



Bison Bits

Buffalo Head Prairie School

January 21, 2020

Phone: 780-928-2282

Dates to Remember:

January

30-Thursday

Club 150

School Colour Day

Hot Lunch: Noodle Soup

February Hot Lunch Orders Due

31-Friday

PD Day - No School for Students

February

1- Saturday

Playground Supper & Auction

7-Friday

REACH Assembly 1:20 pm
(ECS W/F Presentation)

Grade 7-9 Report Cards Home

10-14 Mon-Fri

Teacher's Convention- No School

17-Monday

Family Day- No School

PD Day- January 31

Parents sometimes inquire about what staff do during PD days.

On January 31, most Buffalo Head staff will be finalizing strategies to support a positive culture of math at BHPS. Now that we have worked hard at the FVSD priorities of connectivity and literacy, we will make a strong effort to support the priority area of numeracy. We anticipate that you will notice our commitment to numeracy in the hallways, in newsletters, at assemblies and in many more ways!

Math Operations



Playground Supper (Pulled Pork) and Auction Fundraiser- Saturday, February 1

Please plan to attend this exciting community event that will raise money for an additional playground structure at Buffalo Head Prairie School! With our current play structure aging and student enrolment increasing, it is important that we consider an appropriate and safe play structure.

We are accepting donated items for the auction and would be grateful for any new/gently used items that you might be willing to bring in. Baked goods and home made items would also be helpful for the auction.

Supper will take place at 6:00 p.m. in the BHPS gym, followed by the auction at 7:30 p.m. Please promote this event to all those you know so we have a great turnout. In addition, please note that a movie called The Wilderness Family (with free popcorn and drinks) will be shown in a classroom for students in case parents would like to allow their children to attend.

Pre-ECS Update and Question

In the previous school newsletter it stated that Pre-ECS would run from 9:00-11:00 a.m. each day. In previous years the time was 9:30-11:30 a.m. each day.

We are considering changing the time (as noted above) this year but would appreciate feedback from parents. Parents of Pre-ECS students, please feel free to call the school office to let us know your preference. We are also checking into the possibility of Pre-ECS students (those with siblings at the school) being allowed to board the bus in the morning. These students would still need to be picked up to be taken home at the end time of each Pre-ECS session.

Pre-ECS parent feedback would be appreciated!

Accountability Pillar Surveys

Alberta Education will once again be mailing Accountability Pillar surveys to parents of students in grade 4 and 7. We would greatly appreciate parents taking the time to complete this survey due to the fact that we as a school carefully review the parent information. We take parent input and use it to make the school a place that parents want to send their children to each day!

Parents of grade 4 and 7 students, we thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey.

School Bus Cancellations Information

The FVSD has been working to provide clarity around the issue of buses running during cold weather situations.

A notice regarding the new FVSD policy has been added to this newsletter for your information.



Art Instruction- Mary Bartsch

From January 20-22 and again from February 25-27, Miss Mary Bartsch will be at BHPS to provide Art instruction to students in grades 1-6. Miss Bartsch provides engaging Art activities that focus on curriculum wherever possible. Last year, her visits were always met with delight from BHPS students and we hope they will feel the same this year!

School Visitor-MLA Dan Williams

On Friday, January 24 at 1:00 p.m. our local MLA, Mr. Dan Williams, will visit the grade 6 class to support classroom learning that is focused on government. We appreciate Mr. Williams' willingness to come to Buffalo Head Prairie School. Parents of grade 6 students are welcome to attend.



Buffalo Head Prairie
School



**New Playground
Supper & Auction
FUNDRAISER**



Playground purchased not as shown [in picture](#) above

Saturday, February 1, 2020
**Pulled Pork & Dessert
Supper at 6:00pm (by donation)
Auction at 7:30pm**

****Donated Auction Items Will
be Accepted and APPRECIATED!**

The Fort Vermilion School Division has developed a new policy intended to provide clarity around school bus cancellations. The new policy goes into effect as of 4 p.m., Jan. 13, 2020.

Cold or Adverse Weather Conditions

In all cases, the Superintendent in consultation with the Transportation Manager has the authority to suspend, cancel, or reroute bus service if it is deemed that the safety of staff, students, or the general public is in jeopardy.

Temperature Factors

Bus service in a certain area is to be cancelled by the school administrator when the temperature reaches -40° C without the wind or -48°C with the wind as measured by Environment Canada Data.

Road Conditions

When road conditions such as ice from freezing rain create an unsafe driving condition, or in blizzard condition and excesses accumulation of snow during the storm, the decision to cancel a bus route rests with the Superintendent in consultation with the Transportation Manager.

Other Factors Affecting Safe Driving

Other factors not related to road conditions or temperature may also necessitate cancellation of bus service. For example, periods of heavy fog or smoke may reduce visibility to such a point that it is not safe to drive. In such cases, each individual driver must make the decision as to whether or not it is safe for them to drive.

Cancelling Service

Whenever a route is cancelled, it is the responsibility of the driver to contact each family on the route to advise them of the cancellation. Families should be contacted in order of pick up and informed that the run is cancelled and for what duration. Should a situation arise that would necessitate a cancellation or delay mid-run, the driver should contact the bus garage to assist with the notification of families.

Protocols for Canceling Extra-curricular Trips Due to Weather/Road Conditions

1. On the previous evening (before 9 p.m.) or on the day of the planned extra-curricular activity, the principal will contact the Transportation Manager to discuss the following information:
 1. School bus cancellations within the division.
 2. Weather and road conditions within the division. (511 Alberta Data)
 3. Present weather and road conditions outside the division. (511 Alberta Data)
 4. Weather forecast for the region. (Environment Canada data)

The principal will use the information gathered from the Transportation Manager to make a decision with the Superintendent as to whether the planned extra-curricular activity will go ahead or not.

2. If buses are cancelled in some locations of the division and a planned extra-curricular activity would bring students into that location, then the extra-curricular activity would be cancelled/postponed for that school on that day.
3. If buses are cancelled outside of the division due to weather/road conditions and a planned extra curricular activity would bring students into that location, then the extra-curricular activity would be cancelled/postponed for that school on that day.
4. When a previously planned field trip is expected to travel in or through an area where buses have been cancelled for that day, consideration may be made to continue with the planned trip if weather/road conditions have significantly improved through the day. In such cases, prior to the beginning of the scheduled trip, the school administrator will consult with the Transportation Manager and then the Superintendent and provide evidence of appreciable improvements.

Note:

- After a bus driver begins transporting students, the bus driver has the responsibility to make the decision as to whether it is safe to continue or not.