



## **Fort Vermilion School Division #52**

**Our Children, Our Students, Our Future**

P.O. Bag 1 - 5213 River Road,  
Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0  
Central Office: (780) 927-3766  
www.fvsd.ab.ca

### ***FVSD Scent Awareness Information***

For the general population, exposure to scents is not always problematic; however, there is a significant population for whom the presence of perfumes and other scented products can present indoor air quality concerns that may affect a person's comfort and ability to focus. Furthermore, for a portion of the general population, scented products present a health hazard.

For individuals with pre-existing conditions such as chemical sensitivities or sensitizations, asthma, allergies or migraine headaches, exposure to some scents can cause a range of serious health effects. Some reported symptoms include headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness, nausea, fatigue, weakness, insomnia, confusion, loss of appetite, depression, anxiety, upper respiratory symptoms, shortness of breath, difficulty with concentration, and/or skin irritation.

Scented products more commonly include the following:

- Personal hygiene products, such as shampoo, conditioner, hair sprays, deodorants, colognes, aftershaves, fragrances, perfumes, lotions, soaps, cosmetics and creams;
- Industrial and household chemicals and cleaners;
- Air fresheners, such as deodorizers, potpourri, oils and candles; and
- Various household products.

### **Raising the scent-awareness of our staff, students and public**

Employees, students, and visitors will be informed of this guideline through signs posted in Fort Vermilion School Division #52 schools and buildings, website information, newsletters, and healthy workplace promotional materials.

### **Minimizing the use of, and exposure to, scented products**

- Persons entering our schools and buildings will be encouraged to use scent-free products.
- Persons who experience any type of debilitating effects or discomfort as result of the presence of scents in their school environment shall be able to request of the administration to remove the scent from the room in which they are working.
- Wherever possible in our schools and buildings, scent-free products shall be used. The purchase and use of "unscented" products will always be chosen over scented substitutes. This will involve review of Material Safety Data Sheets for commercial products currently used and those intended for use, as well as examination of product samples to ensure that the ingredients are unscented.
- Health and Safety 2016 Revision
- Wherever possible, maintenance, renovation, etc. with which "atypical" scents are associated should be scheduled to occur at times of reduced occupancy.