THE EDUCATION CONNECTION

The latest news and information from Fort Vermilion School Division for the upcoming school year.



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

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- in /company/fvsdeducation

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy summer break everyone!

I trust students, parents/guardians and staff are enjoying family time and staying safe this summer.

FVSD has added a fourth priority this year:

• All students will be exposed to, engaged in and build skills for their CAREER PATH.

Along with our current priorities:

- FVSD will *foster CONNECTIVITY and well-being* amongst community, students, parents and staff.
- All students will improve LITERACY skills.
- All students will improve NUMERACY skills.

I continue to be amazed and appreciative of the tremendous commitment by the FVSD staff to make a positive difference for students and their families, as well as supporting the community in which you live and serve.

FVSD will continue to focus on the current three priorities and expanding to the fourth priority through the collegiate model. We are looking forward to completing our renovations on three buildings to hold space where students will be able to complete post secondary credits or licensing from accredited licensed organizations. This will ensure that all students leave the district with credentials to further their career or educational path.

The **2023-24 school year begins on September 5**th **for students,** and with that comes much excitement for everyone. The staff of FVSD will continue to strive to provide an educational environment in which the Alberta curriculum is delivered in a manner that is meaningful, engaging, challenging and fulfilling. It is our desire that all students complete high school and that they are prepared for a life of continued learning and success. As always please contact your local school to plan for the education of your children.

The motto of the Fort Vermilion School Division is:

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

With this is mind we will continue to connect with communities to provide the best programming for all students.

Michael McMann

Superintendent of Schools

Welcome Back!

First Day of classes is September 5, 2023!



NEW Division Priority: CAREER PATH

The 2023-2024 school year will see a new Division Priority added to the existing three.

In addition to our current focus on *Connectivity*, *Literacy*, and *Numeracy* FVSD will also be prioritizing *Career Paths* for all high school students.

PRIORITY #4:

All students will be exposed to, engaged in and build skills for their CAREER PATH.

To help students achieve success, FVSD is currently working to establish a collegiate model of education delivery. The **Connecting Futures Collegiate School** will begin offering some programming this school year with an official launch date set for September 2024!

For more information regarding career paths and our new Collegiate School programs please contact your high school counselor or the FVSD District Career Path Principal.

Anne Roberts, District Career Path Principal

Phone: 780-926-3706 Email: anner@fvsd.ab.ca

Or visit our website:

www.fvsd.ab.ca/ parents/career-planning

Vision & Mission Updated

VISION STATEMENT:

At the Fort Vermilion School Division, our vision provide an inclusive and nurturing learning environment that inspires and challenges students to become lifelong learners and citizens. responsible strive to foster a culture of respect, empathy, and collaboration, where students feel supported and encouraged to achieve their full potential. Through innovative teaching methods, we aim to equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing world. Our goal is to empower students to be critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, and compassionate leaders who will make a positive impact in their communities and

beyond. The Fort Vermilion School Division strives to be the best educational choice for parents and students.

MISSION STATEMENT:

At the Fort Vermilion School Division, our mission is to provide a high quality, comprehensive education that prepares students for success in college, career, and life. We are committed to creating a safe and supportive learning environment with parents and community that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and responsibility. Through our understanding of each community's history. family, and faith, we strive to inspire a lifelong love of learning and to cultivate the skills and character traits necessary for success in the world today.

Dual Credit Courses Available for FVSD High School Students

Get a jump start on your career by enrolling in a dual credit course!

Dual credit programs provide high school students with the opportunity to begin a post-secondary course prior to graduation. Enrolled students earn both high school and college credits.

Educating our own health care workers, educators, social workers and trades people is a high priority for FVSD. Students looking to pursue university studies can also take University Transfer courses through this program.

All FVSD high school students and recent graduates who are under 20 years of age as of Sept. 1, 2023 are eligible to enroll.

