

LINE

ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Learning, Loving, Living for our Lord



Mission Statement

Rocky Christian School is an interdenominational community of Christian believers dedicated to developing and pursuing excellence in Christ-Centred education.

Visit our website at rockychristian.wrsd.ca. There you will be able to find:

- Latest news from the school and calendars of coming events
- Newsletters (past and present)
- All of the current forms needed for school use
- Hot lunch and Moo Club forms
- School Council information

Like!! us on Facebook for all current information

Vision Statement

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the home, church and school will work together to equip students to live lives that honour and serve God and contribute to society in a positive way.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please be sure that you stop by the office to sign in and pick up a "Visitor" tag before you go to any other part of the school. We are responsible to show proof that we can account for everyone in the building.

Please try to remember to phone the office when you know your child is going to be absent or late. This saves me from having to phone you to check up on them.

You can also email me at marie.aasman@wrsd.ca

Please be sure that you obey the **No Parking** signs on the front of the building.

THANK YOU.



Learning Curve by Rob Duiker

School Choice: An Election Issue for Christians

On April 16 Albertans go to the polls to elect a new provincial government. While jobs and the economy are certain to be the big issues in this election, we hope that education will be a topic of consideration and discussion as well.

There are many education issues to consider. They include education funding, class size, the cost of central offices, operational efficiency, hiring more school counsellors, safety and inclusion, standardized testing, and the new curriculum. One area of particular interest to Rocky Christian School supporters is school choice.

Alberta has a longstanding history of offering school choice; allowing parents to choose an education appropriate for their family. Choices include public, separate, charter, independent, alternative and home education programs. The important principle undergirding this legacy of choice is an affirmation of the rights of parents with respect to their children's education.

In addition to political parties, there are many advocacy groups and stakeholder groups voicing their concerns about school choice. One opinion I have heard recommends that the government create efficiencies by offering all of these school choices under unified boards. While I'm sure we all favour efficiency, for us the true test of the worth of such a proposal is our surety that an undeniable biblical Christian distinctiveness will always be the foundation of our program.

Recently, we have seen in various parts of the province, the distinctive qualities of schools of choice threatened by direction from the ministry of education or from a school jurisdiction. We have seen quotes of scripture and Biblical themes redacted from the policies of some Christian Schools. For us, there can be no more important election issue than the rights of parents to choose schools which honour their worldviews.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

A problem that we face is that much of the world doesn't understand us. Many think that Christianity is only found in our values, our morality, or our ethics. These people will often suggest that Christianity and Christian instruction can be relegated to Sunday worship. Those who truly understand Christianity and Christian education realize that it is much more than that. The Bible is our preeminent way of knowing. It teaches us who God is, that God made everything, that reality consists of more than matter and energy, that human beings were created perfectly, male and female, in his image, that all of creation, including humanity was broken in the fall in more ways than we can comprehend, and that one day we and creation will be restored to the glory that God intended.

The obvious implication of all of this is that any true and authentic inclusion of Christians in a schools system, requires a respect and understanding of a Christian understanding of what is real, what is true, and what we value. This inclusion requires that the teacher is permitted to have a Bible in his or her hands.

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Spring is in the air!! With Spring comes our Society AGM, which will be held on **May 29th** at 7:30pm at the school. With our AGM comes the election of new board members. This year we will have three board members completing their terms. We are hoping to elect four new members to take their places. Please prayerfully consider letting your name stand if you have been approached for nomination. Being on the Board is a great way to really get to know how our school operates.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting will be held on April 15th at 7:30 pm in Room 215. Please join us for great discussions.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

Volunteer Opportunity ~ The Alberta Masters Games are coming to Rocky this summer, and we have been given the opportunity to run the concession at the baseball diamonds! The dates are August 23&24 and times will likely be broken up into 3 or 4 hour shifts over the two days. We will need a lot of hands to make this work so if you feel this is an area where you are able to give of your time please contact Jessica Hoeksema 403-846-6585.

WHO'S READY FOR SPRING?

Hanging baskets and patio planters are back again this year. Order forms came home with this newsletter and are due back by April 16. New this year are the strawberries. Be sure to check it out!! Plants will be delivered to the school for pick up May 7 - just in time for Mother's Day!



