

# *Board Highlights*

## *Highlights From*

### *October 19, 2022*

#### *Public School Board Meeting*

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The October 19th CRPS Public School Board meeting was held in a hybrid format. Members of the community were invited to attend face-to-face or via google meet. This meeting was recorded and the recording is posted on the Division website.

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- \* **Presentation—Engaged High School Experiential Learning**



### **Trustee Picard—Presented with The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal**

The Board of Trustees is very pleased and honored to announce that Trustee Carol Picard was awarded The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal. The Medal was presented to Trustee Picard, by MLA Sarah Hoffman, at the October 19th Public School Board Meeting.

This year’s recipients of the Platinum Jubilee Medal join a long line of outstanding community leaders. The recipients of this Medal must have a direct connection with the province and must have made a significant contribution to the province. Thank you to Ms. Hoffman for nominating Carol for this prestigious award, recognizing her contributions to the province through her ongoing dedication to the community.

Carol has served the people in the Bow Valley in many ways. She is very proud of the role she has played for nine years with the Food and Friends community dinner, which is hosted every Monday at St. Michaels Church, feeding up to 300 people each week. Carol always wanted to provide an opportunity or a step up for those that were less fortunate, and food was her way of doing this. One story shared was on a cold Sunday and Food and Friends were preparing the meal for the Monday crowd. A cold and hungry young gentleman came to the church looking for a meal, but unfortunately, he arrived a day too early. As the story goes, he left with not only a meal, but a new winter coat - which happened to be Carol’s. This speaks to the commitment Carol has shown to people young and old, with and without, in the Valley over many years.

Carol has also been a steadfast leader in the school division for many years, as indicated by the tireless effort she puts into her role as a Trustee, both locally and provincially. As the previous Chair of the Board, a position Carol held for over 10 years, her commitment to ensuring that the students in this Valley get the best possible education is the centerpiece of who she is. Her commitment has never wavered because CRPS is small or rural. Carol often speaks of our small school division as a division that punches above its weight. She always believed that choosing rural, did not mean choosing less. Carol never shied away from the challenging topics, but embraced them as an opportunity to improve; while always running them through the lens of what’s best for children in this Valley.

In truth, it has become more and more apparent that the world needs more people like Carol. We are very fortunate to have Carol as our unsung hero. Carol is very humble about her work, but as anyone who has worked alongside her knows, her energy, spirit and commitment know no limits.

Congratulations Carol on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Staff, Students and Families of our Communities. How proud and thankful we are to have you on our team!

### **Next Public School Board Meeting**

**November 23, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Exshaw School**

### **School Council Meeting Dates**

**Alpenglow—November 1**  
**ERS—November 1**  
**LGMS—November 8**  
**CCHS—November 15**  
**BES—November 16**  
**BCHS—November 21**



**Arlene Rheaume**  
 Chair



**Brian Callaghan**  
 Vice-Chair



**Carol Picard**



**Luke Sunderland**



**Dale Craig**

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**Engaged High School Experiential Learning—Presented by Hans Holthuis, Assistant Principal**

What does the future of Inspiring Hearts and Minds look like in our high schools?

A Community Engagement Network (CEN) Future’s Planning session was held in May with representatives from a broad section of the community, who were asked to focus on next year and long term programming for CRPS high schools. What could be implemented within the year to support the Board's vision and what program offerings could be implemented to support the Board’s vision over the long term?

Short-term themes generated from those CEN discussions included open-ended design problems and challenges related to environmental sustainability; practicum and internship placements; dual credit opportunities and well-being. Long-term themes that surfaced through the CEN session included meaningful experiential learning through community partnerships; open-ended design problems based on student passions; environmental sustainability education; and well-being sustained through community connections.

Key priorities focused on engaged learning with the end goal to have students meaningfully engaged in their learning. Strategies to engage student learning included increased opportunities for students to take part in applied and experiential learning that matters to them, using real-world applications. Experiential learning opportunities will allow students to apply their knowledge and skills and understanding to real-world situations that will empower them to become engaged, successful citizens and help them to develop passions that inspire their future careers.

Mr. Holthuis outlined examples of experiential learning, such as: Land-based Education, Knowledge-Keeper Guided Learning, Simulations, Capstone Projects, Field Experiences, Design/Project-Based Learning, Creative Performances/Exhibits, Community-Engaged Research and Internships/Placements. These are potential elements for programming within CRPS.

Experiential learning currently taking place at our high schools include: Grade 9 Career Exploration Program and Grade 10 Career Internship Program. Starting in Grade 9, students, on a volunteer basis, can begin a career exploration program through a work study.

In Grade 10, students can begin a Career Internship Program by volunteering 25 hours at a local business over the course of a semester. Students do this on their own time, and on Friday’s when there are Professional Development days. We are thrilled to see our students engaging in our communities.

New courses being offered this year are: CTS Synthetic Biology Club, CTS Makerspace Courses, Environment Sustainability, Cosmetology and Applied Technologies. Teachers are encouraged and supported to incorporate technology and experiential learning into the curriculum.

**Interested in learning more? You are cordially invited to attend the CCHS Open House taking place on November 30th. Come and see the work being done to engage students and bring to life the Board’s vision of “Creating a better world through transformational education that celebrates nature diversity and well-being.”**



**Occupational Health & Safety Coordinator**

**Acting Custodian Supervisor**

**Facility Monitor(s)**

**School Bus Drivers**

**Interested candidates are invited to send a resume to [hr@crps.ca](mailto:hr@crps.ca)**



**Arlene Rheaume**  
Chair



**Brian Callaghan**  
Vice-Chair



**Carol Picard**



**Luke Sunderland**



**Dale Craig**