



Rochester School Education Plan 2023-2026



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Principal's Message

Rochester School is #anexceptionalplacetobe. Being a small school, Rochester School underwent a viability study in the 2021-2022 school year to decide whether to keep the school open. It was decided that the school would remain open at least for the 2022-2023 school year, with another decision for the 2023-2024 school year to be made in October 2022. In October 2022, the decision was to keep Rochester School open for at least the 2023-2024 school year.

Knowing that enrollments are low, Rochester School has been working on programs to maintain current students and attract new students. As a result, in 2021-2022, Rochester School started Rochester STEAM Academy on Fridays. Rochester STEAM Academy partners with various community organizations and grant programs to offer various experiences for students. In 2021-2022, students were offered opportunities to take gymnastics lessons and practice downhill skiing at two local businesses in the Tawatinaw Valley. In addition, students could participate for free because of grants from Jump Start. Other focuses for the first year of Rochester STEAM Academy included building a chicken coop, robotics, 3D printing, art, and music.

Rochester STEAM Academy further developed in the 2022-2023 school year. Gymnastics and downhill skiing continue to be offered, but STEAM Projects and a Cafe were added. For STEAM Projects, students were given time to learn more about a topic they were passionate about each Friday. Once their projects were completed, they presented their information in The Royal Cafe, open Friday afternoons to the public. Going forward, STEAM Projects will include management of the Royal Cafe, management of the chicken coop, learning to play instruments, as well as other individual passions.

Elizabeth Siemens



Foundational Statements

Vision: Aspen View Public Schools is committed to preparing our students to achieve success and reach their unique potential through the provision of meaningful learning opportunities.

Mission: Engage Learning. Ignite Potential. Inspire Success.

Commitments:

Student Learning: Inspire to engage in relevant learning experiences in an inclusive environment that leads to academic student success.

Staff Learning: Support staff members to be reflective, life-long learners, continually striving to improve their practice.

Communication: Engage in open, active, ongoing and honest communication with students, staff, parents and community.

Culture and Climate: Promote teamwork and model welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and inclusive schools that demonstrate diversity.

Social Emotional Needs: Encourage all students to develop self awareness and decision-making skills to achieve personal and interpersonal fulfillment.

Physical Needs: Promote and model active and healthy lifestyle choices.

Entrepreneurial Spirit: Equip students with skills in areas of innovation, technology, literacy and numeracy enabling them to adapt and thrive in an ever-changing world



Planning and Priorities

The Aspen View Public Schools Education Plan is based on three key priorities

- Student Success and Completion
- Wellness
- Engagement

Schools will develop their own plans that align and are consistent with Divisional and Provincial priorities. As part of the planning process school councils are involved in the planning process as required under Section 13 of the School Council Regulations (Alberta Regulation 113/2007).

Our Context

Rochester School has 47 students as of April 3, 2023. Currently, the school has three classes: kindergarten to grade 3, grades 4 to 6 and 7 to 9.

For staff, Rochester School has 4 teachers (including the principal) and 5 support staff.

Grade	Number of Students (April 3, 2023)
Kindergarten	1
1	4
2	2
3	4
4	5
5	9
6	6
7	5
8	6
9	5
Total	47



Alberta Education Assurance Measures

Overall Summary Fall 2022

Assurance Domain	Measure Category	Rochester School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Student Growth and Achievement	Student Learning Engagement	82.8	91.5	n/a	85.1	85.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Citizenship	87.5	92.7	76.6	81.4	83.2	83.1	Very High	Improved	Excellent
	PAT: Acceptable	67.3	n/a	57.5	67.3	n/a	73.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
	PAT: Excellence	21.2	n/a	20.0	18.0	n/a	20.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Teaching and Leading	Education Quality	88.0	93.6	83.8	89.0	89.6	90.3	High	Maintained	Good
Learning Supports	Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments (WCRSLE)	88.1	91.9	n/a	86.1	87.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Access to Supports and Services	88.2	95.4	n/a	81.6	82.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Governance	Parental Involvement	93.1	93.0	81.6	78.8	79.5	81.5	Very High	Improved	Excellent



Supplementary Measures, Fall 2022

Measure	Rochester School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Lifelong Learning	90.0	93.8	62.8	81.0	82.1	72.0	Very High	Improved Significantly	Excellent
Program of Studies	84.2	79.6	77.1	82.9	81.9	82.3	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Program of Studies - At Risk Students	88.9	94.6	82.7	81.9	82.7	84.8	High	Maintained	Good
Safe and Caring	90.4	95.2	82.6	88.8	90.0	89.2	Very High	Improved	Excellent
Satisfaction with Program Access	86.5	90.1	77.8	72.6	71.8	74.1	Very High	Improved	Excellent
School Improvement	75.6	79.4	66.9	74.2	81.4	81.3	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Work Preparation	76.9	91.7	81.0	84.9	85.7	83.5	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable



Reflection on Results

As a school, we are quite happy with the Fall 2022 Assurance Measure Results. Overall, the results indicate improvement for Rochester School, especially in Parental Involvement, Citizenship, Lifelong Learning, Safe and Caring, and Satisfaction with Program Access. This is exciting as these areas have been the focus over the past two years. Specifically, parental involvement is at 93 compared to our 3-year average of 82, which indicates we have improved over the past two years. Focus groups and volunteering opportunities have been some of the methods used to increase parental involvement.

