

THE EDUCATION CONNECTION



5213 River Road
PO Bag 1
Fort Vermilion AB
T0H 1N0

M-F: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Phone: 780-927-3766
Fax: 780-927-4625

Email: info@fvsd.ab.ca

www.fvsd.ab.ca

 @fvsdeducation

 @fvsdeducation

 @fvsdeducation

 [company/fvsdeducation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/fvsdeducation)

Superintendent's Message

Happy summer break, everyone! I hope our students, families, and staff are finding time to recharge, relax, and enjoy the sunshine together.

As we look toward the upcoming school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the tremendous progress we've made as a division and the exciting journey ahead.

Fort Vermilion School Division remains focused on four key priorities:

1. FVSD will **foster CONNECTIVITY** and well-being amongst community, students, parents, and staff.
2. All students will **improve LITERACY** skills.
3. All students will **improve NUMERACY** skills.
4. All students will **Explore, Develop, Grow, and Experience** chosen **CAREER PATHS**.

Last fall, we were thrilled to fully open all Collegiate programs across the division. This marks the culmination of four years of planning, collaboration, and strong partnerships with industry, post-secondary institutions, and licensing bodies. Through this work, **FVSD students will now have completed over 600 post-secondary courses across multiple career paths absolutely free**, helping ensure they leave high school not only with a diploma but also with industry-recognized credentials, licensing, or college-level credits.

Many students have already had a taste of what's to come through our summer camps—a preview of the exceptional opportunities that await in September. **Whether it's trades, health care, business, or technology, our expanded Collegiate model supports each student in building a future that's purposeful and personalized.**

The 2025–2026 school year begins for students on September 2, and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back. Our commitment remains the same—delivering the Alberta curriculum in a way that is meaningful, engaging, and challenging for every student.

Please don't hesitate to contact your local school to begin planning for your child's year ahead. As always, we are guided by our shared belief:

Our Children, Our Students, Our Future: Moving the Dial on Every Child

We look forward to another year of growth, innovation, and strong community connection.

Michael McMann
Superintendent, Fort Vermilion School Division

IN THIS ISSUE

Building Futures & Growing Local Communities	2
Alternative Education Options	2
Transportation	
Getting to School	3
Special Requests	3
School Information	
Our Schools	4
Registration	4
Board of Trustees	5
Central Office Administration	5
2025-2026 School Calendar	6

Building Futures & Growing Local Communities

Collegiate programming is growing across the Division! Starting in elementary and middle school grades, students are introduced to different careers and encouraged to explore their interests.

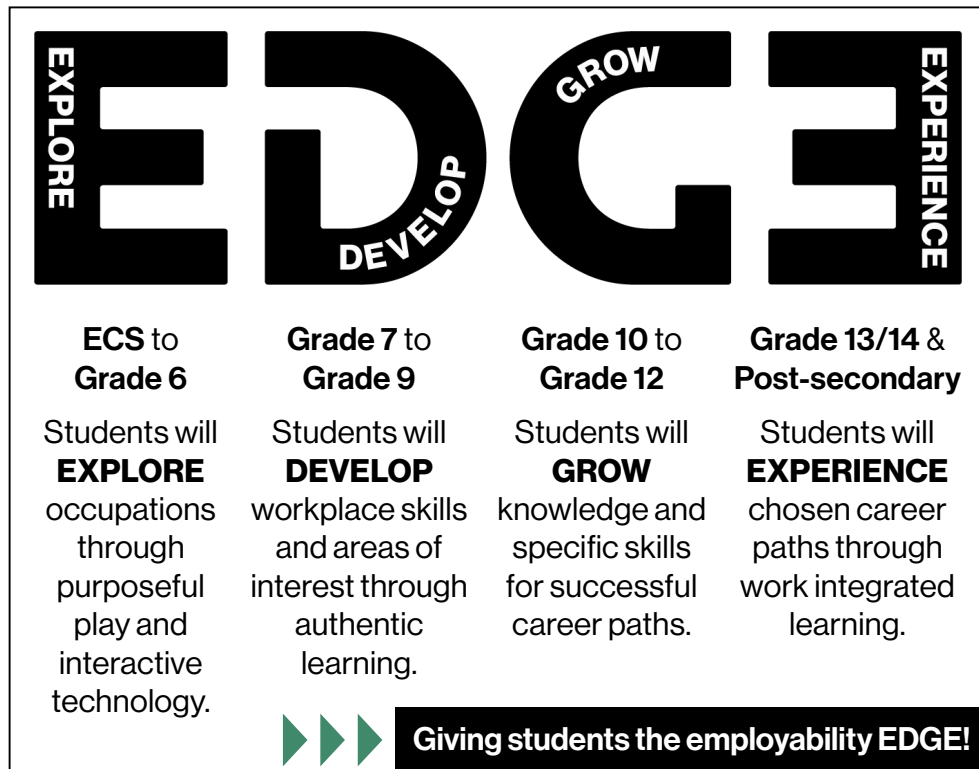
Junior high students use a tool called myBlueprint to **explore strengths and learn more about personal interests and values.** They also start connecting what they're learning in school to real-world careers.