Contact your high school counselor or visit our website for more information:

www.fvsd.ab.ca/ parents/career-planning

In partnership with:





& Blended Programswith Northern Home Education

Looking for a homeschool provider? Stay local with Northern Home Education Centre!

Receive individualized curriculum and resource support and be part of an active and engaged homeschooling community. Northern Home Education (NHEC) regularly hosts social activities and events like the Curriculum Sharing Event.

Choose from the Alberta grade level curriculum or a home education program of your choice.

NHEC families have early access to funding. Beginning May 1, parents may begin purchasing materials for the following school year, up to a maximum amount of \$850 per student, per school year. Reimbursements for homeschooling expenses happen throughout the school year with purchasing assistance available for families unable to make large purchases up front.

Unsure about teaching Math or LA? Take advantage of blended programming with **Pathways!** Your child can join a class receiving realtime instruction from a locally based, certified teacher.

Phone or email us!

Phone: 780-928-0212 Email: nhec@fvsd.ab.ca OFFICE: 10308-100 Street, La Crete

https://nhe.fvsd.ab.ca

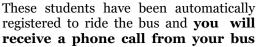


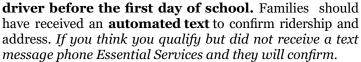
Getting There — Transportation Information

Families who are new to the area or have moved over the summer, please call FVSD Essential Services to ensure bussing is arranged or to find out eligibility. New students MUST be registered at school before busing will be approved.

In Town Bussing

There has been a change to in town bussing! Children in Grades K-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.





Students in grades K-6 who live within 1 km from their school and students in grades 7-12 who live within 2 km from their school do not qualify for busing and parents will have to arrange their own transportation.

Because the **distance** is calculated from each child's school some parents may have children who qualify for busing 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 cancelled 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 schools' website and 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.



Our FREE app, **Bus Status** is available from the Apple App Store and on Google Play.

No smartphone? Head to www.fvsd.ab.ca and click the bus icon at the top.

CURRENT APP USERS: Bus Status is getting a new app this summer! Be sure to download the new app in August to continue receiving bus status notifications.

Yard Service Fees

Yard service is available for a cost of \$75 per 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 between the turn-around and any items such as vehicles, ATV's, sheds, etc.,
- have snow promptly and regularly cleared from the yard and driveway in winter, and
- 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 pick up at the road.

In an effort to control costs and ride times, each yard service will be re-evaluated in the coming year. Having received yard service in the past is not a guarantee of receiving it again this year.

For yard service approval, please contact **Essential Services.** If applicable, fees must be paid prior to commencement of yard service.

Cross Boundary Transfers

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

Call the **Essential Services Office** for more information, or email **BruceH@fvsd.ab.ca**.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION >

New to the area? Scan the code for more information and a downloadable registration form. Forms are also available from any school office.



Completed registration forms can be dropped off in your school office on or after August 29, 2023.

www.fvsd.ab.ca/parents/registration



FLORENCE MACDOUGALL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

FMCS (K-3)

Phone: 780-926-2331 Email: fmcs@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/fmcscubs

Principal: Stefanie Brown Assistant Principal: Melanie Arcand



FORT VERMILION **PUBLIC** SCHOOL

FVPS (7-12)

Phone: 780-927-3706 Email: fvps@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/fvpssmcs

Principal: Kemoy Shaw Assistant Principal: Megan Hardy



HIGH LEVEL PUBLIC SCHOOL

BLUE HILLS

COMMUNITY

SCHOOL

BHCS (K-12)

Phone: 780-928-3632

Email: bhcs@fvsd.ab.ca

www.fvsd.ab.ca/our-schools/bhcs

Principal: Dave Gallant

Assistant Principal:

David McDougall

HLPS (7-12)

Phone: 780-926-3706 Email: hlps@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/highlevelpublic

Principal: Amber Paul Assistant Principals: Sarah Chisholm, Stephen Kirkpatrick



HILL CREST COMMUNITY

BUFFALO

SCHOOL

BHPS (K-9)

