



Iron Ridge Intermediate Campus

Our Mission:
Empowering all Learners to be Extraordinary

IRON RIDGE INTERMEDIATE CAMPUS
101 Cottonwood Drive
BLACKFALDS, AB. T4M 0M4
PHONE: 403-885-6100 FAX: 403-782-8744

January 15, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and WCPS Staff:

Wolf Creek Public Schools' Board of Trustees is committed to listening to you, our important partners in education. We know our families have different stories and experiences, needs and access to resources when it comes to education, and it's those stories and concerns regarding public education in your community that we want you to share with us.

WCPS Trustees advocate on your behalf to Alberta Education and the Government of Alberta. Simply put, that means they open conversations with the government looking to address your concerns. To do that more effectively, and as we approach the next education budget this spring, it is crucial that we know your story first hand, so the Board can best represent and make a strong case for your concerns, for you and for your children.

Please find the attached advocacy sheet, with some brief information about current resource and support pressures on the division. On the reverse side is a form where you can write your story.

Please take the time to share your story and concerns about public education with us. The school board is meeting with Members of the Legislative Assembly on February 7th, 2020 and will be taking your letters to the meeting. We invite you to fill in the attached form and return it to the school or go online for a fillable PDF that you can complete on your computer, save it, and email as an attachment back to us. The online form can be found at www.wolfcreek.ab.ca. Click on Board Advocacy: Tell Us Your Story for the fillable PDF.

Please ensure you return this to the school or school division office and we will then pass on your letters when the board meets with the local MLAs. Please return completed letters by no later than February 3rd, 2020.

Thank you for all you do to support public education in Alberta and across Wolf Creek Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Jayson Lovell,
Superintendent and
Della Lastiwka,
Principal

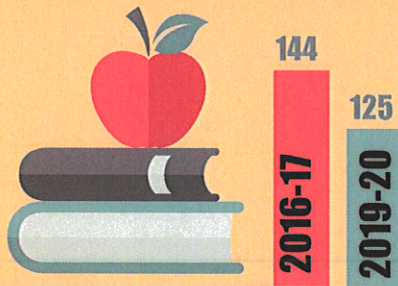
**Our Vision: At Iron Ridge Intermediate Campus we develop compassionate leaders
who realize their potential and enrich the world.**

Wolf Creek's Board of Trustees wants to hear from you and Share Your Story on your behalf

Wolf Creek Public Schools measures very high in providing Quality of Education and Safe and Caring Schools, but we know there are potential changes to education on the horizon that may impact the funding the Board has to operate schools and educate students.

We are wanting to continue our conversation with you and with the Government of Alberta to ensure **Your Child** is supported and successful. This form is an opportunity for you to **share those thoughts with us, so we can share them with our MLAs and Government, to best advocate on your behalf.**

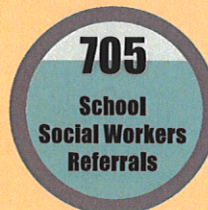
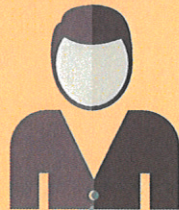
Student Supports



Educational Assistant support for Special Needs Students

Has declined by nearly 20 in the past three years. Additional resources that support educators and schools to provide inclusive learning have also been reduced.

Student Mental Health



2018/19 School Social Workers in Wolf Creek Public School have made:

- 307 referrals to Alberta Health Services
- 333 referrals to Local Agencies
- 65 referrals to Children's Services

Lack of Mental Health Access in rural Alberta often sees cases going to schools for support.

A reduction of Full-Time Social Workers in schools over the past four years.

Rural Funding Equity



A rural school could receive \$40,000 less per class (with an avg. class size of 16 students), compared to a class size with 22 students.

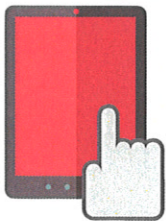


In all areas, funding does not address changing populations in rural communities.



All schools require administrators, support staff and central office support whether there are 500 or 50 students. Funding does not reflect these needs in rural schools.

What do I do?



- Compose a short note to us about your family's story around education. What your child needs to be successful.
- Return the letter to the WCPS Division Office. Our Board is gathering stories to help best advocate on your behalf to the Government of Alberta.

What do I write about?

- Keep it factual and short.
- Simply tell us your story. What programming and resources are needed by your child in their school and classroom? What would it mean for your child to not have access to these programs, resources and supports?
- Be constructive, as that helps us best share your story in our Board advocacy to the Government of Alberta.
- Share what you'd like, but we don't require names, just your story and experience. We will respect your privacy throughout our advocacy.

Please fill in the following:

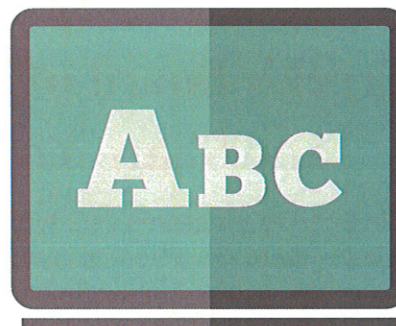
Name _____ Phone _____
Home Address _____ Postal Code _____
My MLA is _____

Please return your letter to:
Wolf Creek Public Schools
6000 Highway 2A
Ponoka, Alberta, T4J 1P6

Or email: wolfcreek@wolfcreek.ab.ca



Dear Board of Trustees:
My concerns for
public education
in my community
are ...



I am a (parent, grandparent, community member,
teacher, student):

The community my school is in is:

Sincerely,