



# TEACHING WITH FOOTHILLS SCHOOL DIVISION



[foothillsschooldivision.ca](http://foothillsschooldivision.ca)



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# WELCOME TO FOOTHILLS SCHOOL DIVISION

Nestled within the southern border of Calgary and the edge of Kananaskis Country — the gateway to the Rockies— Foothills School Division operates within the Foothills County of Alberta. We serve 9,000 students from Junior Kindergarten through to grade 12 and employ over 900 team members.

We have the opportunity to provide quality educational experience in both rural and urban settings through our 22 public schools, and three Hutterite Colony Schools. Our public schools include an International Baccalaureate Program, Digital School (grades 1-12), Nature Based Learning, French Immersion, Montessori, Dual Credit opportunities, and a focus on learning that transfers.



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We honour the spirit, life and lessons this land and its ancestors teach us. We acknowledge the traditional territories of the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai, Tsuut'ina, Îyârhe Nakoda and the Métis Nation Region 3.

[Truth and Reconciliation for Learner Success in Foothills School Division](#)



## VISION

Engagement, Support, and Success for each learner.



## MISSION

Each learner entrusted to our care, has unique gifts and abilities. It is our mission to find out what these are...Explore them...Develop them...Celebrate them!



## PURPOSE

Education at the centre of a flourishing community.

## PRIORITIES

**Engagement:** Ensure and maintain Division wide engagement that is timely, meaningful, and collaborative with all learners and communities.

**Support:** Ensure and maintain Division wide learning environments that are welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and inclusive.

**Success:** Ensure and maintain Division wide excellence in teaching, learning and leadership.

Board Policy 01: [Division Foundational Statements](#)

Board Policy 14: [A Place for All](#)



# OUR SCHOOLS

## HIGH RIVER & AREA SCHOOLS

École Joe Clark School (K-5)  
Spitzee Elementary School (K-5)  
École Senator Riley Middle School (6-8)  
École Secondaire Highwood High School (9-12)  
Blackie School (K-8), Blackie  
Cayley School (K-8), Cayley  
Cayley Colony School  
High River Colony School  
MacMillan Colony School

## OKOTOKS & AREA SCHOOLS

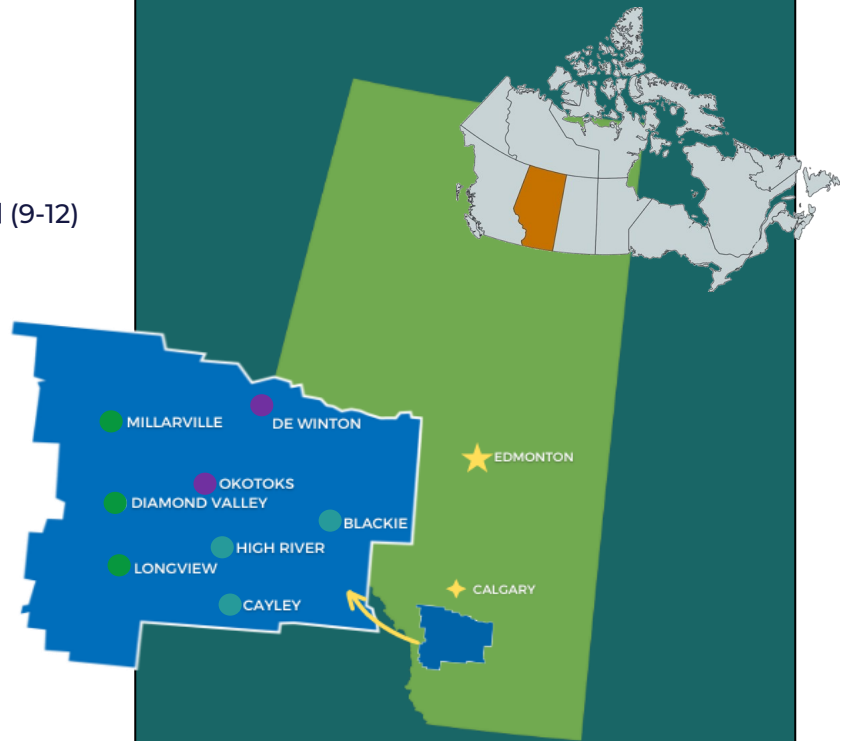
Big Rock School (K-6)  
Dr. Morris Gibson School (K-6)  
Meadow Ridge School (K-9)  
École Percy Pegler School (K-6)  
Westmount School (K-9)  
École Okotoks Junior High School (7-9)  
École Secondaire Foothills Composite High School / Alberta High School of Fine Arts (10-12)  
Cameron Crossing School (10-12)  
Heritage Heights School (K-9), DeWinton  
Red Deer Lake School (K-9), DeWinton

