

## OUR VISION

Our school division endeavours to provide each student with the opportunity to fulfill their potential and pursue their dreams.

## OUR MISSION

We nurture each student's education and well-being within an inclusive rural learning community.



Key Messages: April 29, 2020

### District Priority 1: Student Learning

- ✓ On behalf of the Trustees, Board Chair Rosadiuk recognized **Education Week** as an opportunity to point out the important work Division teachers do to ensure student learning remains a top priority despite the challenges of COVID.
- ✓ [GYPSD schools](#) are fact-based information hubs, providing digital devices and technology support, facilitating access to nutritional meals for struggling families, and maintaining student access to mental health supports and counseling.
- ✓ The Education Week theme for the past three years has been *Learning is a Journey*. Chair Rosadiuk shared her tremendous pride in the partnerships that exist between teachers, students, and families in the support of student learning.
- ✓ Superintendent Lewis applauded parents for supporting student learning on the home-front and to teachers for their attention to good assessment practices. Principals are encouraging their staff, students and families to [share](#) the many creative ways families are approaching the new distance and on-line learning platform. #ABLearnsAtHome!

### District Priority 2: Teaching and Leadership Excellence

- ✓ Superintendent Lewis congratulated the *Principal Selection Committee* for its work this past month and pointed out that the strength of the candidates required two rounds of interviews. In total, there are four [new principal appointments](#) for 2020-21:
  - Arthur Cota at Sheldon Coates;
  - Rod Armstrong at Crescent Valley;
  - Debra Boos at Ecole Westhaven School; and
  - Darran Lorne at Niton Community School.
- ✓ Superintendent Lewis participated in the Edwin Parr finalist selection committee for Zone 2/3 and praised the incredible talents of first year teachers supporting student learning throughout Northern Alberta.
- ✓ All of GYPSD's second year probationary teachers received continuous contracts. Congratulations to these GYPSD teachers!
- ✓ Despite the challenges of the COVID pandemic, teachers and school leaders are rising to the challenge, and growing in their instructional expertise, working shoulder-to-shoulder to ensure GYPSD students are supported and accounted for. Principals are working through next year's budget projections, ensuring the majority of their budgets are directed to the classroom. #teachingmatters!

### District Priority 3: Community Engagement

- ✓ Board Chair Rosadiuk, Vice Chair Zaporosky, Trustees Fate, Karpluk, Aust, Caputo and Fowler are committed to leading advocacy for strong public education, building collaborative relationships and developing solutions-focused partnerships to ensure success for our GYPSD students and community. Highlights include:
  - ✓ Ongoing participation in:
    - Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) and the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) virtual meetings;
    - GYPSD school council virtual meetings;
    - Community support virtual meetings; and
    - Professional Learning - workshop with governance and advocacy expert Maurice Fritze.
  - ✓ The Board approved motions to:
    - Update Board Policies 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 18, and Appendices 7 A and B
    - Accept the 2020-21 school calendar, and approve in principle, the school calendars for 2021-22 and 2022-23.
  - ✓ Feedback gathered at the five [2020 Community Engagement events](#) was collected, collated, and reviewed for themes. The complete summary analysis will be posted on the GYPSD website.