



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope this newsletter finds you well following a good March Break. With the arrival of April and spring, we don't have all of the snow suits to deal with and we can look forward to the last three months of school.

The third term is a time of consolidation and celebration. We will have a variety of whole school activities, class field trips, and transition processes to help us complete this year and prepare for the next year.

This newsletter has information on safety procedures, ticks, a new safety program, our book club, budget consultation, and next year's school calendar.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office.

All the best,

Dan Clark

SAFETY PROCEDURES OVERVIEW

There were a variety of questions this week about safety procedures in our schools. This overview will provide some clarification.

HOLD AND SECURE

In a hold and secure procedure, classroom doors are locked and teaching and learning continues. Students are requested to stay in class for a short time (so washroom visits or trips to the water fountain may be delayed), but there is little other impact. This procedure allows for time and space in shared areas of the school to allow staff to respond to medical emergencies, or student de-escalation. This procedure might even be used before recess if there is wildlife outdoors.

LOCK DOWN

In a lock down procedure, classroom doors are locked, windows are covered, and students and staff are hiding in the classroom out of sight of windows. Students are quiet and

may not leave the classroom space. Classes who are outdoors when this procedure is initiated would hide away from the school, perhaps in the outdoor classroom. This procedure is used if there is a serious and potentially violent situation in our school with law enforcement contacted.

FIRE EVACUATION

In the event of a fire related emergency, students leave the school with their class and muster on the field past the portables.

TICK REMINDERS

This time of year, many families may be concerned about ticks and how to prevent tick-related disease. Families are encouraged to develop routines to make tick bites less



likely and to discuss the importance of routines, outdoor play, and promoting a child's autonomy!

Some suggestions for families:

1. Go outside for physical activity (outdoor play is great for development!)
2. Try to have children pick out pants and long sleeve shirts they'd like to wear (giving choices = promotes autonomy)
3. Use insect repellent and ask children to follow simple directions ("show me your ankles to spray").
4. Make sure to bathe every night (removes non-attached ticks) and incorporate tick checks every night (a tick needs to be on a person for at least 24-48 hours to transmit disease). Having consistent routines helps with self-regulation and behavior.

Parent Resources: [Tick Information](#)

Kids Resources: You may also share this child-appropriate resource with your children: [Tick Talk for Kids](#)

LET'S TALK ABOUT TOUCHING

The Early Childhood Educators of BC have developed a program called Let's Talk About Touching (LTAT) that LPES staff plan to introduce in classes this year and next. LTAT is a personal safety program designed to introduce young children to six body safety rules:

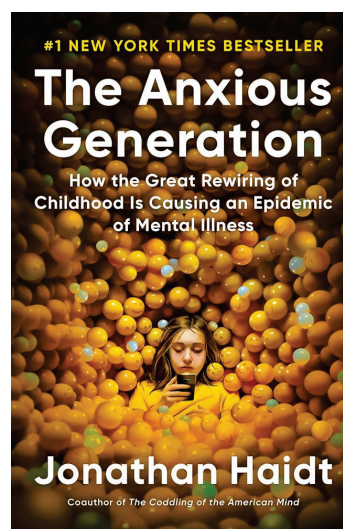
1. My body belongs to me.
2. I am allowed to say "no" or "stop" and get away from touches that are not safe.
3. I can know and use the names of all my body parts.
4. Private parts are private.
5. Touches are never secret.
6. I must tell a trusted adult about touches that are not safe.

We understand that these topics may raise questions or concerns. You are invited to an information meeting for families to preview LTAT materials and engage in discussions with school staff and other families. We believe that collaboration between school and home is essential for reinforcing the messages students are learning and ensuring they feel supported.

Information Session: PAC Meeting - Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, at 6:00 pm in the Lindsay Park Library

Thank you for your trust and partnership as we work together to keep our students empowered to better protect themselves and others.

ANXIOUS GENERATION BOOK CLUB



Our next book club meeting is coming up next week! We hope that you can join us in person or online.

- Part 3 - Monday April 14, 6:00 – 7:00 pm at MES
- Part 4 – Monday May 12, 6:00 – 7:00 pm at LPES

We will continue to offer a blended format – in person and on-line simultaneously.

SD6 BUDGET CONSULTATION PROCESS

Each year the Rocky Mountain School District must approve a balanced budget by June 30th. During this budget planning season, it is important that we hear from our valued employees, families, students, and community.

