

FOOTNOTES

steps toward a flourishing community

April 2023

WELCOME

Welcome to Footnotes, a monthly digest of progress at Foothills School Division.

The majority of information provided will highlight the steps we are taking to ensure education is at the centre of a flourishing community.

Our goal is to connect how the work of the Board of Trustees affects our students in the classrooms.

EMPOWERING THE INCLUSIVE LEARNING TEAM

Recognizing the importance of creating a *place for all* the Board of Trustees has allocated resources to build a strong team. The Inclusive Learning Team includes:

SCHOOL LINKED TEAM

- Director of Inclusive Learning
- Behaviour Learning Strategist
- Counselling Coordinator
- Occupational Therapists
- Psychologist
- Speech Language Therapist
- Consulting Therapists

SCHOOL BASED TEAM

- Learning Coaches
- Family School Liaison Counsellors
- School Counsellors
- Youth Development Coaches
- Educational Assistants

Learn More: bit.ly/FSD-ILTeam

ENHANCING THE INCLUSIVE LEARNING TEAM

We are expanding our psycho-educational services thanks to a strong partnership with the University of Calgary.

FSD is approved as a [University of Calgary Internship Site for Psychologists starting in September 2023](#). This will allow the Inclusion & Wellness team to effectively explore and address student needs effectively.

HOW WE ARE ENHANCING INCLUSION ACROSS THE DIVISION

Inclusion in schools is evolving and is no longer a one-size-fits-all solution.

Through our governance as Trustees, we are continuously working to meet the social, emotional, and physical needs of every student in ways that are meaningful to them-- from revisioning our safe, caring, inclusive policy to committing to work that assure the school community that **Foothills School Division is a place for all.**

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Inclusive Education Partnership
Foothills School Division is a member of the Inclusive Education Partnership (IEP), which works collaboratively to shape an inclusive culture of education where relationships are built, varying perspectives are understood and networks are formed. Other members of this partnership include:

- Inclusion Alberta
- Inclusion Foothills
- Alberta Health Services
- Calgary and Area Child and Family Services
- Foothills Advocacy in Motion (AIM) Society
- Foothills Fetal Alcohol Society
- Literacy for Life Foundation
- Wild Rose Community Connections

91%

of students feel our schools are safe and caring.

SOFT STARTS

to the school year support positive school-to-school transitions.

STUDENT SOS-Q CHECK IN

Student Orientation to School Questionnaire (SOS-Q) surveys students in grades 4 to 12 each year. The latest results indicate there is a growing concern for self-confidence and external resiliency in students.

What are the Trustees doing with this information?

- Support the Learning Services team to continue to explore this data at divisional and school levels.
- Support the examination of the impact of COVID on our students.
- Support the exploration of strategies of successful interventions.
- Monitor the impact of our Student Mental Health Grant interventions.
- Support the work on effective school-to-school transitions.

Learn More: bit.ly/FSD-ILR-032023

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

In the December 2022 Footnotes we shared that FSD was awarded \$678,000 to pilot student mental health initiatives.

Here is how we intend to enhance student mental wellness support through the Student MentalGrant Project between now and December 2024.

Learn More: bit.ly/FSD-ILR-032023

DIVISION-BASED SUPPORTS

- Part-time School Psychologist
- Full-time Learning Coach

18% of grant

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Student Health Conference in 2023 & 2024.
- Regional Student Mental Health Summit 2023 & 2024
- A review of the current inclusion measures in place to further enhance support for students.

3% of grant

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- System wide learning on Trauma Sensitive Schools/Classrooms
- Provide in-house opportunities to develop skills and understanding.

6% of grant

SUPPORTS IN SCHOOLS

- 1 Family School Liaison Counsellor to cover shortage areas and support for Threat Assessment Management and Training.
- 5-6 Youth Development Coaches to provide universal and targeted social emotional learning programming.

73% of grant

Your Trustees

- WARD 1 - Jack Molyneux
- WARD 2 - John Evans, Vice Chair
- WARD 3 - Theresa Letendre, Chair
- WARD 4 - Lisa Penzo
- WARD 4 - Sharon Nichols
- WARD 5 - Phil Irwin

Your Executive Team

- Superintendent of Schools - Chris Fuzessy
- Assistant Superintendent, Corporate Services - Drew Chipman
- Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services - Caroline Roberts
- Assistant Superintendent, Employee Services - Allen Davidson