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# Board of Trustees

## Advocating for schools, students and communities

The Wolf Creek Public Schools' Board of Trustees is advocating on various key areas and with the Alberta Provincial Election we will be advocating throughout the election campaign.

**Mental Health:** We share your concern over the rising mental health needs in students, families and staff. We know there is a direct connection between mental health and student success. We urge the government to commit distinct and sufficient funding to meet these needs.

As a Board, we recognize that public schools are often the first place where mental health issues are recognized in youth and children. WCPS has made nearly 1000 school social worker program referrals this school year alone, with 150 referrals to outside agencies. We advocate to government for additional therapist and specialist access for students and communities.

**Funding:** Funding is something that impacts everything from maintaining and operating schools to providing specialized student supports. Public schools have become experts in allocating limited funds across diverse school programs. But we know that annual rising costs absorb much of the increases in education funding brought in by the government.

We encourage the government to improve the funding model for K-12 education, ensuring equity across the system. It is crucial that public schools, which welcome all students and have no barrier to enrollment, are prioritized and provided the funding and resources necessary to ensure success for all students.

**Cross Ministry Support:** We know that increasingly student needs are extending beyond the classroom. Meeting these needs stretches classroom budgets, impacting overall student success, wellbeing and mental health. We encourage the Government of Alberta to build cross ministry partnerships to work with school boards to address these needs.

As a Board, targeted funding has been helpful, but too often the need outweighs the funding. Creating funded partnerships with other government departments such as Alberta Health to provide health specific support and funding for students and schools would ease pressure on schools.

**The Alberta Provincial Election is an opportunity to join Trustees and advocate for schools, students and communities.** No matter who you may support, it is an opportunity to talk to candidates, other parents and trustees about education, and the needs of students and schools in your community.

### JOIN US

Ask Questions — Attend Candidate Events — Support Public Education