



April 27, 2023

Dear Cochrane elementary/middle school families,

I am writing to inform you that at the Board of Trustees of Rocky View Schools (RVS) public Board meeting today, the decision was made to move all Cochrane Christian Academy (CCA) Kindergarten to Grade 8 students to the school on Powell Street and to create a French Immersion (FI) middle school program at Mitford School for the start of the new school year in September.

While we recognize this will be positive news for some families and disappointing for others, the Board believes this decision best serves all Cochrane students and the utilization of Cochrane schools.

The decision comes after a careful review by the Board of stakeholder feedback received through a four-month public consultation process following re-acquisition of the school building from the Calgary Catholic School Division. This feedback received through the two in-person engagement sessions, [RVSengage.com](https://rvsengage.com) submissions and delegations to the Board included a broad range of opinions on which students should attend the school with a strong preference to keep current school communities, siblings and school friends together.

Families affected by this decision may have many questions about the new school and the impact on FI programs in Cochrane. RVS and school administrators will be communicating with these families to support a smooth transition.

The opening of the school on Powell Street will add much-needed spaces for students in Cochrane. While the addition of this space is positive for the community, the reality is enrolment in Cochrane schools continues to rise by about 300 new students annually, and new schools are urgently needed. The Board is committed to continuing to advocate to the provincial government for construction approval for [much-needed new schools in Cochrane](#).

The Board wants to thank all stakeholders who shared their thoughts and ideas through the engagement. We highly value and appreciate your feedback as important input into these decisions.

Ward 1 Shali Baziuk 403-850-5758	Ward 2 Shelley Kinley Vice-Chair 403-371-7860	Ward 3 Melyssa Bowen 403-835-6673	Ward 3 Todd Brand 403-608-2710	Ward 3 Fred Burley 403-874-9062	Ward 4 Norma Lang Chair 403-921-0303	Ward 5 Judi Hunter 403-888-1831	Ward 6 Fiona Gilbert 403-200-8968
--	--	---	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------	---

Board of Trustees



More information regarding the engagement process and the details of the Board's decision can be found on [RVSEngage.com](https://rvsengage.com). Questions can be directed to your school's principal and/or Area Director of Schools, Sandy McDuffe at smcduffe@rockyview.ab.ca.

Sincerely,

Norma Lang
Board Chair

Ward 1 Shali Baziuk	Ward 2 Shelley Kinley Vice-Chair	Ward 3 Melyssa Bowen	Ward 3 Todd Brand	Ward 3 Fred Burley	Ward 4 Norma Lang Chair	Ward 5 Judi Hunter	Ward 6 Fiona Gilbert
403-850-5758	403-371-7860	403-835-6673	403-608-2710	403-874-9062	403-921-0303	403-888-1831	403-200-8968

Board of Trustees