It is important to note that while there is an improvement with the three-year average, there were marked decreases in many of the same measures compared to the previous year. For example, Work Preparation decreased from 92 to 77, and Student Learning Engagement dropped from 92 to 83. We will need to monitor these and other areas over the next year to see if it is a downward trend.

On a positive note, Rochester School's results were almost all above the Alberta results for 2022.



PRIORITY ONE: Student Success and Completion

Students are successful from the time they enter school until high school completion, and beyond.

Related Alberta Assurance Domains: Student Growth and Achievement & Teaching and Learning

Outcomes, Strategies and Measures for 2023-24:

Outcome	Students are able to read fluently for meaning and enjoyment
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Utilize our uniqueness in being multi-graded to focus on key skills required for growth in reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When starting new units teachers will identify gaps students have in reading fluency and comprehension, then specifically target those gaps. ○ Collaborative Response Team Meetings and weekly Collaborative Time will focus on key issues teachers notice with students in their classes. ○ Continue to develop and use a continuum of supports with respect to reading. ○ Within classes, small groups will be organized using data from assessments and screens. ○ Small groups will focus on the key skills required to develop fluency first and then comprehension. ○ Additionally, pullouts will be used for students requiring extra intervention. ● Explicit instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, word study, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension strategies ● Direct instruction in secondary reading comprehension skills categories: Identify and Interpret Ideas and Details, Interpret Text Organization, Associate Meaning, Make Connections & Evaluate ● STEAM Projects - Reading or research that has a personal connection



Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fountas and Pinnell reading levels ● RCAT (Reading Comprehension Assessment Tool) screening and progress monitoring ● Phonological Awareness screening and progress monitoring tools ● Phonics screening and progress monitoring tools ● Reading Readiness Screening Tool ● Grades 6 & 9 Provincial Assessment Test Part B results in English Language Arts ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Education Quality, Student Learning Engagement, Program of Studies, Work Preparation
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Outcome	Students are able to express clear and interesting ideas through writing
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Utilize our uniqueness in being multi-graded to focus on key skills required for growth in writing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the start of any unit, teachers will identify gaps students have in specific writing structures, then specifically target those gaps. ○ Collaborative Response Team Meetings and weekly Collaborative Time will focus on key issues teachers notice with students in their classes. ○ Continue to develop and use a continuum of supports with respect to writing. ○ Within classes, small groups will be organized using data from assessments and screens. ○ Small groups will focus on the key skills required to develop writing skills. ○ Additionally, pullouts will be used for students requiring extra intervention. ● Collaborative development and assessment of “cold writes” ● Professional development on the Adrienne Gear resource, <i>Powerful Writing Structures</i> ● Small group instruction - Focused on structures of writing ● STEAM Projects - Projects tend to include a written section.



Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Highest Level of Achievement Test results (HLAT) and “Cold Writes” ● Words Their Way spelling inventory ● Grades 6 & 9 Provincial Assessment Test Part A results in English Language Arts ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Education Quality, Student Learning Engagement, Program of Studies, Work Preparation
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Outcome	Students use math fact and procedural fluency to solve problems
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Utilize our uniqueness in being multi-graded to focus on key skills required for growth in numeracy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use the first 1-2 months of school to identify any gaps students have in fundamental numeracy skills using Math Fluency Interviews. Then specifically target those gaps. ○ Collaborative Response Team Meetings and weekly Collaborative Time will focus on key issues teachers notice with students in their classes. ○ Continue to develop and use a continuum of supports with respect to numeracy. ○ Within classes, small groups will be organized using data from assessments and screens. ○ Small groups will focus on the key skills required to develop numeracy skills. ○ Additionally, pullouts will be used for students requiring extra intervention. ● STEAM Projects - Many will have a numerical component.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Math Fluency Interviews ● Grades 6 & 9 Mathematics Provincial Achievement Results ● MIPI or another screening tool ● Mathletics - Assessments and utilization ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Education Quality, Student Learning Engagement, Program of Studies, Work Preparation



Outcome	Students build knowledge and evaluate information to become independent thinkers
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation in Aspen View Public Schools' Robotics Competition ● Implementation of K-3 Science curriculum with a focus on scientific inquiry and computational thinking ● STEAM Projects and Options - Provide many opportunities for students to learn more about various careers as well as learn how to be independent thinkers.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grades 6 & 9 Provincial Achievement Results in Science and Social Studies ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Education Quality, Student Learning Engagement, Program of Studies, Work Preparation ● STEAM Project Assessments and number/variety of topics



Construction of the Chicken Coop and Gymnastics at Pine Valley Gym Centre



PRIORITY TWO: Wellness

Learning and working environments are inclusive, safe, welcoming and healthy.

