## **Battle River School Division**

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January 31, 2024

To:BRSD FamiliesFrom:Rhae-Ann Holoien, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Subject: 2024-25 Calendar

BRSD wishes to thank you for sharing valuable input for our 2024-25 school calendar. Feedback that was collected from our survey sent out in November has been reviewed by a committee of division staff and school principals. The group has created a calendar that the Board approved on January 25, 2024.

There are many critical elements which drive our calendar. We are governed by the required Alberta Education instructional hours for students, maximum number of days in the <u>Education Act</u>, and assignable time for teachers. Additionally, there are provincial mandated exams which dictate student days at the end of each semester, collective agreements, and statutory holidays which impact our calendar.

Our beliefs embody BRSD's commitment to providing professional staff learning and optimal collaboration opportunities, ensuring that we build capacity to continually improve quality student learning. This is one of the many viewpoints considered during the complex task of calendar development.

BRSD has developed a calendar which incorporates trends in previous and current feedback. It has students starting school after the September long weekend in 2024-25. We have eliminated the early dismissals and combined our professional learning, collaboration time for staff, and staff meeting days into full days off for students approximately once per month. Our staff and students will have a week break in November and a spring break in March.

More details and the completed and approved calendar may be found here.

We appreciate you taking the time to submit feedback through our survey in November.

Sincerely,

RSHoloien

Rhae-Ann Holoien Superintendent of Schools