



Belonging, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, Safety

THE BEAR BROADCAST

February 10th - 14th 2025

Principal's Message

Thank you to Kevin Hjertaas, Naomi Langer-McIntosh and Brian Sand for rallying a group of parent volunteers together to be able to run the casino fundraiser at the ACE Casino Blackfoot at the end of January. This will have raised a substantial amount of money that will go to the enhancement of student learning and activities at BCHS over the next few years and in particular the music program. Once we know the exact amount we will share it with you so that you know how much this significant effort raised. Thank you to the parent volunteers who attended.

Natasha Miles

Family Week and School Break

It is Family Day here in Alberta on Monday February 17th so school will be closed for everyone. For the rest of the week students enjoy the week off and teachers attend the annual ATA Convention in Calgary participating in a wealth of professional learning opportunities with other teachers in our region. See you back in school on Monday February 24th.

Supervision of Students After School Hours

Students may stay in the school until 4pm. After that, unless they are supervised by a teacher or are waiting for a team sports practice they do need to leave as students need to be supervised for safety reasons.

Personal Mobile Device Policy

Students have on the whole been able to follow the new restrictions during instruction time on the use of cell phones and other devices since Alberta Education brought in new guidelines in August 2024. We would like to remind students that the restrictions include Bluetooth earbuds; if students need to listen to music or watch instructional videos they should bring a set of headphones that can be plugged into their computer.

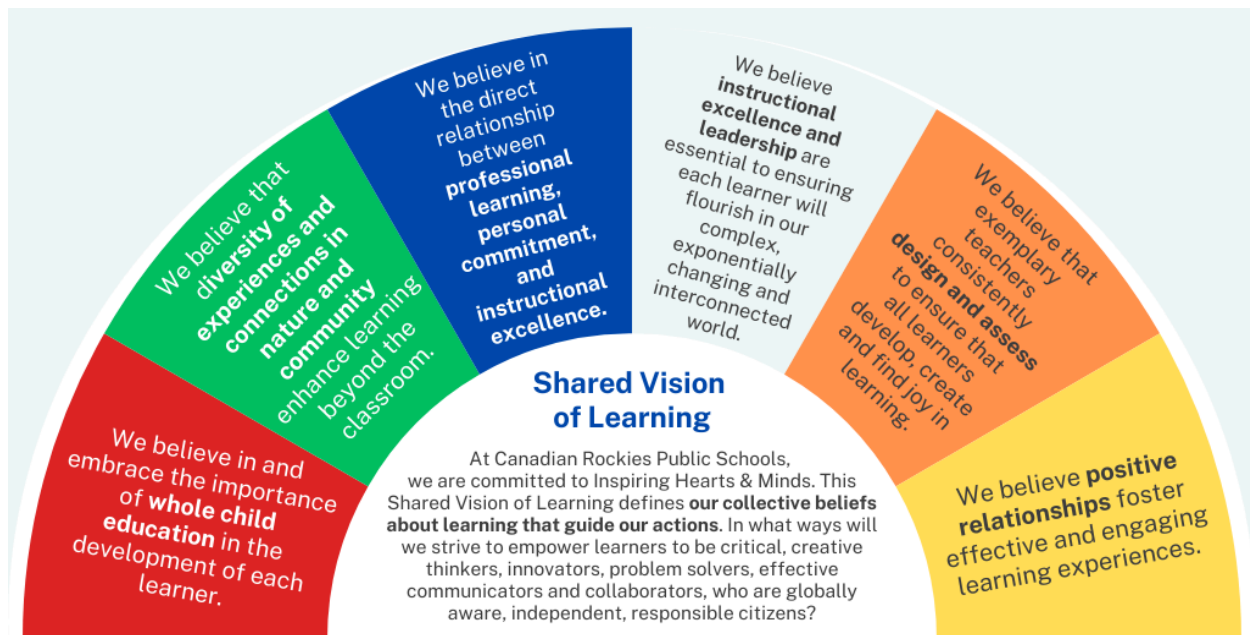


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Grade 12 Diploma Results

Diploma exam results are available in **myPass** on February 18th. If a student wishes to request a rescore of their exam this needs to be done by February 27th by the students in **myPass**. There is an administration fee paid to Alberta Education for each diploma exam rescore paid by the student through myPass.

Shared Vision of Learning



All Canadian Rockies Public Schools are committed to **Inspiring Hearts and Minds**. We ALSO have a **Shared Vision of Learning** that defines our collective beliefs about learning that guide 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. This is the second of six belief statements and exemplification of how we are living our beliefs at BCHS.