Related Alberta Assurance Domains: Teaching and Learning & Learning Supports

Outcomes, Strategies and Measures for 2023-24:

Outcome	Schools implement collaborative support processes to effectively address diverse learning needs
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaborative Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Time provided for collaborative planning and team meetings within the regular school schedule as much as possible. ○ 2-3 Collaborative Response (CR) Team Meetings will focus each on wellness, literacy and numeracy. ○ CR Team Meetings will be driven by data from students, staff and parents/guardians. ○ Collaboration and development of a continuum of supports for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), literacy and numeracy to support all students. ○ Continued support from Jigsaw Learning ● Use of the new Individual Programming Plan (IPP) through Dossier, including the creation of IPPs and use of IPPs to inform teaching ● Case Conferences with parents/guardians, staff, and any other individuals involved in a child's success in school ● Success in Schools Meetings (SIS) for students in care ● APPLE Schools Action Plan and implementation ● Implement English as an Additional Language (EAL) Learner 2.0 Benchmarking ● PEW PEW Time (Physical Education and Wellness) and Breakfast each morning with the focus on preparing students for their day of learning. ● Weekly, Whole School Assemblies - team-building activities and



	<p>learning about wellness-focused topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STEAM Projects and Options - Many topics and options have a well-being aspect.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategies used on IPPs ● Number of case conferences and SIS meetings ● Achievement results for EAL students ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments, Safe and Caring, Citizenship, Access to Supports and Services ● Student, staff, and parents/guardian surveys



Top: PEW PEW Time

Right and Left: Egg Drop Competition in multi-grade Family Groups



PRIORITY THREE: Engagement

Students are interested and engaged in their learning, feel connected to their school, and have opportunities to pursue their passions.

Related Alberta Assurance Domains: Student Growth and Achievement, Learning Supports, Governance & Local and Societal Context

Outcomes, Strategies and Measures for 2023-2024:

Outcome	Positive community relations contribute towards student success
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Communication will continue to be a focus:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Newsletters that are sent out bimonthly○ Use of social media (Facebook and Instagram)○ Updating the school website○ Posters posted in the community and surrounding communities● Community participation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Inviting the community to events, such as the Terry Fox Run, the Remembrance Day Ceremony and Christmas Concert.○ Use of the Royal Cafe as a place for the community to feel a part of the school and see what students are up to.○ Inviting the community to share their knowledge either with presentations or mentorship with STEAM Projects
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Student Learning Engagements, Citizenship, Lifelong Learning, Program of Studies, Satisfaction with Program Access, and School Improvement● Parent engagement in communication and school events● Facebook and Instagram statistics● Number of registrations



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of volunteers ● Attendance at School Council Meetings
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Outcome	Staff and students have a sense of belonging
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School wide assemblies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Family Groups that are multi-graded to foster connection between students across the school ○ Students develop their own projects and theme days ● STEAM Projects and Options - provide the opportunity for students to be proud of their school and work
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians ● Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Student Learning Engagements, Citizenship, Lifelong Learning, Program of Studies, Satisfaction with Program Access, and School Improvement ● Student attendance statistics ● Number of extra-curricular activities offered and number of students joining extra-curricular activities.



All grades playing together the game Gaga Ball at recess.



Strategic Priority: First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Success

Outcome	All staff and students experience learning that builds an understanding of Indigenous knowledge and perspectives.
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students have the opportunity to learn about Indigenous cultural practices and traditions • Our school-based lead builds their own as well as other staff's capacity and connects with Elders and Knowledge Keepers to bring cultural teachings into the school • Indigenous Land-based learning experiences • Embed Indigenous knowledge and perspectives into teaching
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and staff report an increased understanding of Indigenous foundational knowledge • Staff report increased confidence in addressing the curricular outcomes related to First Nations, Métis and Inuit history, knowledge and cultural practices



Orange Shirt Day



Stakeholder Engagement

Decision-making and assurance are based on a commitment to ongoing engagement, efficiencies and communication	
Opportunities for Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly School Council Meetings ● Appropriate access to call or email administration and staff ● Two rounds of Parent/Guardian and Teacher Interviews ● Informal and formal phone calls and emails ● Surveys from both Alberta Education and Rochester School ● Community events such as the Terry Fox Run, Remembrance Day Ceremony and No Stone Left Alone, the Christmas Concert, Dinner Theatre, and Grade 9 Celebrations ● Volunteering at the school in various capacities from making hot lunch to mentoring students with their STEAM Projects.
What We Heard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rochester STEAM Academy is a good step forward. ● Students need to be better prepared for their future, whether looking just at high school or beyond into their adult lives. ● Parents/Guardians appreciate the individualized learning their child(ren) experience at Rochester School

