January 2017 Indus School Council Report

- RVS Audited Financial Statement is available on website
- We did a budget update as a result of increased revenues primarily from increased enrollments. The extra $3.4 million in expenditures enabled as a result of this were aligned with the Board's budget priorities:
    - Direct Classroom Instruction
    - Literacy & Numeracy and 21st C Skills and Knowledge
    - School-Based Services for Inclusive Learning Environments
    - Specialized and Wrap Around Services for Students with Complex and Emotional Needs
- We have been told that the new Education Act is alive and well. There are challenges with respect to next steps because of costs attached to some parts of the Act. There's also some parts that they're still not sure of how they'd like to move forward.
- Provincial Budget will be tabled before the end of March
    - Not expecting increase however we expect enrollment to be funded
    - Plan to move forward with phase 2 of the nutrition program
    - Desire to move forward with reduction of fees but no money to compensate
    - GOA is looking at their own departments and making some decisions in regards to how funding will flow to boards...possibly more prescriptive, need for higher accountability attached to dollar
- Proposed amendments to the *Public Health Act* received royal assent on December 9, 2016. his means that Alberta Health will now be able to collect student enrolment and contact information from Alberta Education for the purposes of contacting the parent or guardian of a student, or contacting an independent student, regarding voluntary health programs.
- Spirit of Vimy Ridge contest open to 14-24 year olds. The intent is to secure a better historical understanding of the significance of what happened there. What's asked for is a video, song, composition, poetry, short play or story, art, dance, sculpture etc, Submissions should be no longer than 5 minutes and must be uploaded to the Spirit of Vimy YouTube Channel. The finalist in each age category and the people's choice will be honoured at the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Celebration in April 2017. Top prizes include a chance to go to Vimy Ridge. 5 monthly random draws for $200 and also a letter from Lois Mitchell (Lieutenant Governor) Deadline for submissions is Feb 24. See spiritofvimy.ca
- Starting in the 17/18 school year grade 6 and 9, there will be flexibility in relation to PAT's. There will be a window of time to write instead of a single day.
    - January 2018 PATs
        - Grade 9 (written response) – January 17–23, 2018
        - Grade 9 (multiple choice) – January 24–31, 2018
    - June 2018 PATs
        - Grades 6 and 9 (written response) – May 7–11, 2018
        - Grades 6 and 9 (multiple choice) – June 11–28, 2018