

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: May 20, 2020

District Priority 1: Student Learning

- ✓ GYPSD high schools are celebrating their Grade 12 graduations in a variety of creative and safe ways – including outside photo booths, virtual ceremonies, lawn and street signs, and scheduled outside stage presentations with Plexiglas partitions.
- ✓ The Board of Trustees approved the 2020-21 Budget submission for Alberta Education, focusing funds on protecting the classroom and maintaining staffing levels. The GYPSD budget is similar to last year's budget at approximately 63 million dollars.
- ✓ Superintendent Lewis met with members of the Superintendent's Youth Council to celebrate their resiliency and commend their committed focus on their learning.
- ✓ The Division has invited students in Grades 9 – 12 to identify their interest in accessing [summer school](#) classes.
- ✓ Superintendent Lewis commended the outstanding Pre-k and Kindergarten programming available in each of the five zones that make up the Division. Kindergarten program registrations for 2020-21 are available now on school websites.

District Priority 2: Teaching and Leadership Excellence

- ✓ To ensure the safety of staff, the Board of Trustees approved the decision to host the Division's 2020 Kick Off event virtually. This fall will mark the third annual Division-wide professional development event to launch the new school year.
- ✓ [Senator Paula Simons](#) will deliver the keynote address and GYPSD staff have been invited to [propose professional learning sessions](#) for their colleagues.
- ✓ Evergreen Local 11 President Smeall applauded GYPSD teachers for accessing exceptional PD to support students' learning in the new context.
- ✓ Superintendent Lewis congratulated Dr. Kelly Harding and Mr. Constantine Kastrinos, for their success in recent job competitions. Dr. Harding joined GYPSD in February in an acting role, and moving forward, will fill the role of [Assistant Superintendent of Board Relations, Communications, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment](#). Mr. Constantine Kastrinos will be joining GYPSD on July 1 as Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Staff Relations and Leadership Development.
- ✓ The Board of Trustees approved the decision to postpone the annual June Retirement Celebration to October 30, 2020, recognizing their desire to acknowledge the outstanding career contributions of GYPSD staff yet adhere to current physical distancing rules.

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:
 - ✓ Alberta Education's approval of up to \$2, 500, 000 in Capital Maintenance and Renewal Funding for GYPSD. The funds are part of the government's economic stimulus funding package, will be used to accelerate long-term maintenance and renewal strategies for school buildings, and support local communities to get back to work.
 - ✓ Participation in a Jasper, Hinton, Edson, and Yellowhead County Mayors' Meeting.
 - ✓ Participation in an intensive and informative workshop on successful advocacy and lobbying.
 - ✓ GYPSD Board representation at the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) and the Alberta School Board's Association (ASBA) meetings.
 - ✓ The Board also approved school fees for 2020-21 and signed contracts with Bus Drivers.
 - ✓ The Board will have a Special Meeting on May 28 to discuss insurance options for 2020-21.