

August 12, 2024

Dear Jasper Parents,

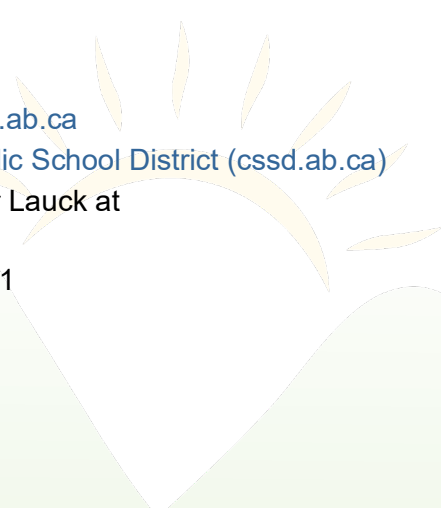
With the start of the school year just around the corner, we know that many of you have questions about the status of schools in Jasper and where your children will be attending school to start the new school year. We are committed to keeping you informed and to making sure plans are in place to maintain educational continuity and a healthy back-to-school routine for you and your children during these difficult times. The health, well-being and safety of students are our highest priority and will inform all decisions as we work to welcome students back to school.

At this time, we know that schools in Jasper will not be ready to open at the start of the school year, and we are working to determine a timeline by which it will be safe and possible for students, teachers and support staff to return to school. The key considerations include the safety of the school buildings themselves, accommodation for teachers and staff, and the overall readiness of the school facilities. We are working with the Alberta government to expedite resources such as cleanup contractors and accommodations for teachers and support staff. We commit to providing more details on when schools will reopen as they become available.

To maintain educational continuity and important back-to-school routines for families and students, we are working closely with the Alberta government and partner school authorities to provide several options for Jasper students to attend school to start the year.

In the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division, we are preparing to accommodate students in school facilities in Hinton and Edson. We are also working to provide online learning options as a temporary measure to start the year. To register your children to attend school in Edson or Hinton, please contact us at registration@gypsd.ca.

If Hinton or Edson are not options for you, you can register your children to attend school in any Alberta community by contacting the local school authority (you can find a full list of authorities ([here](#))). For those of you staying in reception centres in Edmonton, Calgary and Grande Prairie, you are welcome to register your children to attend schools in those communities by contacting the local school authorities listed below. They will work with you to find a school for your children.

- Edmonton Public Schools: 780-429-8030
 - Edmonton Catholic Schools: 780-441-6060
 - Calgary Board of Education: JasperEvacuees@cbe.ab.ca
 - Calgary Catholic Schools: [Register - Calgary Catholic School District \(cssd.ab.ca\)](http://Register - Calgary Catholic School District (cssd.ab.ca))
 - Grande Prairie Catholic Schools: Contact Mr. Roger Lauck at rogerlauck@gpcsd.ca
 - Grande Prairie Public School Division: 780-532-4491
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Students enrolled in schools outside Jasper to the start the year will be able to return to school in Jasper when the schools reopen in the community.

On behalf of all of us in the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division, I want to extend our sincerest sympathies to all of you during this difficult time. If you are experiencing emotional difficulty or need someone to talk to, help is available by calling the Mental Health Helpline at [1-877-303-2642](tel:1-877-303-2642) or online at albertahealthservices.ca/news.

If you have any questions about school registration, please contact us at registration@gypsd.ca and one of our staff will reply. We will provide further updates as new information becomes available. For general inquiries, please contact the Alberta government [online](#) or by telephone toll free at 310-4455 (in Alberta) or 1-877-770-4636.

I invite you also to read the attached letter from Education Minister Demetrios Nicolaidis.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Lewis

Carolyn Lewis, EdD
CEO/Superintendent of Schools
Grande Yellowhead Public School Division

