



Board of Trustees'

**Recognition of Staff
Academic Achievement**

June 1, 2023

Board of Trustees' Recognition of Staff Academic Achievement

Rocky View Schools (RVS) promotes life-long learning for our students and our staff. This continual growth helps create a world-class learning organization where all students achieve their absolute best.

The Board of Trustees would like to recognize the accomplishments of 34 staff members who not only exemplify the jurisdiction's vision that we are all learners, but who also demonstrate leadership in learning.

Ron Bianchini

Senior Manager of Supply Management – Education Centre

Master of Business Administration – Athabasca University

“Ron is committed to continual improvement of himself and RVS. The MBA program has offered Ron insight to broaden his perspective of efficient and effective operations for the Supply Management department to better serve the organization. Ron's dedication to learning and to the school division places him in a strategic position to support the continued growth and success of RVS.”

Larry Paul, Associate Superintendent of Business and Operations

Tashia Christie

Success Coach – Education Centre

Bachelor of Arts (Honours): Psychology – University of Calgary

“Tashia's dedication to supporting children, youth and staff in her work as a success coach benefits all of us. She is a natural leader and is passionate about supporting wellness and mental health across RVS. Her dedication to continued learning, leading and sharing are contagious with students and colleagues. Tashia is a wonderful member of our team, and we are really proud of her accomplishment. Best of luck as you look ahead to pursuing your master's degree.”

Sherri Black, Director of Learning Supports

Jodie Clease

Teacher – Windsong Heights School

Master of Education: Interdisciplinary Studies – University of Calgary

“Jodie is an outstanding school leader and teacher. She has advanced her learning at a practical level to lead Windsong Heights School in our PBIS strategy. As the committee leader, she has tirelessly worked to advance our school model and achieve our goals. Jodie's reflective practice and dedication to excellence and what is best for students will serve her well in all future roles.”

Penny Beaudry, Principal

Rachel Cobble

Learning Support Teacher – Discovery Trails Online School

Inclusive Education Graduate Diploma – Vancouver Island University

“Rachel has been instrumental in creating a strong learning support program through research-based programming in our online school. As a new school, we have had to incorporate new ways of supporting students and staff in our communication, teaching and learning, and ways of engaging with students. She has been instrumental in that work. Congratulations on your achievement, Rachel!”

Kelly Huck, Assistant Principal

Lauren Condrashoff

Assistant Principal – A.E. Bowers Elementary School

Master of Education: 21st Century Teaching and Learning – University of Prince Edward Island

“Lauren brings extraordinary energy and passion to her work as a school leader. Her practices, particularly related to student growth in literacy, is appreciated by her entire team. Her dedication to lifelong learning as she pursued her master of education degree will benefit our students and team in the future. Congratulations, Lauren!”

Jocelyn Littlefair, Principal

Michelle Coledge

Teacher – Fireside School

Master of Education: Curriculum and Instruction – University of New Brunswick

“Michelle is a lifelong learner who used the topics she explored during her degree to improve Fireside school. She showed great enthusiasm during this process and actively searched out other professionals to discuss a new topic or idea she had been studying. Congratulations on a job well done!”

Dave Banderk, Principal

Danielle Fink

Learning Support Teacher – W.H. Croxford High School

Master of Science: Psychology – University of Glasgow

“Danielle has focused her study on developing a trauma-informed practice at the school level. Her work focused on COVID-19-related trauma and delineating the path forward for educational practitioners. Students continue to benefit from Danielle’s caring demeanour and trauma-informed approach to student support.”

Scott Thompson, Assistant Principal

Rachel Harrowing

Teacher – W.H. Croxford High School

Master of Education – University of Calgary

“Rachel has continually sought to support students in the classroom and beyond. Her highly attuned sense of student needs led her to enrich her understanding of how to support students with mental health struggles or those with learning disabilities. Rachel’s final research project focused on creating evidence-based strategies to provide Tier One interventions in the classroom. Her implementation of these strategies has fostered an enriched classroom experience that meets students’ need in a holistic manner.”

Scott Thompson, Assistant Principal

Sean Hartley

Teacher – Ralph McCall School

Master of Education: Educational Leadership and Policy – Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto

“Sean is a respected member of the Ralph McCall School community. Our students and parents know him to be passionate about providing unique opportunities for students, particularly when it comes to daily physical activity and active living. His passion extends to his university studies and providing learning opportunities within the classroom for students. Sean creates hands on learning opportunities for students to engage in and ensures students have a voice in their learning. He helps to create rich experiences for students and helps them to develop their personal best.”