3. We believe in the direct relationship between professional learning, personal commitment and instruction excellence.



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At BCHS in Semester 1 we embraced this by:

- Grade 9 and 10 teachers from BCHS and CCHS have collaborated on the implementation (Gr 9) and preparation for 25/26 (Gr 10) of Outcomes Based Assessment for determining student learning and progress.
- All teachers have been undertaking and applying Professional Learning to their assessment practice in order to make it accurate, bias-resistant and motivational.
- We had another fabulous Honour Roll Presentation Evening at Banff Springs Hotel in October at which 83 students were recognised for their excellence in academic achievement.
- Our school leaders, the principal, the acting principal and acting assistant principal, lead teachers in professional learning both in assessment and differentiation practice supporting all learners.
- Our diploma course teachers welcomed and celebrated the Governor General Bronze Medal 23/24 recipient, Patrick Purcell, who gained the highest average for Grade 11 and 12 courses in his time at BCHS.

Next week we will learn what has happened at BCHS in regard to the fourth ‘believe’ statement during semester 1. 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 at their annual retreat this weekend. Provincial and divisional surveys are conducted in the spring of 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 prioritize actions to address change and progress. In order for more of our community to know about some of the details, we will share a couple each week in this newsletter so that we can get ready for the planning process coming up.

Fact #1: In Math 30-1 22.2% of students achieved a level of excellence in their diploma exam and in Math 30-2 this was at 33.3%.



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Fact #2: Although 31% of our students reported that they experience anxiety this is down from last year and slightly below the Canadian norm.

Wellness Weekly Tip

Looking forward to the break? Want a chance to feel rested and refreshed?

Keeping a routine over the break is an important part of taking care of your physical and mental health. When the structure of school isn't there, it can be easy to let your sleep schedule slide. Instead, try to adjust your sleep schedule minimally and ensure you get at least 8 hours a night. You may consider having a slightly later bedtime and sleep in time, but big changes to your sleep schedule can seriously impact your ability to learn and manage stress! You can help your body and mind to come back to school refreshed by ensuring you have a consistent sleep schedule, daily exercise, and nourishing food over the break.

Ms. Emily and Ms. Bekar are available to provide mental health support while at school. Please reach out if you or someone you know is struggling, or call/text or chat anytime by reaching out to KidsHelpPhone.ca or 1-800-668-6868.

Settlement Worker in Schools (SWIS) - Upcoming Events for Parents

The SWIS Team concludes its series of free events in February which are 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.

1. 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](#)

Extra Curricular News

Athletics



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Basketball Practices

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

Basketball Games

- Mon. Feb. 10th - JR Boys Basketball vs OLS from 3:30-5:00 pm

Rugby

- Conditioning practice on Monday, February 10th at BCHS for all boys and girls interested in playing rugby

Rowing Day in Canada

- February 22nd is Rowing Day in Canada. Indoor races are being held across the country. There will be Indoor Rowing Races in the Canmore Collegiate Theatre February 22, 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon. See your results against others on the Big Screen!
- Rowing Alberta wants to help build a BCHS/CCHS high school rowing club. This is a way to see what it's all about!
- Contact to Mr. Holthuis if you are interested hans.holthuis@crps.ca

The Week Ahead

Monday, February 10th 2025

- AST presentation for all Grade 10 students in the afternoon
- Jr Boys Basketball Game vs OLS from 3:30-5:00 pm at BCHS

Tuesday, February 11th 2025

- Green Team/High Hopes meeting at lunch Rm 208
- Teacher support at lunch



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Wednesday, February 12th 2025

- Student Council meeting at lunch
- Teacher support at lunch
- Grade 9 immunisations

Thursday, February 13th 2025

- Grad meeting at lunch
- Teacher support at lunch
- 10A to Lake Louise for AST training

Friday, February 14th 2025

- 10B to Lake Louise for AST training
- Gr 12 Course withdrawal deadline

Upcoming Dates

- Feb 14/15th: SR Girls Basketball tournament in Hanna
- Feb 17th - Feb 21st: No school for students
- Feb 17th - Feb 19th: No school for staff
- Feb 20th/ 21st: Teachers at the annual ATA convention
- Feb 21st/22nd: SR Boys Basketball tournament in Pincher Creek
- Feb 24th: Classes resume
- Feb 25th: SAIT Dual Credit Introduction to Cooking session #1
- Feb 26th: CRPS Board public meeting
- Feb 28th: Sr Girls basketball home tournament