



129 Powell Street, Cochrane, AB T4C 1Y2
Phone: (403)932-5177
Web: cochranechristian.rockyview.ab.ca



PRINCIPAL: RICHARD SAMPSON
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: JOSINE VAN DEN BERG

PURPOSE | COMMUNITY | IMPACT

School Council

April 10th, 2025

6:30-7:30PM

Learning Commons

Start time 6:32

Admin Report

Richard Sampson:

1. Budget came out Monday for 2025/2026
 - Annual Operating budget is \$2,869,061
 - Approximately 95% is towards staffing
 - We are setting aside a little extra for carryover, as the province has changed the funding model for students with complexities; it will go up or down depending how many coded students we have next year so we are holding carryover to avoid cutting staffing; we are better set up this year than last year to support students
 - Approximately 4% is towards supplies and services
 - There is a small amount for contingency (Approximately 1%)
2. We have developed a better form for getting parents to talk about their workpath.
3. Rocky View has changed their expectations for learning support so CCA will be shifting to match their framework
 - a. Universal supports (overhead projectors)
 - b. Targeted supports (glasses, headphones)
 - c. Specialized supports (aides for special needs kids)
 - d. CCA is trying to get more universal supports so all the kids can get what they need, and we're building a budget for this.
4. Grade 8 Farewell is June 19
 - Ms. Kubick is the key contact going forward
 - A group has already started working on this
 - We are getting risers from Elizabeth Barrett



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Josine Van den Berg:

1. Mrs. Steinke is officially back and felt very welcome
2. Sam, the ASL Learning Assistant has left but we've found a new one who will start next week.
3. Mr. Kurtz (Grade 3) has been officially extended to the end of the year
4. Mrs. Hisey will be coming back, which means Mrs. Olson will be leaving
5. Mr. Ryan Reed has been appointed as RVS Superintendent
6. Mr. Jeff Smith will be the Associate Superintendent as Murray Besenski is leaving
7. Picture days will be as follows (class photos and spring photos):
 - April 29th for KB and Grades 1-3
 - April 30th KA and Grades 4-8
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8. Provincial Assessment
 - a. K-3 took part
 - b. The bar graphs previously sent home are not accurate (they scored all the sections out of 70 but some parts were out of 55); most children probably performed better than the individual reports showed.
 - c. Teachers are working very hard to transfer all the correct data into PowerSchool so parents should look for that
 - d. **Question:** Is the intent of the assessment for the province to better understand where to add additional support? **Answer:** Hopefully, but been there's been no commitment from the province on that; they've committed to test Grade 5 next year. Alberta has converted to play based kindergarten which is tough to assess; with the changing of the grant process, the province is no longer doing learning disruption funding, which was based on provincial assessments, and we didn't get that grant this year because we're doing better. There may be a grant that comes from these assessments, but probably not.
9. Easter Chapel will be Thursday, April 17th in the afternoon
10. Grade 2 students are leading, so only those parents can come, as well as the parents of children in Voices of Praise



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Presentation on Numeracy (Mrs. Sawchuk):

- We have a new program built from the ground up this year and we're very happy with it!
- We have started this because we had such huge success with the literacy groups
- Goals:
 - To create a math culture where math is a lifelong skill
 - To foster critical thinking
 - Kids aren't learning to think as well anymore
 - We want to get kids to think and problem solve
 - We want to close learning gaps, which is going relatively well
 - We want to increase engagement and confidence
 - Confidence is lacking in kids ("I'm not a math kid", etc.)
 - Everybody's "hard" looks different
 - 25% of K-3 and 27% of Grades 4-6 students at CCA have been flagged as "at risk", with some others being flagged as "may be at risk"
 - These are the foundational years and we need to hit them hard with a math foundation!
- We invited in RVS learning specialists to help which led us to start building "Thinking" classrooms, which entail:
 - Using whiteboards over paper
 - More oral instructions (not just relying on reading skills)
 - "Defront" the classroom
 - Answering more questions
 - Checking understanding
 - This led to several rounds of trials:
 - Round 1
 - 25 min blocks from Monday to Thursday
 - Each teacher took a 4 day rotation and created challenges or games
 - Grade 8s were not included because they are a very small group and Mr. Jackson is targeting their needs more specifically
 - Feedback from teachers:
 - The groups were helpful but it was challenging making sure everyone was engaged
 - Round 2
 - Teachers stuck with their own students, and did tasks related to their own curriculum



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- Added intervention group which was focused on skills they were missing; this was not always led by the same teacher to avoid stigma/labels ("low group")
- 3 week rotation
- Round 3
 - 5 week rotation
 - Teachers who knew students best worked with those students
- Round 4
 - Finished today
 - 7 week rotation
 - Conducted curricular based activities
 - Grade teams worked together to split them to two groups (one needs more practice, more hands on, etc.)
 - Made an adjustment with Grade 1: expanded to 4 groups with some support; each group working on four different concepts - these kids need smaller groups and more one on one with teachers
- Round 5
 - Starts May 5th and goes to June 5th
 - There will be more curricular alignment
 - We will then mash all we've learned together to get something more smooth
 - Looking forward:
 - Problem solving: students will see themselves as more capable of problem solving
- Richard Sampson:
 - We will make mistakes but we'll learn as we go
 - This type of program takes time and refining
 - There just isn't a lot of guidance there for numeracy

Chair Council

- Next meeting will start at 7:00 due to Kindergarten Orientation
- Pizza lunch on the Thursday before the long weekend
- We have asked Papa John's to donate pieces of pizza for food fridge and they said yes; they will donate 10 pieces
- We will ask other restaurants every time now
- Parents also need to remember to send snacks on fun lunch day!



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- We only receive \$50 per month for the food fridge. There is some food donated but not always great quality (more processed for shelf-stability)
- How can families donate? Just bring it in
- Some families give gift cards to grocery stores
- Can parents get a list of what to donate? Richard will have admin put a note in the next newsletter; we need more things kids don't LOVE but are healthy so if they're hungry they get nutritional food.
- The stamp in the agenda regarding the food fridge is more for kids who just want treats
- Some kids barely have enough food, so Richard will look in to how to inform donating parents how many kids need food or if it's possible to tell them who.

Meeting ends at 7:30