



Foundation Focus

The Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools

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Message from the Board Chair

Our children are the future of our communities. We are grateful that our public schools provide excellence in teaching and learning that allow students to be inspired to achieve. Because the Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools is the charitable arm of Red Deer Public Schools, the priorities of the Foundation align with the Division's focus of:

- **Student Growth and Achievement:** The ongoing progress of students' learning, enable them to engage intellectually, grow continuously as learners, and demonstrate citizenship.
- **Teaching and Leading:** Apply appropriate knowledge and abilities to make decisions that demonstrate professional practice standards, which result in quality teaching, leading, and optimum learning for all students.
- **Learning Supports:** Using resources to create optimal learning environments where diversity is embraced, a sense of belonging is emphasized and all students are welcomed, cared for, respected and safe.

There are many opportunities to go "above and beyond for children." We all want the very best opportunities for our students. That's what the Foundation is all about, identifying initiatives that make a real difference to students and can generate support from the community.

We believe these programs are essential in our schools, and we have the opportunity to make a real difference to students. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of students and at the same time, strengthen our community.

It truly does take a village to raise a child. The support for the Foundation from individuals, staff, businesses, service clubs and other organizations is inspiring. We invite you to be a part of our community of supporters and make a difference to students in Red Deer Public Schools.

Kristine Plastow
Board Chair

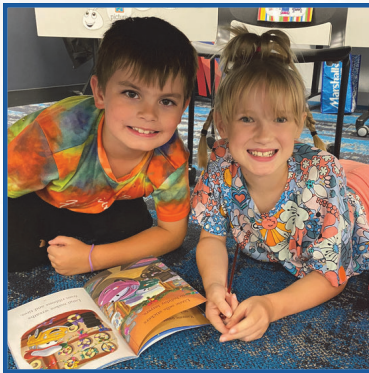




RDPSD Foundation's Board of Directors

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The Foundation has an arm's length relationship with Red Deer Public Schools is governed by its own Board of Directors consisting of community and Division representatives. The Board meets regularly throughout the year to provide oversight and direction to achieve its goals and objectives.

The Foundation office supports fund development works as well as charitable giving to schools and the Division through Red Deer Public Schools registered charity. Operations of the Foundation office are supported through a \$30,000 grant from Red Deer Public Schools. This ensures that 100% of donor contributions go towards the projects they support.



Strategic Directions & Goals

Mission:

To create opportunities which support students in achieving their personal best.

Vision:

Building capacity of individuals collectively to create a stronger, more engaged community!

Over the next 5 years, the Board of Directors will focus on these strategic directions to move the work of Foundation forward, continue to identify gaps and provide support to students in Red Deer Public Schools.





Projects We Support

The Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools offers programming that is considered to be “Above and Beyond for Children” initiatives. These are outside of public education funded programming and are only possible through community support.

Each of these opportunities impact many students and enhance 'life chances for students'.

Our Programs

Bright Start provides access to quality pre-kindergarten programming for children who we already know will struggle when they begin school.

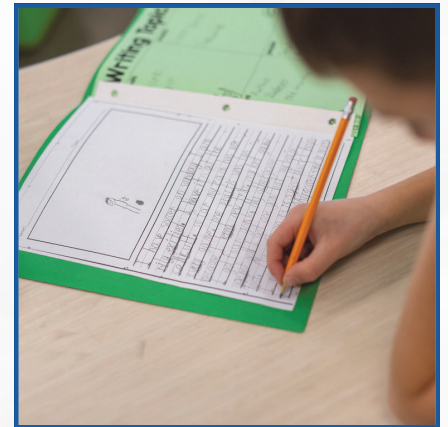
Reading College makes a real difference for 65 Grade 2 students who are struggling readers and writers.

Finish Line connects with students who are no longer attending high school, have not completed their graduation requirements, and yet are within reach of achieving their high school diploma.

Step Up reduces barriers for students by providing basic necessities to those who go without.

Come Grow With Us is a three seasons greenhouse that allows students to develop practical, valuable life skills and gain new perspectives on food.

Music Plus provides musical instruments to students, whose families are not able to afford them.





Enhancing Educational Opportunities for Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6

This year, The Foundation supported several initiatives aimed at strengthening literacy, mathematics, and cultural understanding among students. By providing valuable resources and engaging opportunities, we are dedicated to empowering learners from Kindergarten through Grade 6, ensuring they develop the skills and knowledge necessary for future success.

To strengthen literacy skills among our youngest learners, The Foundation supported the purchase of **The Bug Club Morphology**, a comprehensive literacy resource designed for students in Kindergarten to Grade 5. This engaging program empowers students to develop essential reading and language skills that set the foundation for lifelong success.

In addition, we have funded **Math Up Kits** for each student from Kindergarten to Grade 5, providing innovative, hands-on learning tools that make mathematics accessible and enjoyable for all students.

In support of Indigenous education, we are sponsoring a speaking engagement with award-winning **Indigenous author David A. Robertson** for Grade 6 students across Red Deer Public Schools. This special event will deepen students' understanding of Indigenous storytelling and perspectives as they conclude their novel study of *The Barren Grounds*.





General Projects - Ongoing

The Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools is a funder for several projects and programs across the Division that effect many students and schools:

- **Body Image Play:** Targeting Grade 7 students by using social action drama delivers important messages and raises awareness about healthy self-esteem and lifestyle choices before negative behaviours take root.
- **Choir Kids:** Hundreds of elementary students have the opportunity to sing with their choirs to highlight their talents and love for singing in a concert performance accompanied by the Red Deer Symphony Orchestra.
- **Cross Country Ski Loppet:** More than 500 students from Grades 4 to 12 participate in a 3-5 km loppet.
- **Dawe Run:** A cross-country run involving more than 3,500 students from Grades 4 to 12.
- **Grow Kids:** A full-day program for more than 700 Grade 5 students to experience and explore a variety of physical activities to promote health and wellness as well as develop characteristics and attributes of becoming a good citizen.
- **Young Writers Conference:** More than 100 Grade 5 students who love to read and write have the opportunity to connect with guest authors, illustrators, news reporters and writers that inspire kids to write.





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Our Donors

The Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools is very thankful for the amazing support it receives from the community. Without their support, these programs would not be possible.

Thank you for giving kids a life chance!

Berry Architecture & Associates

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Other Individual Supporters



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