

Every Student, Every Day, A Success.



Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025 **Battle River School Division** **Board of Trustees**



Why We Exist

All students are individuals. They have unique skills and abilities, backgrounds and realities — academically, socially and emotionally, the definition of success is different for each of them. Battle River School Division exists to ensure each student receives the support they need in order to succeed at school. We are a progressive school division with many opportunities for students.

Who We Are



- We are a growing rural school division serving about 5,398 grade one to 12 students, along with 414 kindergarten and pre-kindergarten kids.
- In addition to having two outreach schools and schools on 10 Hutterite colonies, we have 19 schools in 13 different centres.
- Our schools, mostly in small, rural, east-central Alberta communities, have population ranges from a few hundred to a few thousand people.
- The City of Camrose is the largest centre, with a population of almost 20 thousand people. Battle River School Division covers about 6,300 square km.
- More than 3,600 of our students take the bus to and from school.
- Our buses travel upward of 10 thousand km every day. That's over 44 trips around the world in our 2023-24 school year!



Our Vision

***Every Student,
Every Day,
A Success.***

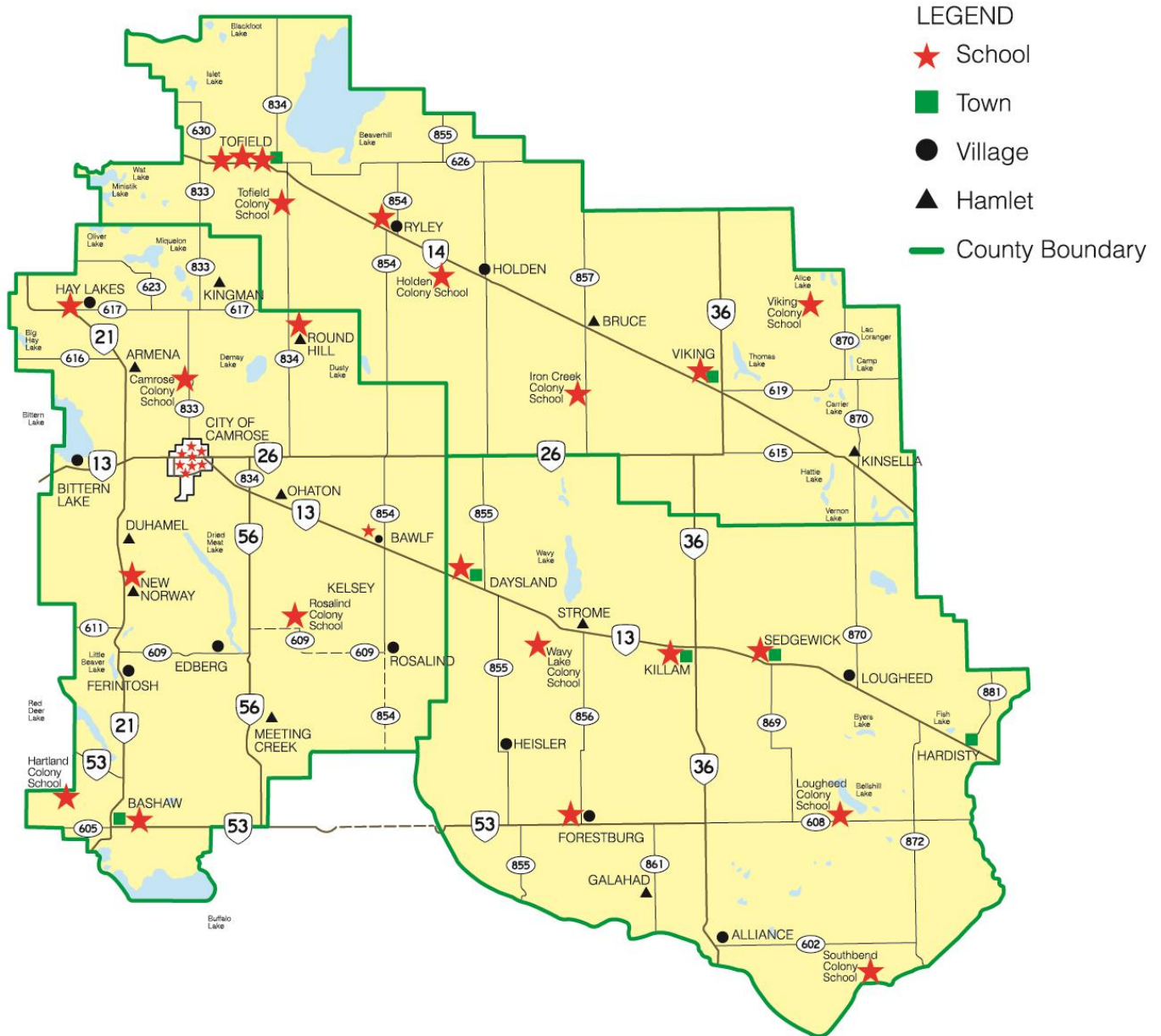
Our Mission

Battle River School Division, in collaboration with our communities, will support every student to be a lifelong learner and contributing member of society.

