

Belonging, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, Safety

Principal's Message

As we wrap up semester one on Monday with the last diploma exam, you will find that this newly named newsletter looks both forward and backwards. We have been most impressed with the diligence of our students taking their final school and diploma exams over the last two weeks and we hope that their hard work has paid off. As always, I thank the staff for their commitment to making the transition from one semester to another as smooth as possible. Do read on as there is lots to share this week! - Natasha Miles

Semester Two Starts on Tuesday

Semester two and Quarter three (for Grade 9 option courses) starts on **Tuesday, January 28th**. Students should look at their schedule in PowerSchool. Grade 9 students have a switch in their schedule: 9A have Humanities in Block A and STEM in Block D while 9B now have STEM in Block A and Humanities in Block D. Grade 12 students only have until **Friday February 7th** to withdraw from a course or to request a course change. This change should reflect their graduation plan. Course change requests are not being taken from Grade 9 to 11 students at this stage.

Main Entrance and Door Opening Times

The new entrance is finished and students and staff will use this as the main entrance to the school. Banff Avenue (side door) and Beaver Street entrances will be open at 8am until the start of classes and again over lunchtime. Any late students or visitors should use the main entrance and ring the doorbell then patiently wait for the door to be opened. The Banff Avenue side entrance will no longer be open during the school day.

Also, students are not supervised at the end of the day after 4pm. The doors will be locked from Purkis Hall into the main building at this time. Students may stay in Purkis Hall if there is a team practice taking place but parents should know that there is no supervision.

Grade 12 Diploma Results

Diploma exam results will be available in [myPass](#) on **February 18th**. If a student feels that their diploma exam was not scored appropriately, they can request a rescore in myPass. The deadline is February 27th. There is an administration fee payable to Alberta Education for each diploma exam rescore requested. This fee is paid by the student.

Textbook Return

Students who have completed semester one courses **must** return their textbooks and novels to the library this week. Textbooks cost between \$80 and \$100 each. If a student does not return a textbook before semester two starts they will not receive a semester two textbook unless they pay for a replacement or find and return the book.

New Student Passwords

Students will be issued with new login passwords in their Humanities classes on **Wednesday, January 29th**. On Saturday, February 1st the switchover will be made and students will not be able to log onto their CRPS Google account until Sunday. Students must not share their passwords with others.

Report Cards

Report cards for Semester 1 will be issued in Power School on **Friday, January 31st**. Please do look at these as they are important documents describing your child's progress to date. Teachers often provide suggestions for the semester ahead.

Grade 9 students have had their learning assessed using **Outcomes Based Assessment** ([more information can be found here](#)). Their report cards will look different to grades 10 - 12 report cards and also to those they received at Banff Elementary School in Grade 8. Please take the time to look beyond the percentage mark and read what outcomes your child has strengths in and what outcomes your child can continue to make progress in. Teachers have placed considerable emphasis on this section of the report card. By going through this section with your child you can support them in understanding what skills and understandings they can develop further in the second half of the year.

Shared Vision of Learning



All Canadian Rockies Public Schools are committed to **Inspiring Hearts and Minds**. This is so important that it is part of the CRPS logo. We also have a **Shared Vision of Learning** that defines our collective beliefs about learning which guides our actions. Each day we consider how we will strive to empower learners to be critical, creative thinkers, innovators, problem solvers, effective communicators, and collaborators, who are globally aware, independent, and responsible citizens. As we enter Semester 2 we would like to exemplify how we have addressed the following belief:

- **We believe in and embrace the importance of whole-child education in the development of each learner.**

In Semester 1 we embraced this by:

- Asking Fashion, Foods, and Art students to create gifts and products that could be sold at the Winter Craft Fair for the real-world purpose of raising funds for the Banff Food Rescue.
- Varying the activities in PE 9 and 10 classes to include a range of sports and activities that develop lifelong physical literacy and utilize our location in Banff and the mountains. Some of the activities are hiking, curling, skating, and cross-country running.

- Developing sportsmanship and teamwork skills in a variety of sports such as golf, cross country running, volleyball, and basketball.
- Our Junior and Senior Bands performed at the Banff Springs Hotel for the annual Seniors' Tea and at the Pancake Breakfast at the end of 2024. Our Senior Band also led us in an act of Remembrance in November as well as performed at the Community Concert at the Banff Centre.

Next week we will learn what has happened at BCHS in regard to the second 'believe' statement. Do visit our **Shared Vision of Learning** display board in Purkis Hall to explore this vision in action further.

Did you know?

Fun Facts from our School Annual Results Report!

This report was shared at the School Council meeting in November and will be shared with the Board of Trustees in February. We want to share with you, a couple of facts each week. Surveys are conducted in the spring and include all students, Grade 10 parents, and all teachers. We always strive to make the results even better every year and in the spring we will be seeking input from our stakeholders as we go through the process of developing a new four-year School Education Plan for 2025-2029 to help prioritize actions we need to take to address change and progress.

- Fact #1: 75% of our students in 23/24 feel safe at BCHS in comparison to the Canadian norm of 58%. We strive for 100%!
- Fact #2: 81.3% of the survey respondents in 23/24, report that students are engaged in their learning. Guess what? We strive for 100%!

Wellness Weekly Tip

The start of the new semester is a great time to reset and refocus on wellness!

Staying active is key to maintaining both physical and mental health, especially while balancing school, social life, and extracurriculars. Aim for at least 30 minutes of exercise a day, whether it's walking, dancing, or playing sports, to boost your energy, mood, and focus. Don't forget to get enough sleep, as rest is just as important for your brain and body to perform at their best!

Looking for more ways to participate in school wellness at BCHS? Our next Wellness Committee meeting will take place **Wednesday, January 29th** from 11:45-12:25 in front of Ms. Emily's office. All are welcome!

