

Belonging, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, Safety

Principal's Message

Canada's annual Pink Shirt Day is on February 26th. This year one of the T shirt designs available for this day is encouraging us to 'Let Kindness Grow". We all know that any random act of kindness can be passed on and shared but working hard to be consistently kind needs to be purposeful too. We wear Pink T Shirts in Canada on this day to show that bullying is unacceptable in our schools and workplaces and that it is the antithesis of kindness. We encourage students to speak to an adult if they are experiencing bullying so that this action stops and they can feel safe, which is the right of every child.

- Natasha Miles



<https://pinkshirtday.imagegroupinc.ca/en/cad>

Family Week and School Break

It is Family Day on Monday, February 17th so the school will be closed for everyone. Students will be off for the entire week. While the students are off, our dedicated teachers will be attending the annual ATA Convention in Calgary. This event provides them with an opportunity to engage in professional development, share ideas with colleagues, and enhance their teaching practices for the benefit of our students. See everyone back in school on **Monday, February 24th.**

Want to try rowing?

On Friday, February 14th at lunch in Purkis Hall there will be a chance to challenge records set at CCHS earlier in the week by taking on a rowing machine challenge over 100m or 500m. Also, on **Saturday, February 22nd** there will be indoor rowing races at CCHS in the theatre from 9am to 12 noon as part of a national Indoor rowing event. Rowing Alberta wants to help build a BCHS/CCHS high school rowing club so these two events will help you decide if you are interested and enjoy rowing. See Mr Holthuis (hans.holthuis@crps.ca) for further details or just turn up!

School Annual Results Report is on our website

This report was shared with the Board of Trustees at their annual retreat this past weekend. Please [read the report](#) to learn more about our 23/24 student successes in Grade 9 PATs and Grade 12 diplomas and learn more about the improvements being made in how our students report on their wellbeing, the supports available to them, and their engagement in school compared to other Canadian schools.

Here is an **overview of the accomplishments** identified in the report:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS - Learning and working environments support the positive well-being of students and staff.

- BCHS students feel safe at school and report fewer symptoms of depression and anxiety relative to the Canadian norms.
- The BCHS learning environment reflects a positive learning climate, positive student teacher relations, and maintains positive expectations of success.
- Parents, students, and teachers agree that students have appropriate supports and services at school.

ENGAGED LEARNING - Students and staff are meaningfully engaged in their learning.

- Grade 9 PAT results at the acceptable standard and standard of excellence are considerably higher than the province in all four subjects.
- Three year graduation rates are statistically excellent and five year rates are statistically good for all students. English as an Additional Language (EAL) students' five year rates are also good.
- Social 30-1 and 30-2 diploma performance are excellent statistically at the acceptable standard, and English 30-1, Biology 30, and Chemistry 30 diploma performance are good at the acceptable standard and acceptable at the standard of excellence.

STUDENT SUPPORTS - Individual growth and success is fostered for every student.

- Students and teachers have foundational knowledge about First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people.
- Students feel challenged and confident at levels above the CRPS and Canadian norm while, appropriately, few students feel confident and not challenged, not confident and challenged, and not confident and not challenged.

Here is an **overview of the priority areas** for our next **School Education Plan**:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

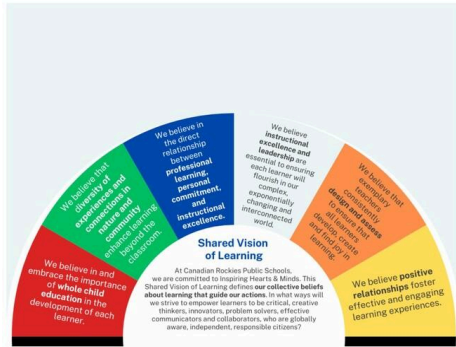
- Increase opportunities for the Student Wellness Committee to promote mental health and wellness in the school
- Establish student connections to staff advocates for increased student support
- Promote family and student outreach by bringing them into the school so they can see the school as staff and students do.

ENGAGED LEARNING

- **Focus on relevant, hands-on learning activities that are connected to real world problems to improve student interest, motivation, and engagement.**
- Continue high school design sessions focusing on designing learning tasks that are engaging and motivational.
- Action on student feedback (through student focus groups and surveys) must be communicated back to students. Ensure that students know how their feedback is considered through School Annual Results Report (SARR) and Student Education Plan (SEP) development.
- Support staff engagement in collaborative work to advance their understanding of assessment that is accurate, bias-resistant, and motivational. Support staff so that they feel their ongoing professional development can meet their professional growth needs.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

- Further develop differentiation in the classroom for EAL learners so that they can be on par with their peers' academic success in all grades and have the opportunity to achieve their potential.
- Improve communication with students and parents about available supports and student and school successes.