## HIGH COUNTRY SCHOOLS

C. Ian McLaren School (K-6), Diamond Valley  
Turner Valley School (K-6), Diamond Valley  
Longview School (K-6), Longview  
Millarville Community School (K-8), Millarville  
Oilfields School (7-12), Diamond Valley

## LEARN ANYWHERE

Foothills Digital School (1-12+)



## CELEBRATING 85 YEARS

Foothills School Division was established in 1938 and proudly serves a community that is approximately 71,000 residents according to the 2016 Government of Canada census.



# STUDENT LEARNING

Our highly skilled teaching and support teams in our schools are all focused on our common purpose: *Education at the centre of a flourishing community.*

Our student body reflects the communities we serve and we offer a rich variety of innovative programs and services to meet the needs and interests of a broad spectrum of learners. Here are a few of our program offerings that make FSD a place for all:

## INCLUSIVE LEARNING

Foothills School Division offers a responsive, meaningful, high-quality learning environment that encourages the social-emotional, behavioural, and academic potential of every learner. In support of this inclusive environment and learning for all, FSD has a continuum of strategies, supports and structures that matches student needs with the appropriate levels of support.

Inclusive education is a way of thinking and acting that demonstrates universal acceptance of, and belonging for all students. In Foothills School Division we take collective responsibility for the success of all learners recognizing factors such as abilities, race, gender, culture, socio-economic status, and disability and strive to ensure barriers are removed. Collaborative partnerships with staff, parents and outside agencies ensures that every learner has equity of opportunity to achieve personal excellence.

In ensuring each and every student can achieve personal excellence, Foothills School Division is committed to providing a strong continuum of supports and services for *all* students.





# STUDENT LEARNING

## EARLY LEARNING

We offer several opportunities for early learning:

- **Early intervention** services for children in need of additional support for moderate to significant delays.
- **Junior Kindergarten** programs in six of schools where space and demand exists. These programs are designed to complement our kindergarten program and provide an opportunity for early-intervention.
- Part time **Kindergarten** is offered at 15 of our schools serving elementary aged school students. Full time Kindergarten is offered at four schools, where space and demand exists.
- **Montessori** program for Grades 1-4 is offered at Big Rock School in Okotoks.



## INNOVATION & DESIGN

We are committed to providing rich, meaningful, and appropriate learning experiences that are responsive to the needs of all learners. **Innovation and Design** is an alignment of learning from kindergarten to grade 12—and an extension of our commitment to provide programming that best prepares our students for their future.

- Kindergarten to grade 4 : Maker-centered learning
- Grades 5 to 9: Career and technology foundations (CTF)
- Grades 10 to 12: Career and technology studies (CTS)

## SECONDARY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

We currently have five designated high schools, including one open campus option as well as a digital school. Our high schools offer several options to enhance learning including:

- **Advanced Placement** English and Math at École Secondaire Foothills Composite High School/Alberta High School of Fine Arts (ÉFCHS/AHSFA) in Okotoks.
- **Summer School** is offered each July, which offers the opportunity for students to catch up, keep up, or get ahead. This is a school that is supported by our team from across the division.
- Students can access flexible learning and support to complete various high school courses through our **Foothills Digital School**. Any learner is welcome to utilize FDS to address timetabling requirements, obtain extra credits and access additional learning support.

Foothills School Division offers several opportunities for our students across the division in arts, science, athletics, and culture. For more information, please visit our website [foothillsschooldivision.ca](http://foothillsschooldivision.ca) or any one of our school websites.