Phone: 780-928-2282

Email: bhps@fvsd.ab.ca

www.fvsd.ab.ca/our-schools/bhps

Principal: Chris Fehr

Assistant Principal:

HEAD PRAIRIE

SCHOOL HCCS (K-9)

Phone: 780-927-3203 Email: hccs@fvsd.ab.ca

www.fvsd.ab.ca/our-schools/hccs

Principal: Ben Giesbrecht Assistant Principal: Jennifer Perry



LA CRETE PUBLIC SCHOOL

LCPS (7-12)

Phone: 780-928-3913 Email: Icps@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/lcpslancers

Principal: Gregg McNeil Assistant Principal: Rachel Dika



AKERS RAINBOW LAKE SCHOOL

RLKS (K-12)

Phone: 780-956-3851 Email: rlks@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/rainbowlakeschool Principal: Stephanie Connors



RIDGEVIEW CENTRAL SCHOOL

RVCS (4-6)

Phone: 780-928-3100 Email: rvcs@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/rvcshuskies

Principal: Ron Wiebe Assistant Principal: Eran Cardinal



ROCKY LANE SCHOOL

RLNS (K-12)

Phone: 780-927-3297 Email: rlns@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/rlnsrockets

Principal: Grant Charles Assistant Principal: Cynthia White



SAND HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SHES (K-3)

Phone: 780-928-3947 Email: shes@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/sandhillselementaryschool

Principal: Wendy Morris Assistant Principal: Julie Gallant



SPIRIT OF THE NORTH COMMUNITY **SCHOOL**

SNCS (4-6)

Phone: 780-841-7200 Email: sncs@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/sncsstars

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



ST. MARY'S **CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

SMCS (K-6)

Phone: 780-927-3706 Email: smcs@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/fvpssmcs

Principal: Kemoy Shaw Assistant Principal: Megan Hardy



UPPER HAY RIVER SCHOOL

UHRS (K-12)

Phone: 780-535-2220 Email: uhrs@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/upperhayriverschool

Principal: Shelly Komarnicki



PATHWAYS SCHOOL

PATH (1-12)

Phone: 780-926-3626 Email: pathways@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/fvsdpathways

Principal: Kim Brown

Assistant Principals: Anna McAskile, Maija Mayo



NORTHERN HOME EDUCATION CENTRE

NHEC (1-12)

Phone: 780-928-0212 Email: nhec@fvsd.ab.ca

facebook.com/northernhomeeducation

Principal: Chad Fvke Liaison / Admin. Assistant: Rachel Neufeld



Student Fee Structure: The FVSD Board of Trustees removed all instructional fees, including CTS charged to parents, effective September 2020. Schools may charge fees for non curricular activities, clubs and sports as outlined in the school handbook and in accordance with the FVSD Fee Schedule. Fees are due and payable prior to receipt of services unless arrangements are made with the school principal for alternative terms of payment.

The Board of Trustees recognizes that while fees are necessary, some parents or students may be unable to afford such fees. To ensure that students have access to a basic education the Board, through this policy, makes provision for forgiving fees where economic hardship can be



Pictured above, from left to right: Linda Kowal, Amanda Paul, Benjamin Friesen, Dale Lederer, Tim Driedger, Marc Beland, Shane Lloyd, John Zacharias, Henry Goertzen

Trustees

The FVSD Board of Trustees is made up of nine elected individuals. 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.

www.fvsd.ab.ca/trustees

TRUSTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

WARD 1 | Rainbow Lake

Dale Lederer

dalel@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-956-6525

WARD 2 | High Level

Marc Beland, Chair

marcb@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-841-4220

WARD 2 | High Level

Shane Lloyd

shanel@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-926-6716 WARD 3 | Rocky Lane

Linda Kowal

lindako@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-841-9295

WARD 4 | Fort Vermilion

Amanda Paul

amandap1@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-841-3709

WARD 5 | Blumenort

Henry Goertzen

henryg@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-502-3775 WARD 6 | La Crete