Nicola Tysowski, Principal

Augustina (Tina) Jegede

Learning Assistant – Ralph McCall School

Social Services Professional Diploma – Columbia College

“Tina’s diploma and new learning adds value to an already very capable and skilled member of our school community. As a learning assistant, Tina works with many students and her diploma has assisted in ensuring she has the background, theory, applications and skill set to meet students where they are at so they feel safe and cared for. She understands the importance of collaboration, communication and teamwork. Our school is fortunate to have her here as a learning assistant!”

Sarah Morrison, Assistant Principal

Annie Jones

Learning Assistant – Chestermere High School

Educational Assistant Certificate – Red Deer Polytechnic

“Annie is a valued member of our Learning Support team and staff at Chestermere High School. She is reliable, dependable, and hardworking. As a learning assistant, Annie meets students where they are at and supports them with their academic programming in a way that is creative, collaborative and always with a sense of humour. Annie is also a talented musician and gives of her own time volunteering to support our music programs as well as extracurricular events. This formal recognition is likely the first of many career-long pursuits and goals she has for herself.”

Lisa Schultz, Assistant Principal

Lanny Lam

Teacher – RancheView School

Master of Education: School Leadership – University of Calgary

“As an educator, Lanny builds positive relationships with students, staff and families through care, compassion and humor. His passion for numeracy has inspired our inaugural school-wide Mathlympics event. Lanny wishes to continue his leadership journey in schools through an administrative lens.”

Lynette Lapan-Smith, Principal

Jennifer Leadley

OH&S Coordinator – Education Centre

Occupational Health and Safety Advanced Certificate – University of Calgary

“Jen became OH&S Coordinator in March of 2022. Since taking that role, she has been instrumental in moving the OH&S yardsticks forward for RVS. She is the first point of contact for OH&S in the division and has dedicated her time to ensuring compliance. It is because of her work that RVS met our COR Audit last year and will again this year.”

Lyndon Chubbs, Senior Manager of HR and OH&S

Jaclyn MacKenzie

Teacher – R.J. Hawkey Elementary School

Graduate Certificate: Educational Neuroscience – University of Calgary

“Jaclyn confidently brings her new understandings and evidence-based research to her roles as a math teacher and school numeracy coach at R.J. Hawkey.

She effectively introduces new practices based upon educational neuroscience learnings and models these for her colleagues and students. She is a true lifelong learner and a leading learner in both our school and the district. She contributes much to our staff and our learning.”

Lisa Guy, Assistant Principal

Rahna Mohammad

Teacher – Chestermere High School

Graduate Certificate: Advancing Healthy and Socially Just Schools and Communities – University of Calgary

“Rahna is a passionate teacher who prioritizes students feeling a sense of belonging in school through academics and extracurricular activities. She has been a leader in developing culturally responsive practices for staff and students. Her dedication to learning and commitment to students will continue to serve her well during her career.”

Mitchell Bates, Assistant Principal

Jody Moore

Assistant Principal – Windsong Heights School

Master of Education: Interdisciplinary Studies – University of Calgary

“Always a learner, Jody’s natural curiosity has provided a lens whereby she applies new learning to situations and reflects on the context to always do better. Her work ethic has been outstanding. Being a newer administrator and a university student at the same time can be tricky, but Jody has succeeded with humble grace. I am sure she is looking forward to a summer and upcoming school year without any papers to write. As this learning journey comes to an end, I am sure Jody will find another that piques her interest.”

Penny Beaudry, Principal

Megan Murayama

Teacher – R.J. Hawkey Elementary School

Graduate Certificate: Supporting and Enhancing Children’s Mental Health – University of Calgary

“Megan eagerly brings her new learning about children’s mental health into her daily lessons and interactions with her students. She is reflective in her practice and contributes much richness to her conversations and discussion with others when making connections with her learning and its practical application. She shows that she is a lifelong learner and is a great role model in our school. She contributes much to our staff and our learning.”

