



## **BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS – 2019–2023 (Year 3) Education Plan NEWS RELEASE – May 31, 2022**

How will Buffalo Trail Public Schools' (BTPS) build off the success of the 2021/22 school year?

Based on the feedback received by students, parents, staff, and community members who participated in the division's assurance plan engagements this past winter, we continue to purposefully connect with each student to ensure everyone belongs, learns, and succeeds.

Driven by the voices of our communities, BTPS' 2019-2023 Education Plan (Year 3) was approved by the Board of Trustees on May 18, 2022. Exemplifying our student-centred approach, the plan prioritizes literacy and numeracy skills, wellness, and the use of evidence-based practices, assessment, and tiered interventions to meet students where they are at.

Guiding our work and connecting each school community to our goal of empowering students to be caring, responsible, and contributing global citizens with a passion for learning, this year's education plan advances our support to students under Alberta's five assurance categories: student growth and achievement, teaching and leading, learning supports, governance, and local and societal context.

In the area of student growth and achievement, post-pandemic learning gaps will continue to be addressed using literacy and numeracy benchmarks and assessments. By employing a cycle of instruction, gathering evidence from various sources, and interpreting that evidence to identify responsive instructional practices, our teachers are poised to ensure students build the foundational skills to make meaning of the world around them and become strong critical thinkers.

Students engaging with the new English Language Arts and Literature, Math, and Physical Education and Wellness curriculums are expected to excel due to our staff's hard work and preparation in 2021/22. Through the creation of a BTPS Curriculum Dashboard, Hapara Workspaces, and the acquisition of new learning resources, teachers will provide students with a structured and seamless introduction to the new outcomes-based subject areas – see [BTPS' Curriculum Implementation Engagement Session](#) for more details. These instructional tools will

continue to evolve in 2022/23 to foster effective instructional design as additional K - Gr. 6 curriculum is introduced.

In responding to the voices of students who desire more options or authentic learning activities like STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), we'll pursue alternative ways to expand programming, leveraging the use of technology, distance learning, and partnerships like BTPS/Lakeland College's CTS-Trades and Dual Credit programs.

As our society emerges from the pandemic, wellness will remain at the forefront of our efforts through BTPS' learning support teams and outreach services, including VIBE and WOW. Research, coaching, communities of practice, dedicated professional development, and external service providers, too, will support our efforts to build staff and leadership capacity in defining what success looks like for each student and employing strategies that benefit all learners.

Of course, achieving student success requires the commitment and involvement of every member of our BTPS community – employees, students, parents, trustees, community leaders and government. Through four online virtual community engagements and two student round tables this past year, overwhelmingly, we heard that BTPS' strengths are the interpersonal relationships nurtured and the safe, caring and inviting learning environments established. As such, in 2022/23, engagement activities will continue to inform our pursuit of a responsive education system inclusive of the needs and expectations of our rural communities.

The 2022/23 school year promises to be stellar for our division!

A copy of BTPS' 2019-2023 (Year 3) Education Plan, along with the Spring 2022 Stakeholder Engagement: What We Heard, will be posted to our public website by May 31, 2022.