

# Board Highlights

## Canadian Rockies Public Schools

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- \* International Student Program
- \* Professional Development
- \* Flexible Learning
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#### School Council Meeting Dates

CCHS—Feb 23  
BES—Feb 24  
Alpenglow—Mar 2  
ERS—Mar 10  
BCHS—Mar 15  
LGMS—Mar 18  
Exshaw—TBD

#### Next Public School Board Meeting

February 24, 2021  
7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held via Google Meet and closed for in-person public attendance. The meeting will be recorded with a copy of the recording posted on the CRPS website.

The January 27th CRPS Public School Board meeting was closed for in-person public attendance to help prevent the community spread of the COVID-19 virus. The meeting was available to the public through a Google Meet link. The meeting was recorded and the recording is posted on the division website.

#### International Student Program

The International Student Program staff have been working behind the scenes over the past 10 months to establish a solid COVID-19 Readiness Plan that meets all the criteria of the federal and provincial regulations and health authorities.

With these safety measures in place we are welcoming 25 students from Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain, Chile and the Czech Republic to study and experience the Canadian Rockies.

As we welcome students from around the world, we continue to reach out to our community to provide homestays for these students. More information for hosting an international student can be found on the [CRPS website](#).

Course offerings include The *Instructional Leadership in Reconciliation* (a 5-week course) and the *Weaving Ways* (an e-course which is self-paced and must be completed over a 5-week period).

Lead Teacher Darin Larson along with Debbie McKibbin are coordinating the monthly meeting of all At-Home Learning teachers, providing a learning component and discussion with respect to issues that pertain to the unique role of teaching online. All At-Home Learning teachers will be participating in the CRC's "Community Think Space for At-Home Learning Teachers" across the province.

#### Professional Development

Deputy Superintendent Debbie McKibbin updated the Board of Trustees on the engagement of 10 teaching staff who are currently participating in courses offered through the Calgary Regional Consortium (CRC).

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Carol Picard  
Chair



Arlene Rheame  
Vice Chair



Jen Smith



Luke Sunderland



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### Flexible Learning Grades 10-12

Our Flexible Learning Programs have grown exponentially, sparked by the need arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. We currently have 2.5 teachers supporting our Flexible Learning Programs. More than 55 different courses are currently being offered. This number continues to grow as our teachers continue to build courses that will further meet the needs of students. An example is an online Chemistry 20 course that is currently being built. These high-quality learning experiences have been expanded to include a wide variety of courses. Delivery methods may be face-to-face, online or a blend of the two.

#### Inreach

Students whose priority school is within CRPS may choose, in consultation with school administration, to take courses through Inreach. The delivery method for these courses is online. These courses are self-paced, and are supported by a designated teacher. Students may choose a hybrid, where they are taking one course face-to-face in the timetable and one course self-paced.

#### Outreach

CRPS Outreach program is designed to meet the needs of students whose school is not a CRPS school, but live within our

boundaries. Examples include a returning Gr. 12 student who is upgrading a course(s) or a student who is not taking any timetabled face-to-face classes in a CRPS school and is not registered with another school district.

### Canadian Rockies Outdoor Learning Centre (CROLC)

CROLC offers experiential courses that provide students the opportunity to learn curricular outcomes through hands-on learning experiences or a blend of hands-on and online learning. As part of the curricula, students participate in mountain recreation, hands-on learning experiences, and service learning while earning credits. A wide range of activities from canoeing to photography will introduce students to the mountain landscape.

### Distance Education

Canadian Rockies Public Schools is excited to provide approved Distance Education courses for students whose priority school is outside of CRPS, or who reside outside CRPS boundaries. Distance Education is different from conventional classroom-based education.

(Distance Education—cont'd on Page 3)



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### Flexible Learning - cont'd

Distance Education includes:

1. Self-paced courses offered online with the support of a teacher,
2. Blended experiential courses offered through our Canadian Rockies Outdoor Learning Centre, and
3. Summer School (July and August).
4. These credit courses are for students in Grades 10-12 and those students who have completed Grade 9 and are entering Grade 10.

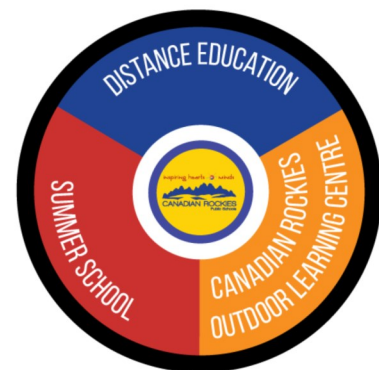
**Online Distance Education** courses are offered through a structured learning environment, in which students engage with their teachers in one or more courses online. Alberta certificated teachers are responsible for the instruction and assessment of student learning. With our online learning program students can:

- work remotely (ie: from home)
- work at their own pace, on a schedule that suits their individual needs

### Summer School

Students wishing to upgrade their marks or earn additional credits may choose to take courses in July and August through our Summer School Program.

In previous years Summer School has been offered in a face-to-face environment. Due to the pandemic, Summer School was switched to online for the summer of 2020. This proved to be a successful transition. In the coming year a blend of both online and face-to-face courses may be offered through summer school depending on the pandemic and any resulting restrictions



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### Donations Supporting Programming

#### PAUW Foundation

Funding so generously provided by the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation has enabled the division to hire a School Psychologist/ Teacher Counsellor. Interviews have been held and it is expected that the position will be filled in the next few weeks.

#### Edmonton Community Foundation

The Board of Trustees would also like to acknowledge and thank the Edmonton Community Foundation for their donation of \$5000 to support the work of Canadian Rockies Public Schools at their Outdoor Learning Centre.

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The Outdoor Learning Centre and senior administration are working together to create a new program for all Grade 10 students in CRPS. This course called, The Wim & Nancy Pauw Wilderness Experience Program will be 5 to 6 days over the course of the year, introducing students to canoeing, hiking, skiing and the AST (Avalanche Skills Training 1) course. This program is funded by the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation and serves as our recognition of their ongoing support of our experiential outdoor learning program for students in K-12. The Board of Trustees is so appreciative of the continued support of the PAUW Foundation and their generosity in providing outstanding opportunities to all our students.



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