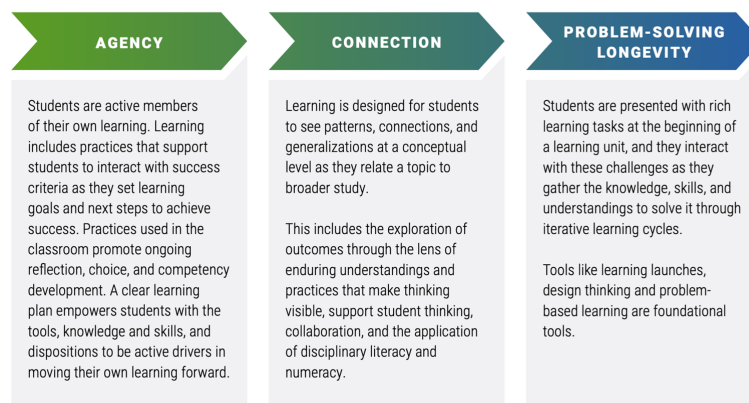


## LEARNING THAT TRANSFERS

**Future-focused learning is the apex of educators in pursuit of the full potential of learners.** It begins with how teachers plan for learning. Our students bring their passions, talents, and curiosities to our schools each day. Teachers harness this by designing learning that enables students to solve complex problems while learning the knowledge and skills that allow them to grow these dispositions. Learning is then transferred—intentionally expanded beyond the classroom to engage learners with their communities and the world. Teachers design learning to tell the story of the curriculum; bringing it to life in a way that students can transfer learning directly into the things they care about.

**Future-focused learning brings every student along.** Our teachers consider each learner and design classroom instruction that supports each student to reach their greatest potential through the development of foundational, transferable skills and competencies to fully engage in their learning. Instruction and assessment are interwoven to ensure learners are receiving ongoing feedback that allows them to reflect and strive for the next steps in their learning journey. Complex problems framing learning segments are presented at the start of learning to increase engagement and make learning meaningful.

### » THE FUTURE-FOCUSED MODEL



**Future-focused learning builds a thinking toolkit.** Thinking is made visible as students interact with rich learning tasks testing their ideas, and adjusting as they learn more, question more, and adjust thinking. This process is invaluable in the cultivation of life-long learners; young people who develop the dispositions and tools of thinking. Thinking is shared as students consult with others to generate questions, ideas, opinions, and gather information. Students become co-designers of their learning as they are empowered to think deeply and interact with the thinking of others.

**Future-focused learning connects learners to their ability to affect change.** Our teachers create environments that empower each learner to lead their own lives and affect the world. Learning is designed to honor voice and learning spaces are created to nurture physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development. By empowering youth to discover their passions and talents and to lead their lives with purpose, our schools support each learner to follow their journey and transfer their learning to life beyond the classroom.



# STUDENT LEARNING

## FRENCH IMMERSION

In addition to providing students with the opportunity to achieve proficiency in both of Canada's official languages, English and French, our [French Immersion](#) program nurtures the cultural, social, intellectual, and emotional development of each learner.

Learners become proficient in French by using it to study other school subject areas from Kindergarten through to Grade 12.

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM

[Millarville Community School](#) is an accredited International Baccalaureate World School offering the Primary Years Programme since April 2009. Millarville Community School offers the Primary Years Programme (PYP) to students from Kindergarten to Grade 5.

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. For more information about the IBO, please [visit their website](#).



## MONTESSORI PROGRAM

Foothills School Division offers an Elementary Montessori Program for students in Grades 1 – 6 at [Big Rock School](#) in Okotoks. Montessori education balances freedom with responsibility in the classroom. It is a logical and consistent plan of education that follows the child from one developmental stage to the next.





# YOUR ADVANTAGE AT FSD

## YOUR WELL-BEING MATTERS

### WORK LIFE EXCELLENCE

We are called to create environments that support the wellbeing of each learner so that our staff and students can experience the highest quality of teaching and learning and professional relationships. In ensuring learner wellbeing is a division priority, staff have an increased capacity to take care of our students, one another, and our community. The organizational value of a healthy workplace is integral to a vibrant and productive workplace culture and to supporting healthy work life excellence.

