



# Four Year Plan

2019-2023 YEAR THREE: 2022



- Make It Real
- Make It Visible
- Make It For Everyone



## MISSION



Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.

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## VISION



To be dynamic leaders in empowering students to be caring, responsible, and contributing global citizens with a passion for learning.

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## VALUES



Demonstrate integrity and transparency

Encourage innovation and collaboration

Embrace diversity and belonging

Provide opportunity and choice

Celebrate success and recognize excellence

Take ownership and exhibit accountability

# 2019 - 2023 Four Year Plan

Children have an innate love of learning. From an early age, they are curious and want to know the what, where, how and why of everything they encounter. At **Buffalo Trail Public Schools**, we build upon our students' inquisitive nature by encouraging them to develop and test their own ideas, seek new perspectives, gather and analyze information, and draw new insights to help them grow to be strong, critical thinkers. We know that when students learn how to learn - that is to acquire, create, connect and communicate knowledge in a variety of contexts - we are helping them build the confidence and habits of mind to become life-long learners and successful citizens. Our educators play a key role in this process. Building upon the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy, our educators help students learn how to ask the right questions and how to find, process and analyze information. Students are taught to develop ideas and construct meaning by clarifying and expanding their thinking. Under this balanced approach, students learn how to set goals, document their learning and reflect on their growth - three skill sets that prepare them for a successful future. As presented in our **2019-2023 Four Year Plan** - we are pleased to outline a continuation of this journey to our communities.

**Our four-year education plan** is organized around the five primary domains within education.

This report is a synopsis of information gathered from the jurisdiction and represents highlights into the work happening at our schools.

**Student Growth and Achievement** refers to the ongoing progress students make in their learning, relative to identified provincial learning outcomes and consistent with their needs, interests and aspirations. Public assurance occurs when the public has trust and confidence that students demonstrate citizenship, engage intellectually and grow continuously as learners.

Across BTPS, opportunities exist to support student growth and achievement, including:

- High level of high school completion with 86% of students graduating within three years of entering grade 10, and 92% within 5 years.
- 81% of teachers, parents and students agree that students are engaged in their learning at school.
- 83% of parents agree that the literacy skills children are learning are useful.
- 80% of teachers and parents agree that students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.
- 84% of parents agree the numeracy skills children learn are useful.
- On September 30, BTPS hosted a divisional student learning day for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- BTPS received the Learning Loss grant and supported 496 students in grades 1, 2, and 3. The number requiring intervention was reduced by half.
- Through Distributed Learning, BTPS supported 311 students in 24 courses.
- Various Off Campus programs meet the needs of student learning, including 15 students in the RAP program, 238 students in the Work Experience program, 24 students in the Green Certificate program, 145 in the Lakeland College; CTS Trades courses.
- A total of 422 off-campus/partnership students participated in 14 courses.







**Teaching and Leading** refers to teachers and leaders analyzing the learning context, attending local and societal considerations and applying the appropriate knowledge and abilities to make decisions resulting in quality teaching, leading and optimal learning for all. Public assurance occurs when the public has trust and confidence that certificated teachers and certificated leaders demonstrate their respective professional practice standard (*Teacher Quality Standard, Leadership Quality Standard and Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard*).

BTPS continues to focus its attention on supporting student learning through building staff capacity including:

- 84.2% of teachers, parents and students are satisfied with the quality of education in BTPS.
- 87% of parents state that teachers care about their child.
- 81% of teachers report that in the past 3-5 years the professional development and in-servicing received from the school authority has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth
- BTPS Leadership meetings hosted learning from Tom Hierck multiple times over the year to work on supporting learning during the pandemic.
- BTPS continued a Wellness Initiative to focus on learning, resources and activities to support staff wellness.
- All BTPS Leaders complete a coaching certification through Expedition Coaching.
- BTPS held summer opportunities in partnership with Lakeland College Trades & Technology school. 18 students participated in two trades courses over a 2 week period during July 2021.
- Optimal Learning Coaches (OLCs) gathered four times throughout the year to examine and implement conceptual instructional approaches.
- BTPS support a Leadership Learning menu allowing staff, teachers and leaders asynchronous and synchronous access to on demand professional learning opportunities.

**Learning Supports** refers to the mobilization of resources, (including expertise, facilities, human and community services) required to demonstrate shared, system-wide responsibility for all students and the application of these resources to ensure quality teaching, leading, and optimal learning for all. Public assurance occurs when the public has trust and confidence that resources are managed effectively in establishing learning environments where local and societal context is recognized, diversity is embraced, a sense of belonging is emphasized and all learners are welcomed, cared for, respected, and safe.

