



Bison Bits

Buffalo Head Prairie School

April News, 2020

Phone: 780-928-2282

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Dear Buffalo Head Parents,

It is with a strange feelings that Mrs. Morris and I write this newsletter to you. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world in so many ways, including right here at BHPS. As a school we have attempted to adjust to these changes as best we can and we want to thank you as parents for your incredible support of student learning and education. Although teachers have done their best to prepare learning materials that work for your children, you as parents have recently taken the home learning load upon your shoulders in an effort to help your children. We truly appreciate this. Every staff member at BHPS wishes it could be different. We miss your children very much and we hope they are doing as well as possible. In light of our current context, there are some items for you as parents to be aware of.

In response to questions we have heard about when school may start up again, we do not have the answer at this time. However, we are continuing to prepare home learning packages that will keep children learning until an answer to this question is received. Please continue to call teachers as often as necessary to support the learning needs of your children. We are all here to help and we appreciate the opportunity to support you, even if it can only be through telephone, email or text.

Beginning Thursday, April 23 from 9:00am - 3:00pm school library books that are currently in your homes may be dropped off in a bin outside the front doors at BHPS. These books will be taken in at the end of the day and processed after the recommended wait time. Thank you for dropping your library books off in the near future at a time that works for you.

As you know, the BHPS school community has been raising money for a playground structure to be added to the playground that is currently on site. On April 8, 2020, the FVSD Board of Trustees informed us that they would provide BHPS with \$25,000 to help with the cost of the new playground structure. This money, in addition to the \$28,632 that was fundraised as a school gives us \$53, 632 to work with. It is important to know that school approved playgrounds are very expensive, so the addition will be quite small, but we think we have found a structure that will serve our students and community well. This will be ordered in the days ahead and then as a community we will need to work together to install the playground, which saves considerable money. The installation date will likely be in late August or early September. We look forward to working together at this project as a school and community.

You may have heard that our bus drivers and some support staff have recently been laid off (others will be laid off April 30) from their jobs. We would like to express our profound appreciation to all that have been affected at BHPS for their excellent service to our students and school as a whole. Bus drivers have an incredibly challenging role keeping children safe and secure each day as they transport our young people to and from school. Support staff have the awesome responsibility of caring for students in such a way that allows them to feel supported and connected. Our support staff is a glue that allows others to work efficiently and we value them greatly.

Please feel free to call Mr. Fehr at any time in the days and weeks ahead at 780-841-2939 or Mrs. Morris at 780-247-1607. It is important that you have answers to the questions you have, to the rumours you may hear, or simply to discuss a school issue. As a staff, we will continue to be here for you and your children as we learn together with students at home.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Morris and Mr. Fehr