Our Beliefs

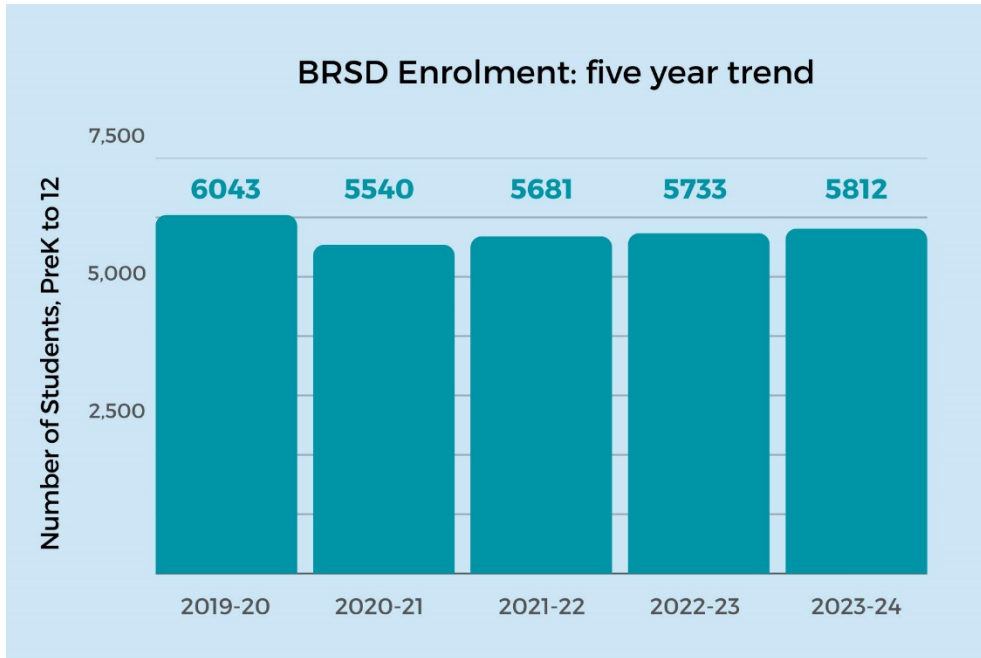
- Every child can learn.
- Our fundamental purpose is to promote student learning, growth and understanding.
- Everyone will be treated with dignity and respect in a safe and caring environment.
- Positive relationships build healthy, resilient students and staff.
- When a student is in need, we will provide support.
- We will support everyone student to the best of our ability every day.
- All staff must be skilled, committed and dedicated to their own continuous learning.
- Optimal learning occurs when it is engaging, meaningful and active.

About Us



- Our school division was formed in 1995, at the same time many other school jurisdictions in Alberta were regionalized. Four different school authorities came together to form Battle River School Division, which was originally known as Battle River Regional Division #31. The authorities were:
 - * Beaver County * Camrose County * City of Camrose * Flagstaff County
- The Board includes five elected Trustees — one from each of the Counties and two from the City of Camrose — who work collaboratively for the benefit of the entire Division.

Opportunities and Challenges



Enrolment Trends

- Funding is based on student enrolment, and enrolment in our division has been increasing.

Rising costs and aging buildings

- Fuel, utility and insurance costs are soaring, creating budget pressure.
- With many school buildings more than 50 years old, the school division faces significant infrastructure challenges and needs.

Ensuring equity and opportunities for all students

- Students deserve access to a quality education, that meets their needs, regardless of where they live or go to school.
- A focus on supporting literacy and numeracy skills happens at all grade levels.
- We are supporting student mental health.

By the numbers:

8/12

Rural BRSD schools serve programming for students up to Grade 12.

It's a challenge to: provide a full range of programs to small numbers of students in each grade.

77%

of our spending is on PEOPLE.

It's a challenge to: make changes without impacting jobs.

\$350,000

is a typical cost for a school roof repair.

It's a challenge to: cover that cost for schools.

7 & 10

is the number of BRSD Family School Liaison Workers and Mental Health Capacity Builders who provide programs in support of student mental wellbeing.

It's a challenge to: serve all students' needs.

3

is the number of new bus routes in the division to help reduce the time spent riding the bus. *It's a challenge to:*

keep ride times reasonable

\$140,000

is a typical cost for a school bus purchase. *It's a challenge to:*

continually update the Division's fleet is upgraded

Looking ahead

Specific Priorities for 2023-2024

- Develop priorities in response to input provided through survey questions, and address additional information and topics that arise.
- Assess policies to address rural school division needs.
- Completion of the attendance boundary review to meet future needs.

Specific Priorities for 2024-2025

- Promote and build awareness for potential Trustees, in preparation for municipal election.
- Ensure current Board leaves a clear history and summary for the incoming Board.
- Adoption of the recommendations from the attendance boundary review to best suit the needs of the Division.
- Ensure the adoption of policies and procedures to promote growth

How will we know we are getting there?

We recognize that achieving the vision of *Every Student, Every Day, A Success* is an ongoing process. Over the four-year term of 2021-2025, the BRSD Board of Trustees will know they are making progress toward this vision through the development of:

- an attendance boundary review;
- increased enrolment in BRSD schools;
- enhanced opportunities;
- positive community and stakeholder relationships.
- policies, procedures, and advocacy efforts necessary to recognize BRSD as a growing rural school division.



Meet the BRSD Board of Trustees



Patrick McFeely
Board Chair

City of Camrose

Doug Algar
Vice Chair

City of Camrose



Lyle Albrecht

Beaver County



Karen Belich

Camrose County



Dwight Dibben

Flagstaff County

