



BOARD

February 13, 2025

highlights

Board of Trustees: Doug Algar, Patrick McFeely, Dwight Dibben, Karen Belich, Lyle Albrecht

Education Survey

Battle River School Division is launching the BRSD Education Plan Stakeholder Survey to gather valuable feedback from families, Grades 4-12 students, and staff.

Conducted externally through Blulantern, this anonymous survey will help shape strategies aligned with our three key priorities: Learning Success for All, Enhance High Quality Learning and Working Environments, and Well-Being.

The survey takes approximately 12-15 minutes to complete, and will be open from February 24 to March 10, 2025, with a recommended completion date of March 7.

Last year, insights from over 270 participants played a key role in refining our Education Plan, and we look forward to an even higher level of engagement this year.

Partnering with Blulantern ensures all responses remain anonymous and confidential, allowing for honest and meaningful feedback.

We appreciate the participation of all stakeholders in shaping the future of learning in BRSD.

Edwin Parr Nomination

The Board is pleased to announce that École Charlie Killam School teacher, Mr. Jacob Kendall, is selected as the Edwin Parr nominee for BRSD.

Mr. Kendall demonstrates exceptional dedication to student success by creating a welcoming, inclusive classroom where all students feel valued. His commitment to professional growth is evident in his collaborative approach, differentiated instruction, and engaging, structured lessons that align with curricular outcomes. School leaders commend his strong classroom management, effective use of humour, and ability to foster student engagement through well-planned activities.

Beyond the classroom, Mr. Kendall plays a vital role in the school community. He successfully coached the volleyball team to victory in their home tournament, currently coaches the Grade 6 basketball team, and supports the chess club. His passion for extracurricular activities enhances student well-being, engagement, and school spirit.



Mr. Kendall embodies the qualities of an inspiring educator. His leadership, dedication, and impact make him a deserving nominee for this prestigious award, and the Board of Trustees is pleased to support his nomination.

Every Student,
Every Day, a Success.

highlights

Events and Meetings

Upcoming Council of School Councils meeting:

- Tues., April 15, 2025, 6:30 p.m., Killam Public School

Busing Eligibility Changes

The Board of Trustees discussed the significant impact of Alberta Education's new transportation eligibility changes, which will increase the minimum distance for busing eligibility from 1 km to 1.6 km for students in Grades 1 to 6, effective for the 2025-26 school year. This change will affect a substantial number of BRSD students, requiring adjustments to transportation planning and operations.

Joint Use and Planning Agreement

The Board has approved the Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) between BRSD and the Village of Hay Lakes, and between BRSD and the Village of Heisler.

As the Education Act (S 53.1) requires, school divisions must enter into a JUPA under section 670.1 of the Municipal Government Act with each municipality within which the school division operates.

Budget Assumptions

To support 2025-26 budget decisions, the Board will continue to review budget assumptions.

Budget assumptions include estimates and facts that support the development of the division's budget based on the best information available when the 2025-26 budget is prepared.

Community Engagement

As part of the Board's Community Engagement Plan, members are meeting with the Killam Town Council on Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025.

The discussion will be focused on the Board's political advocacy plan, including their strategic plan, capital priorities, and other priorities. This meeting reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to collaboration with community stakeholders to advance initiatives.

Reports

The Board of Trustees continues to receive reports from BRSD Senior Leadership: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent - Education Services, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources and Secretary-Treasurer.

These reports support informed decision-making and ensure alignment with BRSD's priorities:

- Learning Success for All
- Enhance High Quality Learning and Working Environments
- Well-Being

Bus Route Cancellations

The Board of Trustees reviewed Administrative Procedure 555 - Cancellation of Bus Routes, with the recent extreme cold weather warnings. Trustees discussed the procedure's guidelines for student safety and transportation decisions during severe weather conditions.

Board Policy Work

This month, as part of its role and responsibilities in governance, the Board reviewed:

Policy 16: School / Program Closure

This review ensured alignment with BRSD's commitment to providing high-quality, equitable, and efficient educational programming.