take effect for next September, the 2025-26 school year. A total of 204 online surveys were submitted and 67 people attended the in-person engagement session on Oct. 22. Those in support of the changes described positives such as shorter distances to travel to school, providing Chestermere with a second middle school and easing of the current pressures on East Lake School. Those who did not support the change cited a range of reasons including the potential for disruption for students, location of middle school French Immersion program and increasing enrolment at Rainbow Creek Elementary School.

SCHOOL SITE UPDATE

Work continues on the second K-9 school in the Chelsea development. The expectation is that this site will be ready by spring. The Dawson K-9 site has design funding and is considered site ready. The Chelsea high school site is also in finishing stages. We are hopeful to receive either design or construction funding in the spring budget announcements.

With all schools at or near capacity, the board will need to hold another public consultation for student accommodation in the next couple of years to determine how to balance utilization and populate a new K-9 school.

BOARD PROVIDED FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE

RVS' budget continues to feel significant pressure despite an increase in the base grant received from the provincial government of \$4.1 million announced in July 2024. Lower than expected enrolment leading to a reduction in instructional funding as well as an increase in funding for mental health and curriculum grants means RVS is expecting a higher than budgeted revenue of \$328.5 million for the 2024/25 school year. This is an increase of \$4.6 million above the original expected revenue of \$323.8 million; however, despite this increase RVS is anticipating a deficit of approximately \$2.5 million to be drawn from the division's reserves. This is an increase from the \$1.8 million draw from reserves outlined in the spring budget. RVS' reserves at the end of August 2025 will be \$5.6 million or 1.69 per cent of the total operating budget.

School Council gave the shop program \$2200 and they are in the process of talking with SAIT about some equipment that our school may be able to get and the school board has to approve certain equipment so once everything is sorted out we will be updated on what the \$2200 has gone towards for the shop program.

Pizza Fridays are going decent. Volunteers are always welcome.

Amanda went to the Addictions Seminar on January 14th that Rocky View Schools put on. There were very few parents there, but the open house had many people to talk to about their programs. This seminar was fantastic and very relevant. Amanda suggested to Chris that he get the Lung association guy to come to our high school to do a presentation on vaping as it was an incredible and easy to follow presentation and our school has a lot of kids who vape. A suggestion was also made to Shali about doing a family addictions awareness night. All of the information that was shared at this seminar was appropriate for middle and high school aged children and some of the elementary school aged children would probably understand it as well. Amanda would highly suggest this to all parents to attend if they put another one on!

Amanda Jo adjourned the meeting at 7:08pm.

The next meeting will take place in the learning commons on March 18th, 2025 at 6pm. Our final meeting and AGM will take place in the same location on May 13th, 2025.