



## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

December 17, 2024 Board Meeting

### **Capital Projects**

The Breton modernization project has been posted for Tender by Alberta Infrastructure and is expected to close in mid December with the selection of the general contractor planned to occur in mid to late January. In preparation for work to begin, Wild Rose School Division continues to work with Black Gold School Division to prepare the spaces in Warburg School for our Breton students and staff. Teachers at Breton High have been packing, purging and planning for the move to try and make the transition for students as smooth as possible.

### **Indigenous Education Initiatives**

#### **Winter Family Gathering:**

On December 5th, 2024 Wild Rose School Division hosted a Winter Family Gathering at West Central High School for families and caregivers of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. This evening brought families together for a cozy evening of food, fun, and connection. We shared a delicious meal, enjoyed a winter-themed dot art activity as well as karaoke, and most importantly, time spent together as a community. The Indigenous Education team is excited to plan a similar gathering for the North region early in 2025!



#### **Learning and Growing Together**

Wild Rose is excited to welcome to the Indigenous Education team Fayth Armson and Melissa McCarthy! They will be joining us after the winter break and we look forward to connecting with all WRSD schools in the new year! The Indigenous Education team has been actively leading workshops on Indigenous worldview, trauma-informed teaching, land-based learning, Indigenous resilience and strength. Teachers are embracing the journey of decolonizing education with courage and commitment. Board-approved Locally Developed Courses in Smudging and Beading are enhancing cultural learning opportunities.

### **Celebrating Culture and Connection**

WRSD is excited to partner with Red Deer Catholic and Asokewin for *Uncles in Training*, a high school credit program supporting the cultural wellness and leadership development of Indigenous male students. In partnership with Red Deer Catholic and Red Deer Polytechnic, *Aunties in Training*, a culturally enriching land camp, provides space for Indigenous female students to connect, learn, and grow alongside Elders and Knowledge Holders. Additionally, our team accompanied Indigenous Studies classes to the Indigenous People's Experience at Fort Edmonton, deepening our collective understanding of history, treaties, and Indigenous perspectives, while celebrating cultural strength.



### **Supporting Individuals Through Valued Attachments (SIVA) Training**

More than 67 Administrators, Classroom Teachers and Educational Assistants from Charlotte Small Elementary School, Lochearn School and Caroline took part in Day 1 of SIVA training. The training was provided by the Director and Coordinator of Inclusive Services. SIVA training is a 2 day program to help develop staff's ability to support students with challenging behaviour needs through both proactive and reactive strategies. Day 2 of Training will take place on January 31, 2025. The Next SIVA training for Educational Assistants will take place on January 9 & 10 in Drayton Valley.

### **EA Information and Orientation Nights (Rocky Mountain House & Drayton Valley)**

Wild Rose School Division hosted 2 Educational Assistant Information and Orientation Nights in Rocky Mountain House (November 25) and Drayton Valley (November 18). Over the two nights, 25 participants attended the sessions. Topics included how to apply for casual (sub) and regular job postings. Participants learned about the CAMSEE collective agreement and the levels of remuneration for both casual and regular employees. The Director and Coordinator of Inclusive Services shared tips, tools and strategies for working with students with exceptional learning needs in elementary, middle and high school. Other topics included sub plans, visual schedules, and supporting students with varied needs (including complex needs, academic needs and social/emotional needs).