Shared Vision of Learning

All Canadian Rockies Public Schools are committed to **Inspiring Hearts and Minds**. CRPS also has a **Shared Vision of Learning** that 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. This is the third of six belief statements with examples of how we are living our beliefs at BCHS.

- **We believe instructional excellence and leadership are essential to ensuring each learner will flourish in our complex, exponentially changing, and interconnected world.**

In Semester 1 we embraced this by:

- PE 10 students developed a variety of skills beyond team sports to promote active, lifelong learning, and physical literacy.
- Students represented our school at the CRPS' Wellness Symposium with guidance from our School and Family Wellness Worker.
- Health 9 students learned how to lead and collaborate in order to create and be successful in practical, team based activities.
- Our school leaders worked alongside teachers each month to design engaging hands-on opportunities for our students that incorporate real world situations.

Next week we will explore the fifth 'believe' statement. Do visit our **Shared Vision of Learning** display board in Purkis Hall.

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 eight 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 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.

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

- Feb. 26th - JV Girls Game vs CCHS @ BCHS from 3:30-5:00
- Feb. 26th - SR Girls Game vs CCHS @ BCHS from 5:00-7:00
- Feb. 27th - JR Boys Game vs CCHS @ BCHS from 3:30-5:00

Rugby

- Conditioning practice on Monday, February 24th from 7-9pm for boys and girls

The Week Ahead

Monday, February 24th, 2025

- Classes resume

Tuesday, February 25th, 2025

- SAIT Introduction to Cooking course starts
- Green Team/High Hopes meeting at lunch room 208
- Teacher support at lunch

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

- Pink Shirt Day
- Student Council meeting at lunch
- Teacher support at lunch
- CRPS Public School Board meeting @ Board Office - 7pm

Thursday, February 27th, 2025

- Grad meeting at lunch
- Teacher support at lunch

Friday, February 28th, 2025

- Senior Girls Basketball home tournament

Upcoming Dates

- Mar 3rd: School council meeting - 4:15pm
- Mar 3rd: Wim WE 10A Cross Country skiing
- Mar 3rd: PE 20/30 Skating
- Mar 4th: Wim WE 10B Cross Country skiing
- Mar 4th: SAIT Intro to Cooking session 2
- Mar 4th: PE 20/30 Curling
- Mar 5th: PE 20/30 Skating
- Mar 6th: PE 20/30 Curling
- Mar 7th: Half Day Friday Blocks C and D
- Mar 7th PE 20/30 Skating

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.

1. Schooling in Canada: Moving from Grade to Grade and Graduation

This workshop provides an in-depth overview of the Canadian education system, including the progression from one grade to the next and the specific requirements for high school graduation.

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Time: 6:00–7:30 PM (online via Zoom)

Pizza will be provided.

[Register here - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Grade2025>]

2. Filipino Youth (Grades 7-12) and Adult Workshops in Banff on Friday, March 7th, 2025

We are excited to invite Filipino youth and their families to join us for the upcoming workshops, hosted by Settlement Services in the Bow Valley.

These workshops will be held entirely in Tagalog and feature engaging topics for both youth and parents.

- **For Filipino Youth (Grades 7-12)**

Date: Friday, March 7, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Half-day Friday, pick-up between 11:42 AM – 12:15 PM from different schools)

Location: Pioneer Room, Catharine Robb Whyte Building, Banff

Topics: Moving to Canada, life in Canada vs. the Philippines, skills building for success, and more!

Lunch and transportation provided.

[Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Reuni2025Youth>]

- **For Filipino Adults**

Date: Friday, March 7, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Location: Pioneer Room, Catharine Robb Whyte Building, Banff

Topics: Reuniting as a family in Canada, building healthy relationships, and parenting in Canada

Dinner, childcare, and transportation provided.

[Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025ReuniAdult>]

If you have any questions or would like more information about these sessions or other services offered by the SWIS team please email SWIS@banff.ca.

News

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

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



BCHS Bear Tools

- [Parent Portal](#): provides daily updates on your child's marks and attendance, school fees, and more.
- [myPass](#): official Alberta Education transcript of marks for grades 10-12
- [2024/2025 Student / Parent Handbook](#) contains important information and dates.
- [2024 - 2025 School Calendar](#)
- [Archived newsletters](#)
- [BCHS Events Calendar](#)
- [International student host families](#) wanted - [apply here](#)
- [Volunteers](#): need a criminal or vulnerable RCMP check yearly. Contact the office for more information.
- [School Fees](#): all fees are now overdue. Basketball fees have been added.
 - School fees can be paid online through [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).
 - In cases of financial hardship, please email Renee Husdal or call 403-762-4411.

Bear Celebrations

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