Robust supports for student's academic success and well-being include:

- 83.6% of teachers, parents and students agree schools are welcoming, caring, respectful and safe.
- 92% of parents share that their child is safe at school.
- 76% of teachers, parents and students agree that students have access to the appropriate supports and services at school.
- BTPS increased the available staffing time for Social Emotional Coaches to support students throughout the year.
- A cohort of Inclusive Learning Teachers (ILTs) participated in monthly professional learning to develop an inclusive universal instructional framework and model.
- BTPS continued the Mental Health Capacity Building projects, VIBE and WOW, to support students, families and communities with their mental health and wellness needs through early intervention programming and services



**Governance** refers to the process by which policy leaders attend to local and societal context; determine strategic direction; evaluate policy implementation; and manage fiscal resources to ensure learning supports, quality teaching, leading, and optimal learning for all. Public assurance occurs when the public has trust and confidence that policy leaders demonstrate stewardship of system resources with an emphasis on student success, generative community engagement, transparency and accountability.

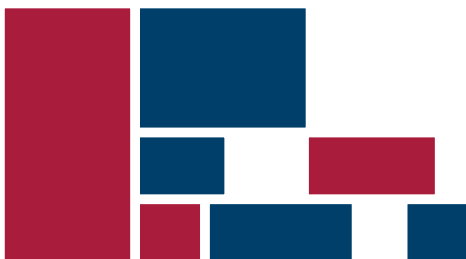
BTPS assures the governance of the system and this is evident through the variety of board actions including:

- During the 2021-2022 school year the Board reviewed: 2 Board Policies, 14 Administrative Procedures and Exhibits, as well as created 2 new Administrative Procedures.
- Each month the Board engaged over 100 students from schools across the division on topics related to the assurances domains. This information formed the Education Plan.
- The Board held 4 online engagements in March to solicit stakeholder feedback on the Division Education Plan.
- The Board continued to participate and advocate across the provinces as members of ASBA, PSBAA, and Rural Caucus.
- The Board engaged with the local MLAs to advocate for rural education.
- The Audit Committee, which includes trustees and local representatives received and reviewed the 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statements.

**Attending to Local and Societal Context** refers to the engagement practice of schools and communities, with support from the broader system, in identifying and responding to the needs, interests, aspirations and diverse cultural, social and economic circumstances of all students. Public assurance occurs when the public has trust and confidence that the education system responds pro-actively to local and societal contexts.

BTPS is a jurisdiction with a variety of different communities and attending to local context is evident through:

- Grade 10 students across BTPS were hosted at Lakeland College in Lloydminster for a day. Students were able to connect with program leads, participate in activities, tour the various programs and campus.
- The BTPS Indigenous Community of Practice met bi-monthly under the guidance of Kevin John from *They Build Bridges*.
- The Board advocated with the local and provincial government to rezone the area in front of Delnorte-Innisfree school to add handicap parking.
- Two parent engagement sessions on implementing new curriculum were supported throughout the year.
- BTPS saw six new Trustees elected on our nine person Board.
- 21 students participated in the 10th annual Superintendent Speaking contest which continued virtually during the pandemic.



# 2022 - 2023 BTPS School Year Calendar

<b>August</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>September</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>October</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>November</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
<b>December</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>January</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>February</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	<b>March</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
<b>April</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>May</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>June</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>July</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Legend		Days of School	
Holiday	Convention / ATA PL Day	<b>Students</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
First Student Day of Semester	Celebration Day	<b>Semester 1</b>	89 98
Self Directed Teacher Day	School Based PL	<b>Semester 2</b>	92 97
BTPS Learning Day	Central Office Closed	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>181 195</b>
Day-in-Lieu			

Student Non-Attendance Dates			
August 1 August 24 August 25 August 26 August 29 September 5 September 30 October 7 October 10 November 7 November 8	Heritage Day BTPS Learning Day School Based PL Self Directed Teacher Day Self Directed Teacher Day Labour Day Truth & Reconciliation Day School Based PL & Support Staff PL Thanksgiving Day School Based PL ATA Professional	November 9 November 10 November 11 Dec 26 - Jan 6 January 30 January 31 February 16 & 17 February 20 March 10 April 7	Designated Day-in-Lieu (Staff Meeting) Designated Day-in-Lieu (Parent Teacher Interviews) Remembrance Day Christmas Break School Based PL Self Directed Teacher Day ATA Teachers' Convention Family Day BTPS Learning Day Good Friday
April 10 - 14 May 5 May 18 May 19 May 22 June 28	Easter Break School Based PL Designated Day-in-Lieu (Staff Meeting) Designated Day-in-Lieu (Parent Teacher Interviews) Victoria Day Self Directed Teacher Day	** Central Office Closure will be July 24th - August 4th, 2023	

The first day for students is **August 30, 2022**. **February 1, 2023** is the first day of Term 2. **June 27, 2023** is the last day of school for students.

