

Wild Rose School Division

4912-43 Street, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1P4
Ph: 1-800-771-0537 | (403) 845-3376 |
www.wrsd.ca | Facebook.com/WRSD.ca | @WildRoseSchools

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

September 16, 2025 Board Meeting

Opening of the 2025-2026 School Year

The school year has commenced with much excitement across all our communities. We've seen excellent attendance at open houses, meet-the-staff, and school start up events, reflecting the strong engagement of our families.

While two of our schools, Rocky Christian School and École Rocky Elementary, had a bit of a delayed start due to some building issues, I am happy to report that they are now in class and fully engaged in their learning.

As the new superintendent, I have prioritized visiting all schools within the Wild Rose School Division. To date, I have visited 10 of the 17 schools and will complete all visits by the end of September. I have appreciated the invitations to meet with staff and attend welcome-back events across the division.

Provincial Legislation Update

In accordance with recent provincial legislation, the Wild Rose School Division is actively developing and/or updating policies and procedures to align with new requirements from Alberta Education. Key areas of focus include:

- Parental Notification and Consent: New procedures are being implemented for parental notification and consent regarding a student's request for a gender-related preferred name or pronouns.
- Opt-In Consent for Curriculum: We are establishing an "opt-in" consent process for specific subject matter dealing explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality.
- Fairness and Safety in Sport: Our division is reviewing and updating policies related to athletic eligibility and participation to align with the new Fairness and Safety in Sport
- School Library Materials: Procedures for the selection and management of school library materials are being reviewed to ensure compliance with provincial standards.

Health and Safety Meeting

On September 11, 2025, the Wild Rose School Division (WRSD) Health and Safety Committee held its first meeting of the new school year. The committee, which includes representatives from both employee and employer groups, addressed several key items.

The meeting began with a review and approval of the updated Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee's **Terms of Reference**. Following this, new co-chairs were selected. The committee also received and discussed reports on recent injuries and accidents within the division, as well as the results of school inspections.

The annual Health and Safety Liaison meeting took place following the H&S Meeting made up of staff representatives from across the school division.

Education Plan

On September 15, 2025, our executive team and educational directors met with a representative from Alberta Education to review the Wild Rose School Division's Education Plan for 2022-2026. I am pleased to report that WRSD met all requirements outlined by Alberta Education.

This year, we will be developing a new four-year Education Plan to guide our division's priorities and goals. We look forward to creating a comprehensive plan that will support our students, staff, and community for the years ahead.

Start Up Professional Learning

With 5 start up professional learning days, it allowed for schools to run local, collaborative and even some division wide PL opportunities. New to the profession and new to Wild Rose teachers came together on August 27 to learn about Wild Rose, meet people at the Division and learn the systems and people they will be working with. Math teachers in grades 6-12 from across the division came together to read the new grade 7-9 Math curriculum and discuss the impact and sequence of learning with students moving between new and old versions of the curricula. Schools had PL led by both school and the Learning Services Coordinator on new curriculum resourcing, instructional planning, and goal setting and assessment in middle school. All staff were given time on the Friday afternoon to complete their Public School Works safety and training modules.

Therapy Contractor Team Meeting:

On Sept 3, 2025 the WRSD therapy contractors team met together to review our service delivery model for students in PreKindergarten to grade 12. We currently contract 4 Speech and Language Pathologists, 3 Occupational Therapists and 1 Physical Therapist to support students in PreK- grade 12. We also contract low incidence (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Vision) consultants from Central Alberta Low Incidence Cooperative. Finally, we employ 5 Speech and Language Therapy assistants who also joined us for the morning. Agenda items include:(a) Identification of New Students, (b) New Augmentative Adapted Communication process and support, (c) Referral to Alberta Health Services, (d) Individualized/Targeted/Universal program options &

strategies, (e) Supporting the extension of therapeutic goals into home environments, (f) Standardizing communication and documentation for school based learning teams & parents

WrapAround Meetings

The Purpose of the <u>Wrap Around Support Team</u> is to draw upon the expertise in our community to support the needs of any student experiencing challenges. Prior to accessing the Wrap Around Support Team, Schools will provide support at the school level, then the division level. The members of the WrapAround Meeting may include: Parent/Guardian, Children's Services, Alberta Justice, School SRO Alberta Recovery (Addictions and Mental Health), WRSD Student Services Director or Coordinator, School Administrator, Inclusive Learning Support Teacher (ILST), Family Wellness Worker (FWW), Family Resource network (FRN), Kickstart Youth Hub, Others as needed. Over the last 5 years, we have seen a substantial increase in the number of WrapAround Meetings. Please see below:

2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
7	9	11	34	45

Back to School with Indigenous Education – WRSD

The Indigenous Education team has started the year with strong momentum, building on existing relationships and creating new opportunities for students, staff, and families. School visits have included braid teachings with local Knowledge Holders, relational connections through shared meals and conversations, and classroom activities that highlight culture, belonging, and identity. Professional learning sessions are underway, with a focus on Wahkohtowin (kinship and connection) to guide meaningful collaboration across schools. This year, the team is also excited to pilot a new program, Wîcihitowin Walks—guided opportunities for interested staff to come together in schools and on the land to learn, reflect, and support one another in Indigenous education—while continuing to provide professional learning opportunities for all WRSD staff through the Outdoor Learning Store and developing new hands-on, meaningful professional development offerings for all ages. Family events and land-based learning opportunities are being prepared to ensure students are set up for success from the very



beginning of the year. The team looks forward to a year of connection, growth, and walking together in a good way.