



## **BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BTPS Year in Review 2022– NEWS RELEASE – December 23, 2022**

Submitted Article: Rhae-Ann Holoien, BTPS Superintendent

I have been able to reflect on the past year in Buffalo Trail Public Schools. What a successful 2022 we had!

In January, we had an extended winter break announced by the province due to the increasing numbers of people with COVID. Our staff and students showed their flexibility and adaptability when we got back into the swing of things for learning, exams, and course completions upon return. Do not forget, all of us were still wearing masks until the end of February. March came and we were able to host more events in our schools as the weeks and months progressed. The resilience that our staff, students and families showed over the year was inspirational.

In April, May and June, our schools were able to celebrate graduations, year end activities, and field trips. What a busy time in our division. It was also great to showcase our students with the 10th Annual Superintendent's Public Speaking Contest, scholarships for post secondary, as well as appearances in provincial curling, basketball and track and field.

Our APORI results came back in June and 92% percent of parents reported that their children feel safe at school. We have a 86% three year graduation rate, and 87% of parents feel that our teachers care about their students. These are results that demonstrate how safe, caring and full of learning BTPS schools and classrooms are even in the most trying of times.

The start of the 2022-2023 school year saw many opportunities for students, families, and staff to be welcomed back to school. BTPS hosted in person Professional Learning events in August for Teachers, October for Support Staff, another day for Administrative Assistants, as well as in November for the Board and Leadership Team. Our focused work helps our team improve student learning. The Board also hosted a Celebration and Retirement evening to celebrate years of service contributions and retirees in our division.

Who can believe that this is the last year of our Four Year Education Plan? We have already held engagements to start the process to help us determine our priorities for the next Four Year Plan and will continue that work throughout the new year. This fall has offered awards ceremonies, Halloween activities, Remembrance Day events, and more trips, sports, clubs, dual credit opportunities, as well as appearances in golf and volleyball provincial events. Our staff

and community members continue to show great support for our schools and students which is appreciated.

Every staff member and our families have contributed to the success of students and BTPS in 2022. We have so much to be proud of and we celebrate our accomplishments with each of you. We want to extend our appreciation and thanks to our staff, students and families who all contribute to our amazing division.

With 2022 behind us, and the holiday season approaching, I wish students, families and staff joy, gratitude and laughter throughout the holidays and throughout 2023. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I look forward to seeing our students and staff back in school on Monday, January 9th, 2023.