

OUR VISION

Our school division endeavours to provide each student with the opportunity to fulfill their potential and pursue their dreams.

OUR MISSION

We nurture each student's education and well-being within an inclusive rural learning community.



Key Messages: March
11, 2020

District Priority 1: Student Learning

- ✓ GYPSD teacher Debra McKinnon presented her work in the [Forest School](#) kindergarten program at Evansview to pre-service elementary teachers at the University of Alberta. Ms. McKinnon shared the philosophy, benefits of, and research behind play-based, outdoor instruction to the soon-to-be Education graduates.
- ✓ The Board hosted Community Engagements included a collaborative *Principal Presentation*, describing the learning journey for students from junior kindergarten through to Grade 12 within each of the Division's communities. Event attendees heard from the principals on how they:
 - worked together from a community perspective;
 - brought their staff together for shared learning and professional development;
 - used data from multiple sources to build a comprehensive understanding of student strengths and areas for improvement;
 - designed targeted, evidence-based initiatives to improve learning outcomes; and
 - accessed Alberta-based experts on literacy and instructional coaching.

District Priority 2: Teaching and Leadership Excellence

- ✓ Harry Collinge teacher **Camron These** is this year's [Edwin Parr](#) nominee for GYPSD. Cam teaches Math 31, Math 30-1, Math 9, outdoor education and physical education. Mr. These presented on his first year of teaching to the Board of Trustees, Superintendent Lewis and GYPSD senior administration team, identifying engaging lesson design and instructional strategies, relationships with students and colleagues, and being an active participant in the Hinton community as key to his success.
 - ✓ Superintendent Lewis attended a [College of School Superintendents](#) (CASS) meeting and heard from Education Deputy Minister Andre Corbould about the new funding and assurance model.
 - ✓ Superintendents from [Zones 2 and 3](#) asked clarifying questions on:
 - [New curriculum](#)
 - Board use of operating funds
 - [International travel and COVID 19](#)
 - ✓ Board Chair Rosadiuk, Vice-Chair Zaporosky, Superintendent Lewis and Secretary-Treasurer Nicholson are meeting with the Minister on March 20 for more budget details.

District Priority 3: Community Engagement

- ✓ Board Chair Rosadiuk, Vice Chair Zaporosky, Trustees Fate, Karpluk, Aust, Caputo and Fowler are committed to leading advocacy for strong public education, building collaborative relationships and developing solutions-focused partnerships to ensure success for our GYPSD students and community. Highlights include:

Attendance at:

 - Ministry meeting to get clarity on the details of the [new funding framework](#);
 - Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards to share information, seek collaborations, explore solutions unique to rural schools;
 - [Alberta Rural Education Symposium](#) where a Ministers' Panel (Education Minister LaGrange, [Agriculture and Forestry](#) Minister Dresshen, and [Indigenous Relations](#) Minister Wilson) spoke to how the UCP is addressing rural issues;
- ✓ Hosted Jasper and Lobstick area [Community Engagement](#) events;
- ✓ Ongoing relationship building with MLAs Long and Getson; MP [Gerald Soroka](#), and Elders from Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 lands.
- ✓ Approved motion to update Joint Use Agreements held with municipalities within the Division;
- ✓ Approved 24 updates to [Board Policy](#) and Appendices to reflect the new [Education Act](#) and relevant regulations.