

# *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 5,439 grade one to 12 students, along with 404 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 communities.
- Most of our schools are located in small rural east-central Alberta communities that have population ranges from a few hundred to a few thousand people.
- The City of Camrose is the largest centre, with a population of over 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 approximately 10,805 km/day every day. That's over 46 trips around the world in our 2024-25 school year!



## Our Vision

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

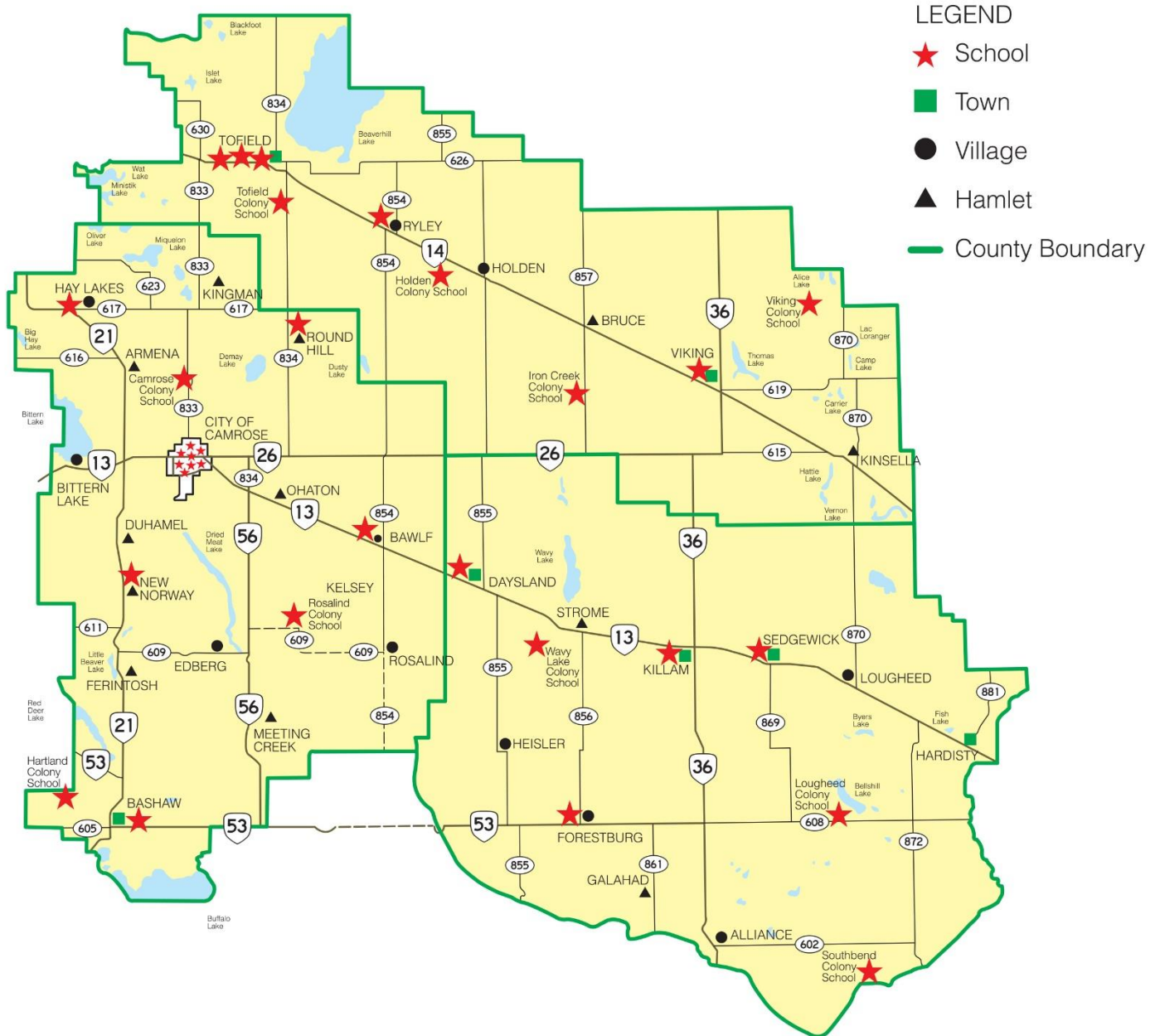
## Our Mission

*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

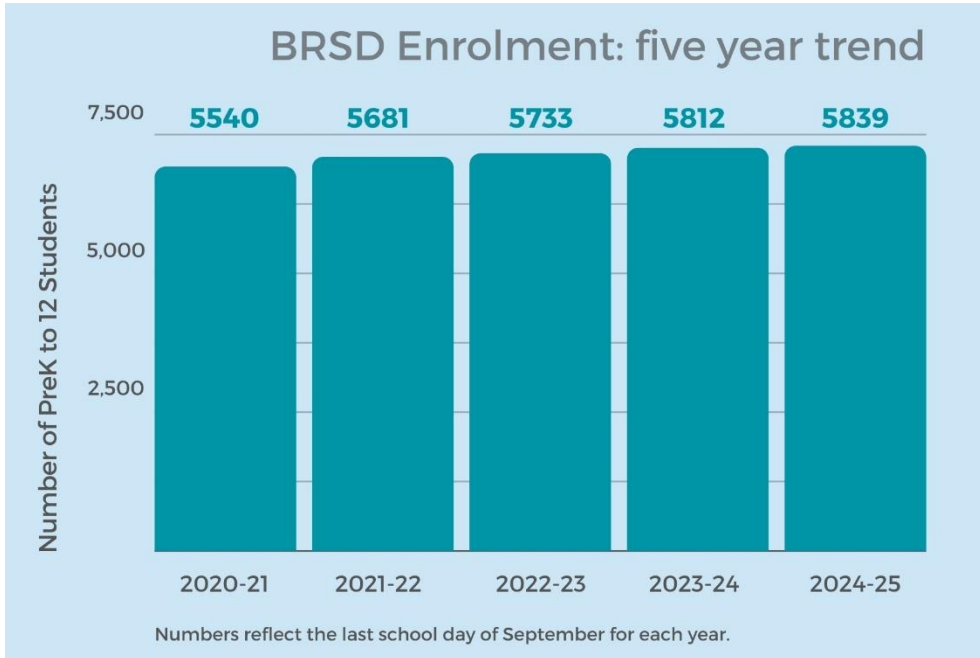
- Every child can learn.
- Our fundamental purpose is to promote student learning, growth and understanding.
- Everyone will be treated with dignity and respect in a safe and caring environment.
- Positive relationships build healthy, resilient students and staff.
- When a student is in need, we will provide support.
- We will support every 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.*

**76%**

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 Student Wellness Facilitators and Mental Health Capacity Builders who provide programs in support of student mental wellbeing.

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

**ALL**

K to 6 classrooms were equipped with sound field systems:

*Improves learning environment*

**\$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 2024-2025*

- Advocate for our rural school division;
- Ensure the adoption of policies and procedures to promote growth;
- Complete comprehensive Board evaluation;
- 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.

## *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:

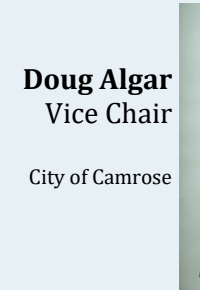
- positive community and stakeholder relationships;
- policies, procedures, and advocacy efforts necessary to recognize BRSD as a growing rural school division;
- increased enrolment in BRSD schools;
- enhanced opportunities;
- completed comprehensive board evaluation and made action items to move forward to ensure successful transition for the incoming board.



## 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