



APRIL 2023

Monthly Theme: WE BELONG



This is a safe place. We included others. Everyone is welcome.

What does it look like when we all feel included, cared for and a sense of belonging and safety... our amazing school!

School Population – Quick Facts

- 700 students, 29 classrooms K-5
- 27 classroom teachers
- 11 Assistants, 3 Admin Assistants, 1 Learning Commons Facilitator, and 1 part time school technologist
- 2 Admin, 2 Learning Support Teachers, 1 Child Development Advisor (CDA)
- 107 students or 14% are identified with specialized or exceptional needs (IPPs/PLPs)
- 35 students or 5% are English Language Learners
- 47 students or 7% self-declare as First Nations, Inuit or Metis
- Students in English: 332
- Students in French Immersion: 368

Monthly Highlights:

Resumed Alien In-Line Skating for Gym and Wellness Classes - so great for kids trying something new and doing their best!

Ride of the Mustangs with GMHS was a HIT! Our students went to GMHS to ride bikes and raise funds for charity! Well done!

School Yearbook Cover and Back Cover Winners, Announced! See your April Family Express for details. Congratulations to all students who won a spot on the yearbook. Buy yearbooks on School Cash for memories from this year!

April's PBIS Assessment is April 26th and we look forward to seeing our results. This is a way to see how well we, as a school – students, staff, and parents - understand and use the 4 PBIS school expectations – We belong, We care, We are Independent, and We do Our Best. **WE DID GREAT!!!**

April's PBIS assemblies this month are on April 28th with special Student Leaders as guests from the Middle and High School! We are excited for this We Belong Assembly!

Community Project Updates from classrooms!

- **Grade 2 Danielson** class has been visiting Cedarwood Station every month – great learning experiences and connections are being made between the residents and students – they wrote a lovely letter of gratitude!
- **Grade 1 Wigmore and Grade 5 Worden** classes have started a special project together as learning buddy classes, making homemade seed paper in little pots.

Staffing Updates

We welcome new staff to Edwards!

1. **Michelle Leafloor** as Learning Support Teacher until June 29th, replacing Nicole Maus – primarily supporting K-2 students.
2. **Elaina Smith and Tammy Dikeman** are covering for Kelly Simon's classes and Ryan Bonner's classes to accommodate for concerts!
3. **Amanda Price** is teaching grade 3-5 students in small groups for additional intervention and support, during March, April, and May!

We will be hiring for a grade 1 Intervention Teacher as additional support for May and June. Additional funds became available for this from the government.

Technology Update: We have 60 expired chromebooks that will be leaving the school in June, so we ordered 60 more, costing the school \$24,000.00 from old School Generated Funds (SGF)

Upcoming School Happenings:

- **May 15-18 is Concert Week for gr. 3-5**
- **Please contact Elisha Danielson (edanielson@rockyview.ab.ca)** in the office to join our **volunteer** list for concert stage set up and take down. Volunteers who help with the set up and take down can receive **FRONT ROW CONCERT SEATS!**

They are looking forward to surprising 100 neighbourhood residents in May!

- **Kindergarten Classes** have been busy being Kindness Ninjas in various missions across the school and Airdrie community.

Pound Exercise Classes for grade 4-5 classes were so much fun! Students were learning a new way to exercise with drumsticks and movement!

Teaching Staff have been busy with Curriculum Planning Days – 2 days were provided this year for K-2, and 1 day for 4-5 teachers.

April is BUDGET TIME and planning for next year. Veronica and Rachelle have been busy reviewing funds available for next year and planning for the school resources, staffing and classroom configurations.

- **Grade 5 visits are being planned for Ecole Airdrie Middle School** – stay tuned for details in May. Likely it will be May 31st
- **June 1st Family Dance!** Tickets are already sold out for the second half! Get your tickets now!

Continuous Improvement – 2022-2023 Areas of Focus

INCLUSION & ENGAGEMENT

- Belonging and Care
- Strong Teams & Learning Walks
- Indigenizing Teaching Practices

LITERACY & NUMERACY

- Independence and Doing Our Best
- Digging Into Data & Instructional Design
- Making Learning Visible