By high school, students' myBlueprint profiles are nearly complete with actionable and detailed plans for their future—whether that includes college, university, or heading straight into a career. **Preparing students for life after graduation and building skills for employment is a priority for our Division.**

Through strong **partnerships with post-secondary institutions** across Alberta, many FVSD students have the chance to take college-level courses in high school. When our students complete high school, they're not only ready for further education—they're prepared to join the local workforce with confidence.

▶▶▶ **Did you know that Alberta has grades 13 and 14?** This is a great way to take advantage of collegiate programming while remaining in the public school system.

Individuals under 20 years old as of September 1 are eligible to enroll with Pathways and take college level courses as an FVSD student!



Alternative Education Options

Pathways School (*Outreach*)

Pathways offers families a **flexible alternative to a traditional school experience.**

Program choices include online courses with access to direct instruction, self-directed courses in which the student takes ownership of their own learning, and dual credit cohorts designed for students wanting to complete college level courses for credit while also completing high school requirements.

Pathways also provides **blended programming** to homeschool students wanting to complete courses from the *Alberta* curriculum while remaining enrolled in home education.

Northern Home Education Centre

With Northern Home Education Centre (NHEC) you can **create a customized education plan** specific to your teaching abilities and your child's unique needs, learning styles, and strengths and/or weaknesses.

Options include traditional homeschooling with parents in full control over the curriculum, *Alberta Education* aligned programming that follows the provincial curriculum, and blended programming that offers a combination of the above.

The **goal of NHEC is to meet the diverse needs of families** and provide the most appropriate education program to help their children find success.



DE OABEIT
Collegiate School

9601-99 Street, La Crete
Principal: **Matthew Kierstead**



GRAMSON CENTRE
Collegiate School

10505-96 Street, High Level
Principal: **Matthew Kierstead**



SIPIWAN CENTRE 15
Collegiate School

4507-45 Street, Fort Vermilion
Principal: **Matthew Kierstead**

Getting to School

In Town & Rural Bus Service

Children in **Kindergarten** and **grades 1-6** who live a distance **greater than 1 km from their school**, and students in **grades 7-12** who live a distance **greater than 2 km from their school** qualify to ride the bus at no charge.

These students have been automatically registered to ride the bus and **you will receive a phone call from your bus driver before the first day of school**. Families will receive an automated text to confirm ridership and address. *If you think you qualify but did not receive a text message, phone Essential Services and they will confirm.*

Students in Kindergarten and grades 1-6 who live within 1 km, and students in grades 7-12 who live within 2 km from their school do not qualify for bussing. Parents of students who do not qualify are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from school. **We encourage families living close to their school(s) to consider allowing their children to walk, bike, or scooter to school during warmer months.**

NOTE: Because the distance is calculated from each child's school, some parents may have children who qualify for bussing and children who don't qualify living in the same household.

Unsafe Driving Conditions

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Director of Essential Services, has authority to suspend, cancel or reroute bus service as necessary.

Bus service in affected areas will be canceled by 6:30 AM by the Director of Essential Services **when the temperature reaches -40°C without the wind, or -48°C with the wind** as measured by Environment Canada Data. This will be posted to the division website and school Facebook pages.

In the event of a bus cancellation, drivers will inform all parents on the route as soon as possible. **ALL STUDENTS riding the bus are required to wear adequate clothing to ensure their safety during cold weather.**

Special Requests

Yard Service Fees

Yard service is available for a cost of **\$75/month**. In order to receive yard service, **the yard MUST:**

- Have a driveway wide enough to accommodate the bus,
- Have an appropriate space to turn the bus around with sufficient clearance from any items in the yard such as vehicles, ATV's, sheds, etc.
- Have snow promptly and regularly cleared from the yard and driveway in winter.
- Have a driveway and turn around area that is not excessively muddy.

Yard service will be provided at no cost for:

- Families with a student that is physically disabled.
- Families with a driveway in a location that does not allow for safe pickup at the road.

In an effort to control costs and ride times, **each yard service will be re-evaluated for the coming year**. Having received yard service in the past is *not* a guarantee of receiving it again this year. *If applicable, fees must be paid prior to commencement of yard service.*

Cross Boundary Transfers

Cross boundary transfers for children attending a school outside of their attendance boundary **MUST** be approved by the Director of Essential Services.