Tim Driedger, Vice Chair

timd@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-926-6044

WARD 6 | La Crete

Benjamin Friesen

benjaminf@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-285-1160

WARD 7 | Buffalo Head Prairie/Tompkins Landing

John Zacharias

johnz@fvsd.ab.ca cell: 780-841-4741

Central Office Administration

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Michael McMann

mikem@fvsd.ab.ca

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF OPERATIONS

Terry Gibson

terryg@fvsd.ab.ca

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENTS
OF LEARNING

Karen Smith

karens@fvsd.ab.ca

Natalie Morris

nataliem@fvsd.ab.ca

LEARNING SERVICES SUPERVISORS

Natalie Morris | Connectivity nataliem@fvsd.ab.ca

Sharon McLean | *Literacy* sharonm@fvsd.ab.ca

Gilbert Morris | *Numeracy* gilbertm@fvsd.ab.ca

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

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF FINANCE

Norman Buhler

normanb@fvsd.ab.ca

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Payne Cardinal

payne Cardinal paynec@fvsd.ab.ca

DIRECTOR OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Bruce Harder

bruceh@fvsd.ab.ca

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Reuben Peters reubenp@fvsd.ab.ca

OHS COORDINATOR /
HOUSING COORIDINATOR
Cory Wright
coryw@fvsd.ab.ca

FVSD MOTTO: Our Children, Our Students, Our Future:

Moving the Dial on Every Child



Fort Vermilion School Division 2023-2024 School Calendar



Au	gusi	2023				
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September 2023							
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28	29	30	31	~		

Quad 1 = 46

August

O = 3

7-Civic Holiday 28—First Year Teachers only 29—Organizational Day 30-31—Professional Development Days

I = 0

September

1—Organizational Day 4—Labour Day 5—First day of classes 30—National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

0 = 20I = 19

October

6—Professional Development Day 9—Thanksgiving Day

0 = 21I = 20

November

9-Last day of Quad 1 10—Professional Development Day 11—Remembrance Day 13—Remembrance Day (observed) 14—First day of Quad 2 O = 21

(7+13)

December

20-First day of Christmas break 25—Christmas Day 26—Boxing Day

O = 13 I = 13

January

1-New Year's Day 8—Classes resume

30-Last day of Semester 1/Quad 2 31—First day of Semester 2/Quad 3

0 = 17 + 1I = 17 + 1

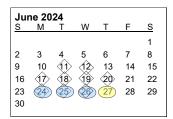
Quad 2 = 43

February 2024 3 9 10 8 14 (15) (16) 17 13 18 19 22 23 20 21 25 26 27 28 29

March 2024 S M T W T F S							
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February

9-Professional Development Day 12-14—School Closed 15-16—Teachers' Convention 19—Family Day

0 = 17I = 14

March

15—Professional Development Day 29—Good Friday/First day of Spring break 31—Easter Sunday

0 = 20I = 19

April

1—Easter Monday 8—Classes Resume 19-Last day of Quad 3 22-First day of Quad 4 0 = 17I = 17(10+7)

May

9-Ascension 17—School Closed 20-Victoria Day 21-School Closed

I = 20

June

21-Last day for K-9 students 24-26-PD for K-9 Teachers 26-Last day for 10-12 students 27—Organizational Day 28—Summer break begins I = 15 (K-9) I = 18 (10-12)

Quad 4 = 45

July

1—Canada Dav

2023-2024 School Year

Semester 1 10-12 Semester 2 Total Days for Year 10-12 K-9 10-12 K-9 Operational Days = 95 Operational Days = 96 Operational Days = 189 189 95 Instructional Days = Instructional Days = Instructional Days = 178

Organizational Day (no classes for students) Holidays

Quad 3 = 44

Professional Development (no classes for students) PAT/Diploma Exams

Elementary, Junior High: Based on 326 minutes instructional day X 175 days = 951 hours.