Lisa Guy, Assistant Principal

Sheena Noppen

Child Development Advisor – Sarah Thompson School

Master of Social Work – University of Calgary

“Sheena’s contribution to school culture and student success is immeasurable. Her dedication and perseverance in ensuring all students are supported with their mental health positively impacts our entire school community. Sheena’s continual pursuit of new learning opportunities makes her an extremely valuable team member at Sarah Thompson School and RVS.”

Ryan Siemens, Principal

Lisa Oksinski

Learning Assistant – Rainbow Creek Elementary School

Educational Assistant Certificate – Red Deer Polytechnic

“Lisa is student-centred and advocates for each child’s learning. She brings enthusiasm and a joy of learning to the school. Her dedication to learning is evident in her searches for answers to questions about students and her pursuit of advanced learning.”

Tammy Rahn, Principal

Jenny Owen

Learning Commons Facilitator – Herons Crossing School

Library Information Technology Diploma – Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

“Jenny is the most amazing learning commons facilitator I’ve ever worked with. She takes great initiative to support literacy and learning at our school. Her dedication and commitment to learning is demonstrated in everything that she does. We are lucky to have her and so proud of her accomplishments.”

John-Mark Crane, Acting Principal

Hafsa Qureshi

Supply Management Coordinator – Education Centre

Business Management Diploma – Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) designation –

Universal Public Procurement Certification Council

“As Hafsa continues to develop her professional expertise, we would like to recognize her for these educational milestones. The completion of her business diploma and CPPB designation are achievements that allow Hafsa to bring more knowledge and experience to the Supply Management department.”

Ron Bianchini, Senior Manager of Supply Management

Kirsty Reade

Learning Support Teacher – Fireside School

Master of Education – University of Calgary

“Kirsty, as a lifelong learner, embarked on her degree program in 2020. She incorporated this new learning into her already extensive knowledge base and has enriched the experience of the students she works with. Her dedication and reflective nature will continue to support the students and staff at our school. Congratulations Kirsty!”

Dave Banderk, Principal

Rodney Reisner

Teacher – W.G. Murdoch School

Master of Mathematics for Teachers – University of Waterloo

“Rodney is an exceptional senior mathematics teacher who is always eager to increase his knowledge and skill to bring new learning and ideas into the classroom. His dedication to learning and sports at W.G. Murdoch continues to lead to great results for his students and our community. Congratulations Rod!”

Derek Keenan, Principal

Kim Ridley

Teacher – Chestermere High School

Graduate Diploma: Literacy in the Diverse Classroom – University of Calgary

“Kim has been a leader in developing both literacy skill enhancement and English as an Additional Language (EAL) programming at Chestermere High School. Her dedication to supporting student needs is exemplary and very evident within the school. Kim’s commitment to helping staff enhance their capacity to incorporate strategies to improve literacy abilities and support EAL has supported significant student growth.”

Mitchell Bates, Assistant Principal

Richard Sampson

Assistant Principal – Cochrane Christian Academy

Master of Education: Educational Leadership (Educational Administration) – Yorkville University

“Richard can take great pleasure and satisfaction knowing he is having a strong impact on the learning community at Cochrane Christian Academy. Staff appreciate his thoughtful and approachable manner and the professionalism he brings to his role as assistant principal each day. Richard’s constructive efforts are yielding positive outcomes for students, staff and parents. Our entire school joins Richard in celebrating this important accomplishment!”

Allan Elkin, Principal

Kaity Schaab

Teacher – Fireside School

Master of Education – University of Calgary

“Taking the interdisciplinary route, Kaity’s program included two years of study exploring collaboration, innovation, design thinking, and leading and learning with digital technologies. Kaity’s research has focused on exploring how a hybrid approach can promote inter-school collaboration across a school board. Congratulations Kaity!”

Dave Banderk, Principal

Chelsey Schubert

Teacher – Northcott Prairie School

Graduate Certificate: Learning Disabilities in the Classroom – University of Calgary

“Chelsey is an educational leader and a highly valued member of the Northcott Prairie team. Her passion for learning and her ability to provide an inclusive and welcoming classroom environment has benefited many of our students. Congratulations on completing your graduate certificate and best wishes in your continued learning journey!”

Cheryl Steadman, Assistant Principal

Matt Smith

Teacher – W.H. Croxford High School

Master of Education: Curriculum (Math and Science) – University of Victoria

“Matt is excited about alternative assessment. His passion for finding new and authentic ways to instruct and support students through assessment has been rekindled through his ongoing education. Matt’s classes have been enriched because of his professional development.”