For yard service and cross boundary transfer approval, please contact Essential Services.



Essential Services

9705B-99 Street,
La Crete AB
T0H 1Z0

780-928-3860

essentialservices@fvsd.ab.ca

Families that are new to the area or have moved over the summer, please call FVSD Essential Services to check bussing eligibility and/or update location information. New students MUST be registered with their school before bussing will be approved.



DOWNLOAD our **FREE Bus Status App** from the **Apple App Store** or **Google Play**.

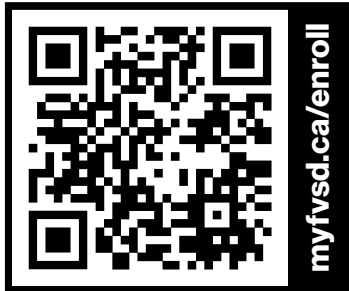


School Information

New Student Registration

NEW this year, families now have the option to complete registration forms online! Scan the QR code below to complete your child's registration form.

Required identity documents can be directly uploaded with the online form.



Continuing Students

Complete your child's **Student Profile** online! Visit **my.fvvd.ab.ca** to review and confirm contact information and make any updates needed. Scan the QR code below to login!



Student Fees

FVSD does not charge instructional fees, however schools may charge for non-curricular activities, clubs, and sports. More information can be found on our website at **fvvd.ab.ca/parents/fees**.

Outreach Schools



**NORTHERN HOME
EDUCATION CENTRE**
780-928-0212

nhcoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/nhec
Principal: **Kim Brown**

K-12



**BLUE HILLS
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL**

780-928-3632

bhcsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/bhcs

Principal: **Kevin Janzen**
Assistant Principal:
Chris Connell

K-9



**BUFFALO
HEAD PRAIRIE
SCHOOL**

780-928-2282

bhpsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/bhps

Principal: **Chris Fehr**
Assistant Principal:
Shannon Peters

K-3



**FLORENCE
MacDOUGALL
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL**

780-926-2331

fmcsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/fmcs

Principal: **Heather Kierstead**
Assistant Principal:
Jessica Morris

7-12



**FORT
VERMILION
PUBLIC
SCHOOL**

780-927-3706

fvpsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/fvps

Principal: **Jennifer Perry**
Assistant Principal:
Harley Morris

7-12



**HIGH LEVEL
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

780-926-3706

hlpsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/hlps

Principal: **Cory Boudreau**
Assistant Principal:
Candice Scott

K-9



**HILL CREST
COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

780-927-3203

hccsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/hccs

Principal: **Ron Wiebe**
Assistant Principal:
Cynthia White

7-12



**LA CRETE
PUBLIC
SCHOOL**

780-928-3913

lcpsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/lcps

Principal: **Dale Driedger**
Assistant Principal:
Julie Gallant

K-12



**RAINBOW
LAKE
SCHOOL**

780-956-3851

rlksoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/rlks

Principal: **Anthony Jones**
Assistant Principal:
Tumisang Mabula

4-6



**RIDGEVIEW
CENTRAL
SCHOOL**

780-928-3100

rvcsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/rvcs

Principal: **David Gallant**
Assistant Principal:
Eran Cardinal

K-12



**ROCKY
LANE
SCHOOL**

780-927-3297

rlnsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/rlns

Principal: **Amanda Paul**
Assistant Principal:
Tyler Ross

K-3



**SANDHILLS
ELEMNTARY
SCHOOL**

780-928-3947

shesoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/shes

Principal: **Wendy Morris**
Assistant Principal:
Jeff Driedger

4-6



**SPIRIT OF THE NORTH
COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

780-841-7200

sncsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/sncs

Principal: **Shelly Komarnicki**
Assistant Principal:
Melanie Arcand

8-12



**PATHWAYS
SCHOOL**

780-926-3626

pathways@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/pathways

Principal: **Amber Paul**
Assistant Principal:
Maija-Lee Mayo

K-6



**ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC
SCHOOL**

780-927-3706

smcsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/smc

Principal: **Jennifer Perry**
Assistant Principal:
Harley Morris

K-12



**UPPER
HAY RIVER
SCHOOL**

780-535-2220

uhrsoffice@fvvd.ab.ca
fvvd.ab.ca/our-schools/uhrs

Principal: **Kemoy Shaw**

Board of Trustees

The FVSD Board of Trustees is made up of representatives from eight wards within the Fort Vermilion School Division jurisdiction. Each ward has one elected school trustee, Wards 2 and 6 each elect two trustees.

The current Board was elected in October 2021 and will serve until October 2025. Board policies, meeting agendas/minutes and more information about our current Board of Trustees can be found on our website at fvsd.ab.ca/trustees.

