

FOOTNOTES

steps toward a flourishing community

May 2026

LISTENING, LEARNING, AND LEADING FORWARD

WELCOME

Welcome to the Footnotes, a monthly newsletter showcasing how Foothills School Division (FSD) is placing students at the centre of a flourishing learning community.

Over the past several months, Foothills School Division has been engaging students, staff, families, municipalities, and community partners through Fast Forward to Flourishing commUNITY.

Beginning with staff and student engagement and expanding into broader community conversations on May 15, this work is helping identify the strengths, challenges, and opportunities that will help shape future planning across Foothills School Division.



LISTENING IN ACTION

SAFEGUARDING RURAL SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES



PHASE 1: LISTENING TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS & PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

February - May 2026: In-person engagement sessions with staff volunteers, grade 11 & 12 students, parents (Council of School Councils), and school leaders.

Gather voice to address how we can address advocacy, community, belonging, AI & emerging technology, and student support through the lens of a flourishing commUNITY.



PHASE 2: COLLABORATING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

May 15, we hosted 60 Foothills community members from across all sectors to share the vision of a resilient system of supports that places schools at the center of a flourishing community. We will meet as a group again in October 2026.



PHASE 3: VOICE INTO ACTION

Themes and recommendations emerging from this work will help inform strategic planning, budget discussions, and future priorities for the 2026–2027 school year as the Board continues responding to evolving provincial direction and local needs.

[Project Site:](#)
[A Flourishing CommUNITY](#)

CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY. GUIDED BY EVIDENCE. INFORMED BY ACTION.

BOARD WORK AT A GLANCE



LEARNING FROM COMMUNITY

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Learning (JK-6) & Staff Learning**
Dinah VanDonzel
- Technology Services**
Sally Smith
- Wellness & Well-Being**
Monica Crane
- Indigenous Learning and Equity**
Charity Tegler

TRUSTEE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- CASS Indigenous Gathering**
April 22-24



ACTING THROUGH GOVERNANCE

ENGAGING WITH PROVINCIAL BODIES

- ASBA Zone 5 Meeting
April 10 & May 6
- Meeting with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
April 2
- Board Chair/Ministerial Engagement with the Ministry of Education & Childcare
May 4

PUBLIC BOARD DECISIONS

- Public Board Meeting Minutes
- 2026-2027
Instructional Calendar Change
- Three Year Capital Plan Approval



WHAT'S NEXT

The Board of Trustees will continue reflecting on the themes and recommendations emerging from Fast Forward to Flourishing commUNITY as part of strategic planning and planning for the 2026-2027 school year.

In the coming weeks:

- Strategic planning discussions
- Review of emerging themes and recommendations
- Continued engagement with participants and partners
- Planning for the 2026-2027 school year

Read Past Editions of Footnotes



YOUR TRUSTEES

- Ward 1 Shanon Hines
- Ward 2 Sherry Butler
- Ward 3 Theresa Letendre, Chair
- Ward 4 Lisa Penzo, Vice Chair
- Ward 4 Sharon Nichols
- Ward 5 Jackie Roe

YOUR EXECUTIVE TEAM

- Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fuzessy
- Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services
Caroline Roberts
- Assistant Superintendent, Employee Services
Allen Davidson
- Assistant Superintendent, Employee Services & Education
Sarah Clark
- Partner Relations
Katelyn Nickel
- Assistant Superintendent, Corporate Services
- Secretary Treasurer