Scott Thompson, Assistant Principal

Alida South

Learning Specialist – Education Centre

Master of Education: Educational Administration and Leadership – University of New Brunswick

“Alida exemplifies leading by example. Her exceptional leadership inspires others to achieve their goals. Her focus on building trusting relationships allows her to support teachers in bringing out the best in students and move learning forward. She models lifelong learning and responds to those around her by making them feel comfortable to take risks with their learning.”

Sharon Cronin, Director of Instructional Leadership

Cheryl Steadman

Assistant Principal – Northcott Prairie School

Master of Education: Educational Leadership – Yorkville University

“Cheryl has passionately served the Northcott Prairie School community for the last two years in her role as assistant principal. Her dedication, attention to detail and ability to see the whole picture are valued. Cheryl continues to develop her passion for supporting students and staff and making a difference in our school community through the many initiatives she has started. As an educational leader, she empowers others and fosters a culture built on respect, care, achievement and celebration.”

Devon Sawby, Principal

Jennifer Steiner

Teacher – Westbrook School

Master of Education: Interdisciplinary Studies – University of Calgary

“During her time with RVS, Jennifer has led Westbrook School in assessment and numeracy, focusing on collaborating with her colleagues and divisional experts. Her passion for teaching mathematics in an inclusive environment led her to further her education at the University of Calgary. In her first year, she received a graduate certificate in teaching and learning mathematics, followed by a graduate diploma in inclusive education in year two and a graduate degree in research in year three. She is now putting her research into action as the school’s early numeracy teacher. Her expertise and dedication to supporting students’ learning will serve our division for years to come.” *Hana Hooper, Assistant Principal*

Stephen Teasdale

Teacher – RVS Community Learning Centre

Bachelor of Education – University of Alberta

“Stephen is the teacher at the RVS Mechanics Training Centre, where he serves high school students across the division by helping them learn and explore the field of mechanics and other related skilled careers. The recent completion of his bachelor of education has given him greater knowledge, skills and strategies to implement as a teacher on top of his previous knowledge as a Red Seal mechanic.”

Greg Rankin, Principal

Alanna Terroux

Teacher – Prairie Waters Elementary School

Master of Education – University of Calgary

“Alanna is a passionate teacher and learner who supports all her students by meeting them where they are. She is known to be one of the most helpful humans in our building, supporting her colleagues, students and parents at every opportunity. She is a great collaborator and a team player who always leans on research-based best practices and strives to do what is right for each individual.”

Karen Fillier, Assistant Principal

Kerri Woods

Positive Behaviour Coach – Education Centre

Canadian Certified Counsellor – Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association

“Kerri is a strong advocate for mental health on our team. Her expertise, experience, calm approach and leadership continue to be an asset to our divisional Learning Supports team and to all those who have the benefit of working with her. Kerri is part of our Enhanced Mental Health Mobile Team and consistently impacts the lives of children, youth and colleagues in meaningful ways. We are proud of Kerri and her accomplishments and lucky to have her on our team!”

Sherri Black, Director of Learning Supports

2023 Edwin Parr Award

The Alberta School Boards Association's Edwin Parr Teacher Award recognizes exceptional first-year teachers who have gone above and beyond for their students and school community.

Edwin Parr, President of the association from 1956 – 1962, instituted an “Annual Teacher Award” in his school system that recognized teachers for their long and exemplary service. In searching for a way in which his memory might be perpetuated and to honour the profession he so dearly respected, the Edwin Parr Teacher Award was established in 1964.

Please join RVS in congratulating Brandy Perry, who was selected to represent the jurisdiction for the Zone 5 Edwin Parr Award, as well as Taylor Thompson who was also nominated within RVS.

ZONE 5 REPRESENTATIVE

Brandy Perry

Teacher, Beiseker Community School

“Brandy has been an exceptional addition to our school. She has given the school her time and talents to enhance students' educational experience and the overall culture at Beiseker Community School. Brandy has fostered a strong sense of community in our Kindergarten - Grade 12 school by organizing engaging activities to bring the elementary and high school students together for shared experiences.”

Kristina Rentz, Assistant Principal

NOMINEE

Taylor Thompson

Teacher, East Lake School