



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES KEY MESSAGES

Following are the Key Messages from the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Monday, October 30, 2023. Each month the Board Key Messages are shared at School Council Meetings. See your school's website for information about upcoming meetings and agendas.

- 1) LRSD Pursuits Presentation** – Tara Tanner, Division Principal presented to the Board of Trustees on LRSD Pursuits throughout the division. LRSD Pursuits programming includes Virtual School, Outreach Schools, Home Education, Diploma Prep, Summer School, Place-Based Programming, Tutoring and Pre-Employment Centre. Currently LRSD Pursuits provides approximately 100 different courses in grades 7-12. Pursuits currently provides instruction to 374 students throughout our Division. The flexibility in programming that Pursuits provides has led to increased completion rates of 72% rate last year which is a slight increase from 2022 (69%). Pursuits has implemented a new homeroom model and clubs/activities to support and provide connection for fully online and Outreach students. The flexibility in programming that Pursuits provides is one strategy that will help to lead to increased graduation rates for all LRSD students! Students have the opportunity to participate in graduation at their local school or be a part of the Pursuits celebration. The LRSD Home Education numbers have increased slightly from last year. Currently there are 51 students enrolled in home education. This is largely due to students who were previously homeschooling with institutions outside of our jurisdiction returning to LRSD. Our home education program provides flexibility for parents wishing to be more involved in their child's education.

For more information on our LRSD Pursuits options or program information, please visit our webpage at <https://www.lrsd.ca/services/lrsd-pursuit>

- 2) Transportation Presentation** - Mr. Rick Visser, Transportation Coordinator and Michelle Hedley, Administrative Assistant, Transportation presented to the Board of Trustees regarding transportation throughout the Livingstone School Division. Currently there are 85 buses, 76 bus drivers and 48 routes throughout the division. The division has 1473 students riding the bus from school every day. This means the drivers travel 8,031 km per day, 160,620 km per month and 1,606,200 km per year. The total number of bus stops throughout the division is 726. The stops per community are as follows: 104 - Nanton, 56 - Stavely, 110 - Claresholm, 19 - Granum, 125 - Fort Macleod, 158 - Pincher Creek, 61 - Lundbreck and 93 - Crowsnest Pass. The division has purchased 3 more white buses and would like to have these buses implemented in the communities for extracurricular trips in November 2023. The transportation department has hired and trained another 8 drivers (5 to support our extracurricular events and 3 to support regular bus routes).

**Every student, every day.**

Alberta Education has announced a new distance criteria for 2024-2025. Kindergarten to Grade 6 students residing 1km or further from their school will be eligible for funding; and Grades 7-12 students residing 2km or further will be eligible for funding. The impact of these changes means many more busses on the road each and every day. Even before the announced changes, the LRSD transportation department had already been examining all routes to determine efficiencies. Current bus driver shortages and training time throughout the province have presented challenges. With the new distance criteria there will be an increase of 460 new LRSD students qualifying for bussing and approximately 50 more St. Michael's School (Pincher Creek) students which will enhance those challenges. These increases may cause the division to add approximately 6-8 more buses to our fleet. If the impacts result in the need to add more buses to the LRSD system, potential delays in securing buses and drivers are anticipated.

- 3) **Board Policy 5** – The Board of Trustees have reviewed and approved the second and third reading of the newly adapted Board Policy 5 – Trustee Code of Conduct and Sanctions as presented.
- 4) **2023-2024 Final Enrolment Numbers** - The enrollment for the Livingstone Range School Division has increased slightly in most of our school communities. There are 3776 students enrolled in the Division resulting in an increase of 33 students from 2022-2023.
- 5) **Regional School Council Meeting** – The first Regional School Council Meeting for the 2023-2024 school year will be held on November 8, 2023 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the G.R. Davis Administration Building, Division Office, 410-20<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Macleod, Alberta.

**Every student, every day.**