Rocky Mountain School District
BUDGET CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Rocky Mountain School District Board of Education would like your help in determining the budget priorities for the 2025-2026 school year. The school district's budget is based on the following guiding principles:

- Maximize the allocation of resources to support the goals & priorities in the Strategic Plan.
- Commit to building a strong understanding of budget information through ongoing communications.
- Maintain a three-year budget plan to ensure funding sources can support program initiatives.
- Maintain surplus and/or reserve balances to respond to emergent needs.
- And maintain strong fiscal management policies.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT CURRENTLY HAS

- 11 Elementary Schools
- 3 Secondary Schools
- 3 Alternative Schools
- 3500+ Enrolled Students

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

To share your priority areas, complete the survey by April 30, 2025. Click the link below or scan the QR Code.

[LINK TO THE SURVEY](#)

WHAT HAPPENS WITH MY INPUT?

All feedback received will be captured in a report submitted to the Rocky Mountain School District Board of Education for consideration and will also be made publicly available.

OUR ANNUAL BUDGET IS \$65M

OPERATING BUDGET BREAKDOWN

- 75% Instruction: Teachers and Support Staff Salaries, Benefits, Services and Supplies
- 22% Operations: Schools, Grounds, Utilities
- 3% Administration: District Governance and Administration, HR/Payroll, Procurement, Finance
- 4% Transportation: Student Transportation

83% Operating Funds: Teachers, EAs, Staff, Services, Utilities and Insurance
11% Special Purpose Funds: Classroom Enhancement funds, Annual Facilities Grant, Provincial resource program, Donations and Scholarships
6% Capital Funds: New Buildings, Upgrades, and Equipment

www.sd6.bc.ca

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Your input is very important. We encourage you to participate in the budget consultation process. Your feedback will help make informed decisions that best meet the needs of our students, staff and community.

The brief survey will be [available here](#) until April 30, 2025.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

In March, the Board of Education approved the **2025-2026 School Calendar** for Rocky Mountain School District. There are a few key changes we wanted to highlight to our staff, families, and communities:

For Students/Families:

- Wednesday, September 3, 2025, will be the first day of school for students and will be a full day of classes.
- Wednesday, June 24, 2026, will be the last day of school for students and will be a full day of classes.

Non-Instructional Days for the 2025-2026 School Year:

- Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- Monday, September 22, 2025
- Friday, October 24, 2025
- Monday, January 26, 2026
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026
- Monday, April 20, 2026
- Thursday, June 25, 2026
- Friday, June 26, 2026

These changes were made based on feedback received in early 2025 during the public calendar consultation period. The full 2025-2026 School Calendar can be [viewed online here](#).

UPDATING INFORMATION

Please remember to contact the school if you have changed your mailing address, residential address, e-mail address, home, work or cell phone number.

We need to keep our database up to date in case of emergency so we are able to contact parents as quickly as possible.

Also, if you know that you will be moving prior to September 2025 please let the school know.

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2024-25

Here is an overview of the last three months.

APRIL

- 16:** PAC Meeting
- 17:** Hot Lunch
- 18:** Good Friday (no classes)
- 21:** Easter Monday (no classes)
- 23:** Safety Day
- 28:** Non-instructional day (no classes)

MAY

- 7:** Early dismissal day (1:48pm)
- 9:** Interim reports are sent home.
- 15:** Hot Lunch
- 19:** Victoria Day (no classes)
- 21:** PAC Meeting
- 26:** Take Me Outside Day

JUNE

- 5-6:** Track and Field
- 12:** Hot Lunch
- 18:** PAC Meeting
- 20:** National Indigenous Peoples Day activities
- 23:** Talent Show
- 24:** Movie Morning
- 25:** Grade 3 Leaving Celebration
- 26:** Last day of classes and term 3 report cards sent home



PAC NEWS

Our next PAC Meeting is Wednesday, April 16th at 6:00 pm in our library – all parents and caregivers are welcome! Please use the front entrance. You may also join us virtually here:

[Click Here to Join Meeting](#)

MARK CREEK TILL TAPES

Lindsay Park School collects AG Mark Creek Market till tapes to assist our teachers with special classroom or school needs or to top up our breakfast/lunch program. These are tallied up during the school year and we receive a \$30 gift certificate for every \$5000 in receipts.