



# THE BRIEF

Canadian Rockies Public Schools' Board Meeting Digest  
May 24, 2023

## Picard and Holloway Deemed Changemakers at 2023 Women of Distinction Awards

Trustee **Carol Picard** and Canmore Collegiate Grade 12 student **Melika Holloway** were celebrated on May 11 at the YWCA Bow Valley Women of Distinction Awards. Carol was honoured with the Dr. Priscilla Wilson Memorial Award for demonstrating outstanding leadership and innovation in making a meaningful difference in the community. Melika Holloway was bestowed the Margaret Stephens Young Woman's Leadership Award, which recognizes an emerging leader, aged 16-30, who is a role model who inspires others to follow her example and sets the pace for others to walk alongside her. Please join the Board of Trustees in congratulating both of these outstanding ladies! ■

## Locally Developed Courses Affirmed for 2023/24

Each year, CRPS reviews its line-up of locally developed courses, bringing forward to the board for approval, new courses or those requiring renewal. At its May 24 meeting, the board approved 18 courses, including

a new course on financial literacy:

- Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 15, 25, and 35
- Dance 15, 25, and 35
- ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15 and 25
- ESL Introduction To Science 15
- Surviving Financially as an Adult 15
- Yoga 15 (3 and 5 credit)
- Yoga Fitness 15, 25, and 35 (3 and 5 credit)

Bringing the total number offered in CRPS to 88, locally developed courses help meet the needs of students and engage those at risk of leaving school early. In some cases, the courses also help to promote successful transitions to further education by exposing students to advanced subject matter. ■

## Dual Credit Allows Students to Pursue their Career Passion in High School

New dual credit opportunity are coming to CRPS! In addition to exploring a culinary partnership with SAIT, CRPS has partnered with the post-secondary technical institution to provide three single course

*CRPS' Board of Trustees (left to right): Dale Craig, Brian Callaghan, Carol Picard, Arlene Rheaume, Luke Sunderland*

offerings in September: Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology and Management 200. Two additional courses will be added in January - Infection Prevention and Control and Science of Health and Wellness. Designed for students in Grades 11 and 12, dual credit programs allow students to graduate with their high school diploma as well as a post-secondary credential or course credits. ■

## CRPS Hiring Fair to Connect Hundreds of Students with Bow Valley Employers

Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) is set to hold a first-of-its-kind student hiring fair, connecting over 700 high school students with more than 50 local employers. The event,

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which will take place on Thursday, May 25 at Canmore Collegiate High School, is designed to facilitate connections between students and employers in the Bow Valley, paving the way for valuable career learning opportunities for students and allowing local businesses to secure employees ahead of the

busy summer season. CRPS students from both Banff and Canmore will have a wide range of professions to choose from, including retail, hospitality, skilled trades, automotive, realtors, parks, administration, and non-profit organizations. Many students are interested in ongoing part-time employment, Registered

Apprenticeship opportunities, and work experience throughout the summer and school year. With the assistance of the Job Resource Centre, students have been busy refreshing their resumes and will attend the fair with a list of questions to help break the ice and facilitate conversations with prospective employers. ■

## CRPS Tidbits

### Important Calendar Dates

**June School Board Meeting** - The Board of Trustees' next regular meeting is set for June 21, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Central Board Office in Canmore.

**School Council Meeting Dates** - School Council meeting dates for the month of June are:

Alpenglow - June 6  
Banff Elementary - June 21  
Banff Community - June 19  
Canmore Collegiate - June 20  
Elizabeth Rummel - June 13  
Lawrence Grassi - June 6

### CCHS Synthetic Biology Team Wins 2nd Place in National Innovation Competition

On May 13, 2023, Canmore Collegiate High School's (CCHS) Synthetic Biology Team won second place in the MindFuel Tech Futures Challenge, a national youth innovation competition focused on sustainability, taking home \$1,500 for their innovation in water testing technology. The team of eight students was awarded the

title of Runner-up Prototype in the Junior High/High School category for their innovation dubbed Project CRIT, a water testing kit that will help detect harmful toxins in water sources and allow municipalities to eradicate them quickly. Project CRIT consists of a rapid portable test for cyanotoxins, typically found in freshwater bodies with algal blooms, using genetically engineered E. coli cells to produce a protein for toxin detection. The group has been working on their project for the last year and a half, designing a circular loop of DNA, called a plasmid, using 3D printing and coding for the project, and building a case for the test complete with its own heating system.

### Banff Elementary Students to Plant Native Garden

Garden Kindergarten to Gr. 6 students from Banff Elementary School (BES) are sharpening their science skills by focusing on plants and the natural world with Lynx from Nature Explorers. Directly connected to the Science curriculum for each grade, students are working with Lynx to create and plant a native species garden in front of the school. Special thanks are extended to the Pauw

Foundation for their continued support of the Nature Explorers program at BES and the opportunity for hands-on academic focused learning.

### 2023/24 Enrolment Projections

In the April 27 edition of Rocky Mountain Outlook, it was reported that CRPS is anticipating lower enrolments for the 2023/24 school year by about 40 students. Although the numbers were taken from the Board's April 19 budget package, what the media outlet did not capture was that the enrolment information was a "projection" submitted to Alberta Education in January 2023. As a planning tool, these numbers allow both the province and boards to build a budget proposal for the upcoming year. Most boards are conservative in their planning numbers, as it makes good financial sense not to make more commitments than revenues to be received. Actual enrolments are counted on September 30 each year, with revenues allocated in accordance with those numbers.

## "Inspiring Hearts and Minds" - CRPS' Board of Trustees

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