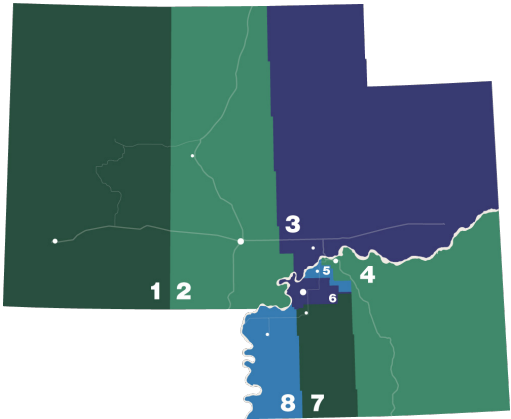
School Board Elections

On October 20, 2025 School Board elections will take place across the province. **Nominations will be accepted until 12 NOON on Monday, September 22, 2025** at FVSD Central Office (5213 River Road, Fort Vermilion).

For more information contact Retuning Officer, Norman Buhler at 780-927-3766 or by email at normanb@fvsd.ab.ca. School Board Election Information: fvsd.ab.ca/trustees/election2025.

Ward Map

- Ward 1**
Rainbow Lake
- Ward 2**
High Level
- Ward 3**
Rocky Lane
- Ward 4**
Fort Vermilion
- Ward 5**
Blumenort
- Ward 6**
La Crete
- Ward 7**
Buffalo Head Prairie
- Ward 8**
Tompkins Landing



Trustee Contact Information

Ward 1 Rainbow Lake VACANT	Ward 5 Blumenort Henry Goertzen henryg@fvsd.ab.ca 780-502-3775
Ward 2 High Level Marc Beland, <i>Chair</i> marchb@fvsd.ab.ca 780-841-4220 Shane Lloyd shanel@fvsd.ab.ca 780-926-6716	Ward 6 La Crete Tim Driedger, <i>Vice Chair</i> timd@fvsd.ab.ca 780-926-6044 Benjamin Friesen benjaminf@fvsd.ab.ca 780-285-1160
Ward 3 Rocky Lane Linda Kowal lindako@fvsd.ab.ca 780-841-9295	Ward 7 Buffalo Head Prairie John Zacharias johnz@fvsd.ab.ca 780-841-4741
Ward 4 Fort Vermilion VACANT	Ward 8 Tompkins Landing (NEW) VACANT

ELECTIONS: October 20, 2025

Central Office Administration

Superintendent of Schools

Mike McMann
mikem@fvsd.ab.ca

Associate Superintendent of Operations

Terry Gibson
terryg@fvsd.ab.ca

Associate Superintendent of Finance

Norman Buhler
normanb@fvsd.ab.ca

Director of Finance

Payne Cardinal
paynec@fvsd.ab.ca

Director of Business

Wanda Bueckert
wandab1@fvsd.ab.ca

Associate Superintendent of Learning

Natalie Morris
nataliem@fvsd.ab.ca

Learning Services Supervisors

Leah Martens | Connectivity
leahma@fvsd.ab.ca

Janice Sundar | Literacy
janices@fvsd.ab.ca

Gilbert Morris | Numeracy
gilbertm@fvsd.ab.ca

Kim Brown | Career Paths
kimb@fvsd.ab.ca

Bonnie Hunley | Teacher Induction
bonnieh@fvsd.ab.ca

Director of Essential Services

Bruce Harder
bruceh@fvsd.ab.ca

Maintenance Supervisor

Reuben Peters
reubenp@fvsd.ab.ca

OHS / Housing Coordinator

Cory Wright
coryw@fvsd.ab.ca

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	I-0/O-3					

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
I-20/O-20						

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
I-22/O-22						

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	I-19/O-19					

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
I-16/O-16						

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
I-19/O-20						

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
I-16/O-18						

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
I-22/O-22						

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
I-16/O-16						

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	I-20/O-20					

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
I-5/O-6						

July 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Semester 1 Dates: August 27, 2025 – December 22, 2025 (77 Instructional Days/ 80 Operational Days)

Semester 2 Dates: January 5, 2026 – April 30, 2026 (73 Instructional Days/ 76 Operational Days)

Semester 3 Dates: May 1, 2026 – June 8, 2026 (25 Instructional Days/ 26 Operational Days)

Summer School: June 9, 2026 – August 19, 2026 (50 Days)

K-9: Based on 330 minutes per day x 175 days = 962.5 hours

10-12: Based on 350 minutes per day x 175 days = 1021 hours

Total Instructional (I) Days 175 / Total Operational (O) Days 182

Organizational/ Professional
Development

School Closed

Statutory Holidays