2024 - 2025 School Year

# SCHOOL EDUCATION PLAN

## Alpenglow School

**Canadian Rockies Public Schools** 







#### SCHOOL CONTEXT

"I believe in being in nature to learn as much as possible. I appreciate an experiential approach to learning and value the story telling approach." Alpenglow Parent



#### principal's message

#### **Chris Rogers**

Teachers, students, and parents are very satisfied with the unique education provided at Alpenglow. Our excellent Provincial Achievement Test results likely contribute to this satisfaction along with the unique approach to learning found at our school. We can be more confident of these conclusions by a deeper exploration of parent perceptions of our school, by broadening our efforts to gather more responses from a greater diversity of families, and rigorously exploring our achievement results.

One of Alpenglow's pillars, Nature Immersion, provides a strong foundation for safety, positive mental health, and engaged learning. We believe that we need further insights from parents about how they would like to share input into decisions about their child's education.

In our upcoming SEP, we will continue to strengthen our nature immersion pillar by incorporating more land-based learning focused on our school's sense of place within our Canadian Rockies home. We will consider how we include more collaborative school-based professional development sessions focused on our school's three pillars. Finally we will examine how we can broaden parent voice and reflect that diversity within our school.



#### our mission

To connect our children with themselves, nature and community through an integrated nature-based approach to learning inspired by Waldorf education.

#### our vision

Our children are inspired to discover their vision, passions, and reverence for life.

our motto

Alpenglow: Learning Naturally. Academic Excellence. Artistic Expression. Community Minded. Nature Centered.





#### school

Alpenglow School Principal Chris Rogers 1800 - 8th Avenue, Canmore AB T1W 1Y2 403-678-6192 chris.rogers@crps.ca http://www.alpenglowschool.ca/ https://cchs.crps.ca/about/alpenglow



### profile

K-6: 107 students

7 teachers

**3** Educational Assistants

**3** Administrators

2 Administrative Assistants



#### unique features

Nature Immersion and Waldorf-Inspired Education within the Alberta Program of Studies

#### assurance statement

I, <Principal>, certify that the School Education Plan for <School Name> was developed in consultation with staff and with advice from the school council and according to the other parameters, guidelines and expectations outlined by Canadian Rockies Public Schools.

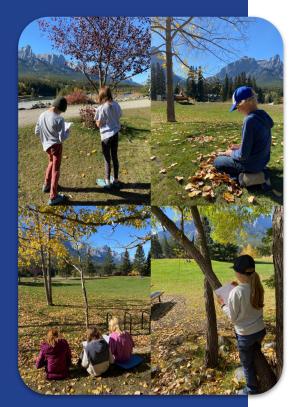
Principal Signature



#### **OVERVIEW**

"My main reason for choosing Alpenglow was the outdoor learning aspect. Giving kids time to play, learn and explore outdoors. Teaching kids to learn in nature, to notice & appreciate our surroundings and to enjoy being out in it" Alpenglow Family





#### overview of 2022/23 accomplishments

HEALTH AND WELLNESS - Outcome: Learning and working environments support the positive well-being of students and staff.

- Nature immersion strengthens student wellbeing.
- Students feel very safe in our school.
- Teachers' mental health supports are effective in addressing their needs.

ENGAGED LEARNING - Outcome: Students and staff are meaningfully engaged in their learning.

- Students see connections between the natural world and what they learn in classes daily which contribute to their positive interest and motivation.
- Parents and teachers report rates of engagement that are above CRPS and Alberta Education measures. For example: our parents' commitment to provincial testing.
- Teachers intentionally design feedback loops as an integral part of teaching and learning at Alpenglow.

STUDENT SUPPORTS - Outcome: Individual growth and success is fostered for every student.

- Alpenglow scores at or above both CRPS and Alberta Education measures in the characteristics of active citizenship.
- Alpenglow score above CRPS data with respect to student foundational knowledge of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people.

STUDENT SUPPORTS - Outcome: Students are literate and numerate.

- Alpenglow scores above both CRPS and Alberta Education measures in all categories in the area of satisfaction with the quality of basic education.
- Alpenglow's unique approach to teaching and learning provides students with strong foundational literacy and mathematical skills.

### priority areas of focus

HEALTH AND WELLNESS- Outcome: Learning and working environments support the positive well-being of students and staff.

• Continue to focus on ensuring learning environments are welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe. Establish staff advocates within schools to support students; promote family and student outreach for help and support.

ENGAGED LEARNING - Outcome: Students and staff are meaningfully engaged in their learning.

• Continue to focus on providing students with authentic, relevant, and hands-on learning activities.

• Focus on student achievement across all subject areas and in particular in language arts and math. STUDENT SUPPORTS - Outcome: Individual growth and success is fostered for every student. Students are literate and numerate.

 Continue to ensure all collaborative opportunities support teachers in advancing their understanding of the Teaching Effectiveness Framework (TEF). Ensure teachers design learning opportunities for students that are reflective of TEF's five core principles. Enhance the support provided to teachers in recognizing and addressing the learning needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students as defined by the Teaching Quality Standard.





#### steps already taken in 2023/24

- Nature immersion strengthens student wellbeing.
- Teachers intentionally design feedback loops as an integral part of teaching and learning at Alpenglow.
- Alpenglow's unique approach to teaching and learning provides students with strong foundational literacy and mathematical skills.



#### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Outcome: Learning and working environments support the positive well-being of students and staff.

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Enhance student and family understanding of staff advocates within the school to support students; promote family and student outreach for help and support.

- Work with Right From the Start to identify Universal strategies to meet student and family needs.
- All staff will continue to use the ToolBox set of social-emotional strategies to enhance student well-being.
- Increase family awareness of external supports via awareness items in teacher weekly emails





ENGAGED LEARNING Outcome: Students and staff are meaningfully engaged in their learning.

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Enhance the uniqueness of our program - nature immersion, land-based learning with influences of Waldorf pedagogy. Ensure a clear focus on Professional Development for staff by increasing teacher collaboration within the school and across schools; and increase staff training with respect to land-based learning integrated into their Nature Immersion foundational knowledge.

- Using a collaborative approach by working with our Alpenglow Staff, Division Knowledge Keepers and the OLC to further implement Land Based Learning (rooted to place).
- Continue to ensure all collaborative opportunities support teachers in advancing their understanding of the Teaching Effectiveness Framework (TEF) which is used to design learning opportunities.
- Enhance the support provided to teachers in recognizing and addressing the learning needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students as defined by the Teaching Quality Standard
- Increase staff training for land based learning and academic interventions.





#### **STUDENT SUPPORTS**

Outcome: Individual growth and success is fostered for every student.

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To increase support for our Indigenous students and their families, while maintaining support for all learners in our diverse classrooms.

- Focused supports for Indigenous students to close identified gaps in knowledge and learning
- Continue to design learning opportunities that meet the needs of complex learners





#### **STUDENT SUPPORTS**

**Outcome: Students are literate and numerate.** 

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To have more students achieve a level of excellence in Math as indicated by the Math PAT results.

- Through collaborative teacher time, enrich the opportunities for nature based mathematics and real world math problems
- Thoughtful integration of calculator assisted math in grade 5 and 6