#### Here is what you can expect:

- The Foothills School Division believes in the importance of wellness and wellbeing in body, mind and spirit.
- We recognize that wellbeing is both an individual and collective responsibility and are committed to ensuring that staff and students are provided with the support they need to be well.
- We believe that wellbeing is a precondition to excellence in teaching and learning and excellence outside of the workplace.
- We all have a role to play in supporting wellness and wellbeing within our school division and our community.
- We commit to implementing, reviewing and maintaining organizational structures that support this work.

### WELLNESS SUPPORTS

Every team member at FSD has access to 24/7 wellness supports through our Employee and Family Assistance Program through Inkblot. This program is in addition to our robust extended health benefits through ASEBP.

#### Wellness Supports include:

- Mental health management
- Stress management and reduction
- Relationship and family support
- Legal and financial consultation
- Research/advisory services





# YOUR ADVANTAGE

## MENTORSHIP

Foothills School Division is a mentoring culture supporting New Teachers, Lead Teacher teams, Curriculum Lead teachers, Learning Coaches, and leadership development for those interested in pursuing administrative leadership positions.

Teachers are recruited each year for placement in the school where they will have the greatest impact. Staff mobility is valued in our Division and we offer development programs and opportunities to help ensure you meet your personal career goals in Education.

The contribution of each staff member in school-based and division-wide planning is anticipated and respected. Our team embraces a culture distinguished by a real sense of community, where we support one another and celebrate each other's successes.

### NEW TEACHER COHORT

This cohort is for new graduates who are entering the workforce at FSD. These two years are valuable in establishing a solid foundation under the Teacher Quality Standards (TQS).

**Year 1** Positive Behaviour Supports & Design Learning

**Year 2** Literacy & Numeracy

### SCHOOL-BASED MENTORSHIP

Schools provide a school based mentor Instructional Coach & Learning Coach support three priority roles:

- Mentor (60%)
- Resource Provider (30%)
- Instructional Specialist (10%)

### LEADING & LEARNING

Established teachers who are interested in exploring leadership roles are encouraged to apply for mentorship within the Leading & Learning Program. Participants engage with the Leadership Quality Standards (LQS), and apply them to their own leadership style. Note that participation in Leading & Learning does not guarantee placement in a leadership position.

Foothills School Division provides practicum placements for year three and four pre-service teachers.



# JOINING OUR TEAM

## THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

Foothills School Division is seeking qualified teaching candidates to join Team FSD. We seek teachers who are committed to the engagement, support, and success all students by immersing them in a safe and welcoming learning environment.

Teachers hired by Foothills School Division will:

**Be positive and confident individuals who are able to:**

- Collaborate, build positive relationships, conduct themselves professionally, demonstrate the capacity to be a lifelong learner, and strive for excellence.

**Be a certified teacher with knowledge, skills and competencies in:**

- Planning and Preparation
- Instruction
- Assessment
- Classroom Environment

**Be able to sustain a shared commitment to:**

- Professional Responsibilities
- Education at the centre of a flourishing community.

## HOW TO APPLY

Vacancies will be posted on ApplytoEducation, accessed through the Careers page on our website and the link below. Consideration is given to candidates who exhibit the qualities described in the Foothills School Division Ideal Candidate Profile.

Interested applicants are required to create an online portfolio. Please complete all sections of your portfolio before applying to a job posting, unless you are a student in your final year of your Bachelor of Education. If so, we encourage you to begin your portfolio today, and add required documents as they are made available to you.

When you complete your online profile, you will be asked to upload the following, (if you don't have all the requested documents, simply upload them as they become available):

- Resume & Cover Letter— including three work-related references
- Practicum and/or Teaching Evaluations
- Alberta Teaching Certificate Number
- Letter of Reference from Professional Supervisor
- Current Vulnerable Sector Check & Criminal Record Check (valid within last 6 months)
- Transcripts

**APPLY TODAY**  
[bit.ly/FSDCareers](https://bit.ly/FSDCareers)





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