**Please be reminded that when inclement weather does not allow us to operate our buses, schools will be open, classes are occurring and student learning continues. As with any absence, students who miss material will be provided with an opportunity to receive instructional material through an alternate means or catch up on missed school work upon return to school.**

Students are required to be in attendance until the last day of school as identified by the BTPS Board Approved Calendar. Final exams at the Grade 7 to 9 level will occur during the last five student days each semester. During non-examination times, tutorials, course review and alternate activities will occur. Final exams in non-diploma courses at the Grade 10 to 12 level will occur during the last five student days each semester. During non-examination times, tutorials, course review and alternate activities will occur. Final exams in diploma courses will occur as described in the Alberta Education Diploma

exam schedule ([www.education.alberta.ca](http://www.education.alberta.ca)) and submission of marks will occur the day prior to the diploma marks submission date. During non-examination times, tutorials, course review and alternate activities will occur.

The 2022-2023 school calendar provides for instructional time for students that exceeds the requirements set by Alberta Education for instructional hours at the Grade 1-9 levels of 950 hours and at the Grade 10-12 levels for 1000 hours. The total student days in this year's calendar equals 181 days.



# Did You Know?



- Approximately 4000 students, from Kindergarten to Grade 12, attend Buffalo Trail Public Schools.
- Our division covers over 14,250 square kilometres in East-Central Alberta.
- We employ approximately 525 full and part-time teachers and support staff.
- We have 28 school sites (including eight Hutterite Colony Schools, one Outreach site, one distance learning site and 18 other schools serving students, in varying grade combinations, from ECS-Grade 12).
- Buffalo Trail Public Schools is served by nine trustees, each representing a ward in the division.
- In recent years, Buffalo Trail Public Schools has had one of the highest percentages of student high school graduation rates in the province.
- We are recognized for having one of the highest student transition to post-secondary rates in the province.
- We serve the learning needs of children in 28 communities across four different Municipal Districts and Counties.
- We operate bussing for four different school jurisdictions and five Private Early Childhood Service Operators.
- We have 96 bus routes that travel 13,973 km every day.
- The total distance travelled by our busses over the course of one year is equivalent to 64 times around the earth or seven round-trips to the moon.

**Buffalo Trail Public Schools**  
is located in the province of Alberta, Canada.

## Our Schools

Amisk School	780-856-3771
Autumn Leaf Colony School	780-842-2221
Creighton Colony School	780-763-2221
Dewberry School	780-847-3051
Dr. Folkins Community School (Chauvin)	780-858-3744
Edgerton Public School	780-755-3810
E. H. Walter School (Paradise Valley)	780-745-2277
Highland View Colony School	780-856-2367
Holt Colony School	780-754-2823
Hughenden Public School	780-856-3640
Innisfree Delnorte School	780-592-3963
Irma School	780-754-3746
J. R. Robson Jr. Sr. High School (Vermilion)	780-853-4177
Kitscoty Elementary School	780-846-2822
Kitscoty Jr. Sr. High School	780-846-2121
Mannville School	780-763-3615
Marwayne Jubilee School	780-847-3930
Percy Lake Colony School	780-593-2220
Provost Public School	780-753-6824
Ribstone Colony School	780-842-8027
Rosewood Colony School	780-842-7175
South Ferriby Colony School	780-847-2515
Students Online	780-853-2111
Vermilion Elementary School	780-853-5444
Vermilion Outreach School	780-853-2111
Wainwright Elementary School	780-842-3361
Wainwright High School	780-842-4481

## Board of Trustees

Kara Jackson - Chair  
 Barry Livingston - Vice Chair  
 Stephanie Spornitz  
 Darla Yonkman  
 David Bensmiller  
 Jim King  
 Stephanie Cooper  
 Tanya Ford  
 Arthur Block

## Senior Administration

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Rhae-Ann Holoien	Superintendent
Nadeem Altaf	Secretary-Treasurer
Michelle Webb	Deputy Superintendent
James Trodden	Assistant Superintendent