Extra Curricular News

Athletics

Basketball:

Practices

- JR & JV Boys practice on Mondays & Thursdays from 3:30-5:00pm
- JV Girls practice on Mondays from 5:00-7:00pm and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00pm
- SR Girls practice on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00pm and Wednesdays from 5:00-7:00pm
- SR Boys practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-7:00pm

Basketball Games

- Monday, January 27- SR Girls @ CCHS from 6:30-8:00pm
- Friday & Saturday, January 31/February 1 - SR Girls tournament @ CCHS
- Friday & Saturday, January 31/February 1 - SR Boys tournament @ Oilfields

Rugby

- Any girls in grades 9 to 12 interested in playing rugby this year, please come for a brief informational meeting **Tuesday, January 28th** at 11:25 am in Rm 208.

Volunteers 2024-2054

All volunteers need to complete a Vulnerable Sector Check with the RCMP every 12 months. This usually only takes a few days - contact Renee Husdal, in the office for more details and a form. Throughout the year we need volunteers for field trips, as coaches for teams, and other extracurricular activities.

School Fees

ALL semester one fees (including volleyball) are now overdue.

You can find a listing of school fees [here](#).

School fees can be paid online through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Once you sign on, under "Navigation," click "Student Fees."

Please [click here](#) for instructions on how to make a payment using [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).

Debit or credit card payments can be made online through your Parent Portal.

If you wish to pay by cheque, cash, or tap & pay, you can do so through the BCCHS Main Office.

In cases of financial hardship, please email Renee Husdal for a "Fee Waiver Form" or call her at 403-762-4411.

The Week Ahead

Monday, January 27, 2025

- Science 30 diploma exam
- SR Girls Basketball Game @CCHS from 6:30-8:00 pm

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

- Semester 2 and Quarter 3 (grade 9 options) start
- Girls Rugby informational meeting in room 208 - 11:25 am
- Green Team/High Hopes meeting at lunch m 208

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

- Knowledge Keepers visit Humanities 10 classes
- Student Council meeting at lunch

Thursday, January 30, 2025

- Grad meeting at lunch

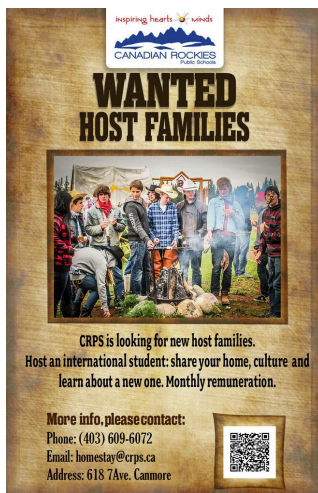
Friday, January 31, 2025

- Report cards issued for Semester 1
- SR Girls BBall Tournament @CCHS
- SR Boys BBall Tournament @Oilfields High School

Upcoming Dates

- Feb. 3: School Council meeting 4:15pm
- Feb. 5: Student Voices at Student leadership council
- Feb. 7: Half day Friday A and B Block
- Feb. 7 & 8: SR Boys basketball home tournament
- Feb. 7: Grade 12 course withdrawal deadline

- Feb. 10: Avalanche Skills Training (AST) presentation to Grade 10s for WimWe program
- Feb. 12: Grade 9 immunizations
- Feb. 13: 10A AST at Lake Louise
- Feb. 14: 10B AST at Lake Louise
- Feb. 14 & 15: SR Girls basketball tournament in Hanna
- Feb. 17 - Feb 21: No school for students
- Feb. 17 - Feb 19: No school for staff
- Feb. 20 & 21: Teachers at annual ATA convention
- Feb. 21 & 22: SR Boys Basketball tournament in Pincher Creek
- Feb. 24: Classes resume



Host Families Needed for International Students!

The CRPS International Student Program is looking for local Bow Valley families to join our Homestay Program from Feb-June 2025. Being a host family is a truly meaningful experience for all involved as you share culture, language, activities, and memories that will last a lifetime. Please check out the [Homestay Website](#) where you will find all the information you need about hosting a student including a link to the [Homestay Application](#).

SWIS Upcoming Events for Parents

The SWIS (Settlement Services in Schools) team is offering the following free events aimed at foreign-born students, parents, and family members. If you have any questions or would like more information about these sessions or other services offered by the SWIS Team please contact them at SWIS@banff.ca. Participants will be able to access Pizza Vouchers for these online sessions, please see the registration links for details.

- Schooling in Canada: Grade to Grade
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025
Time: 6:00–7:30 PM (online via Zoom)
Pizza vouchers are available.
[Register here](#)

News

Bow Valley Settlement Services Information and January newsletter [click here.](#)

Follow the [link](#) to view the highlights in The Brief from the November CRPS Public School Board Meeting.

BCHS Bear Tools

- Parents, please ensure you can log on to Parent Portal. Look for the PowerSchool Quick Link on our school webpage or [click here](#). This is where you will access daily updates on your student's marks and attendance, school fees, and more.
- Grade 10-12 students can access their official Alberta Education transcript of marks through a myPass account (myPass.alberta.ca). Grade 10 marks will start to appear after the first semester.
- The 2024/2025 Student / Parent Handbook is available on our [home page](#). Do have a look as it contains a lot of important information about how our school operates, our expectations, our celebrations of student success and dates for the whole year including diploma exams.
- Please click this link for the [2024 - 2025 School Calendar](#)
- For archived newsletters please click [here](#)
- Check out the BCHS Events Calendar <https://bchs.crps.ca/>.

Social Media

A great way to stay connected to our school is through our social media platforms. Make sure that you follow our school social media sites at the following addresses:



Website

Bear Celebrations

If you have a BCHS Celebration that you would like to share with our community, please email natasha.miles@crps.ca