Rescue in the Night



TONIGHT

You don't want to miss it!!



From the ATA Teachers' Convention:

Alberta has been part of a Harvard University Medical school study on the effects of screen time in children. There have been presenters at the past few ATA Conventions with some common sense findings on screens and children. Consider what they have to say.

The Downsides to Screen Time

While there are many ways media can connect us and make life easier and more fun, there are downsides for our children. In their two policy statements, "Media and the Developing Mind" and "Media Use in School-Aged Children and Adolescents," the AAP outlines the important points we need to keep in mind:

- **Media use is linked to obesity.** The more kids sit in front of a screen, the more likely they are to be overweight.
- **Media use interferes with sleep.** The blue light emitted by screens wakes up the brain and makes it harder for us to fall asleep.
- **Media use can interfere with development in young children.** Children need the back-and-forth with caring adults to learn, and they need unstructured time to learn how to control their own behaviors, and to use their imagination. Plopping a kid in front of a screen can mess all that up.
- **Media use gets in the way of interactions between people.** We interact less when there is a screen on, and that's bad for child development and relationships.
- **Screens displace other activities.** It's not just interactions, sleep, and exercise. It's reading, drawing, building, being outside, and all the other things we do.
- **Media can influence behavior in ways that aren't good for our kids.** Kids are influenced by what they see, including violence, sex, or substance use. Seeing it on media can glamorize and normalize it, and make kids more likely to do it.
- **Mixing homework and entertainment media is a bad idea.** We only have so much attention; when it gets divided, it gets in the way of learning.
- **Media, especially social media, gives bullies new tools to use.** These tools spread messages quickly, broadly and anonymously, making them particularly dangerous.

Parents need to be really thoughtful about how their children and their family use media — and about the example they set themselves.

Taken from [Harvard Health Publishing](#) (used without permission)

Instead, I recommend spending quality time with your child. Talk to them at their level about things they are interested in and you want them to know. Read the Bible and pray daily. Model the life that God wants them to see.

Submitted By Joel Soodsma

ROYALS SPORTS SHORTS



Our ROYALS **Hockey** team-the defending champions- coached by Vance Curtis, Dave Baker, Sharlea deBruyn, Johann Jeppe, and Andrew Curtis continues to have success and will be completing their campaign tomorrow night, Friday, March 22, at 7:15pm against Gateway in Red Deer. Please come out and cheer on your team at the final game of the season.

Badminton is in full swing. Badminton players are practicing every Monday and Wednesday after school to develop some new skills and to fine tune their technique under the very capable direction of Mrs. Wolmarans and Mrs. Parr (yes, she came back to help out). The divisional badminton tournament is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 at West Central High School, with CWAJHAA's scheduled for May 7th and May 9th in Red Deer.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to Laura Coderre, B.W. Bouwman, DeBruyn Cattle Company Ltd., Rocky Credit Union Limited and Modern Electric (Rocky) Inc. for their generous donations that enabled us to purchase new jerseys and shorts for our Jr. High sports teams!! Our players are looking sharp out on the courts!!

SPORT FEE REMINDER ~ If your child is/was involved in any of our sports—Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Hockey, Badminton—please make every effort to pay the fee that is associated with that sport. These fees help to pay our tournament registrations and pay for refs and scorekeepers.



School Messenger Text Feature

We now have the ability to send text messages with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more directly to your cell phone. Detailed instructions and information came home with this newsletter.



Stenographers At The Ready...

The grade eight and nine class helped the kindergarten class make a Power Point presentation about their favourite animals. We are Community Builders and Servant Workers!





ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
April 2019



5204 54 Avenue
Rocky Mountain House, AB
T4T 1S5

Phone: 403-845-3516

Fax: 403-845-4370

Email: rocky-christian@wrsd.ca

Website: www.rockychristian.wrsd.ca

Facebook: [RockyChristianSchool](https://www.facebook.com/RockyChristianSchool)

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Hot Lunch	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Kindergarten Day	11	12 PD Day No School for Students	13
14	15 School Council Meeting	16	17	18	19 Good Friday No School for Students	20
21	22 Good Friday No School for Students	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				