



The

Scoop



Viking School

September 2019

Adam Madsen
Principal

Kelly Arial
Assistant Principal

MaryAnn Newby
Admin Assistant

Deb Snider
Admin Assist/EA

Laurie Maxwell
Learning Commons
Facilitator

Veronica Hafso
Learning Commons
Facilitator

Teaching Staff:

Zoe Anderson
Jana Arndt
Lana Golka
Stephen Hrabec
Trudy Josephson
Emily Kennedy
Leann Ogradnick
Shellaine Rogers
Shelby Roth
Richard Samson
Lori Sarafinchan
Marlene Taylor
Wendy Wilkie

Support Staff:

Joleen Hoffman
Trish Hollar
Suzanne Jakubec
Colleen Loveseth
Debbie Shaver
Hanna Snider
Gwen Ulliac

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you have enjoyed your summer break and are ready for a great 2019/2020 school year!

As you may have noticed Viking School has a new 'mobile friendly' website. The new school calendar available through the website contains a variety of information and can be added to user's iCal or Google Calendar. Please check it out at: <https://viking.brsd.ab.ca/>

I am excited to provide an update on Viking School's High School Redesign initiative, which we will be continuing at the Grade 7 - 12 level with some small adjustments. From 10:00 – 10:30 am each day all grade 7 -12 students will continue to have "High School Redesign" Block scheduled into their timetable. During this time students are able to work on homework or re-

ceive additional support from teachers. It is our expectation that **ALL** students will be in attendance during this time. Viking School made this a central part of our High School Redesign initiative based on feedback from students (including Principal's Advisory Council) and parents (including Parent Council) that students would like time during the day to access teachers for support in areas of need. Thank you for continuing to support this initiative and helping make student success a priority at Viking School.

At Viking School we are committed to getting feedback from students and accessing student voice. For 2019/2020 Mr. Madsen will again be operating a Principal's Advisory Council to allow students to meet with the Principal to discuss important issues and provide feedback. Students will have the opportunity to apply to be part of the council this month and two students will be selected from each Secondary (Grade 7 – 12) class.

...continued on pg 2

VSPC Meeting

Wednesday, September 25th at 5:30 pm

Home Ec Room—Everyone welcome



Welcome Back!!
School Picture Day is October 3rd!!



WE "C.A.R.E." EVERYWHERE

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - SEPTEMBER 20th

...continued from page 1

Our Early Dismissal/Staff Meeting days in 2019/2020 will feature an early dismissal of all students at 1:45 pm at the end of period 6 classes. The period order will rotate throughout the year with period 7/8 being missed in September. Early Dismissal/Staff Meeting days are the first Thursday of every month. We also have some small changes to our bell schedule for the 2019/2020 school year. Secondary students will start the day at 8:40 am, Elementary students at 8:35 am and dismissal for all students will now be at 3:11 pm.

Counselling services at Viking School will again be provided by the BRSD Career Counseling team and our Family School Liaison Worker. Mrs. Linda Kope will be providing career counselling to students at Viking School this year and Georgina White will be our Family School Liaison Worker.

School photo day will be Thursday October 3rd. Photo re-takes will take place in November.

Viking School will again have a firm deadline dates for transferring between high school courses (for example from the -1 to -2 level). For the first semester this date will be October the 16th. I would ask that parents and students be mindful of this date and monitor progress in these courses with the classroom teacher as these dates do occur before the first report card is issued.

I would like to share a couple of important reminders related to provincial testing through Alberta Education. Schools in Alberta are no longer required to seek division approval to provide accommodations on Diploma Exams and Achievement Tests. Schools will be able to provide/order all regularly accessed accommodations for students on these exams as decided upon in consultation with parents. Also of note, **all** grade twelve students will again be able to access **double** the usual allotted time for each diploma exam.



On Friday September 27th, the students and staff of Viking school will be participating in the Terry Fox Run. The run will take place in the last two blocks of the day. Grade 1 to 9 students will be participating in the run and Grade 10, 11 and 12 students will have regular classes during this time. Parents are welcome to attend and participate in this event.

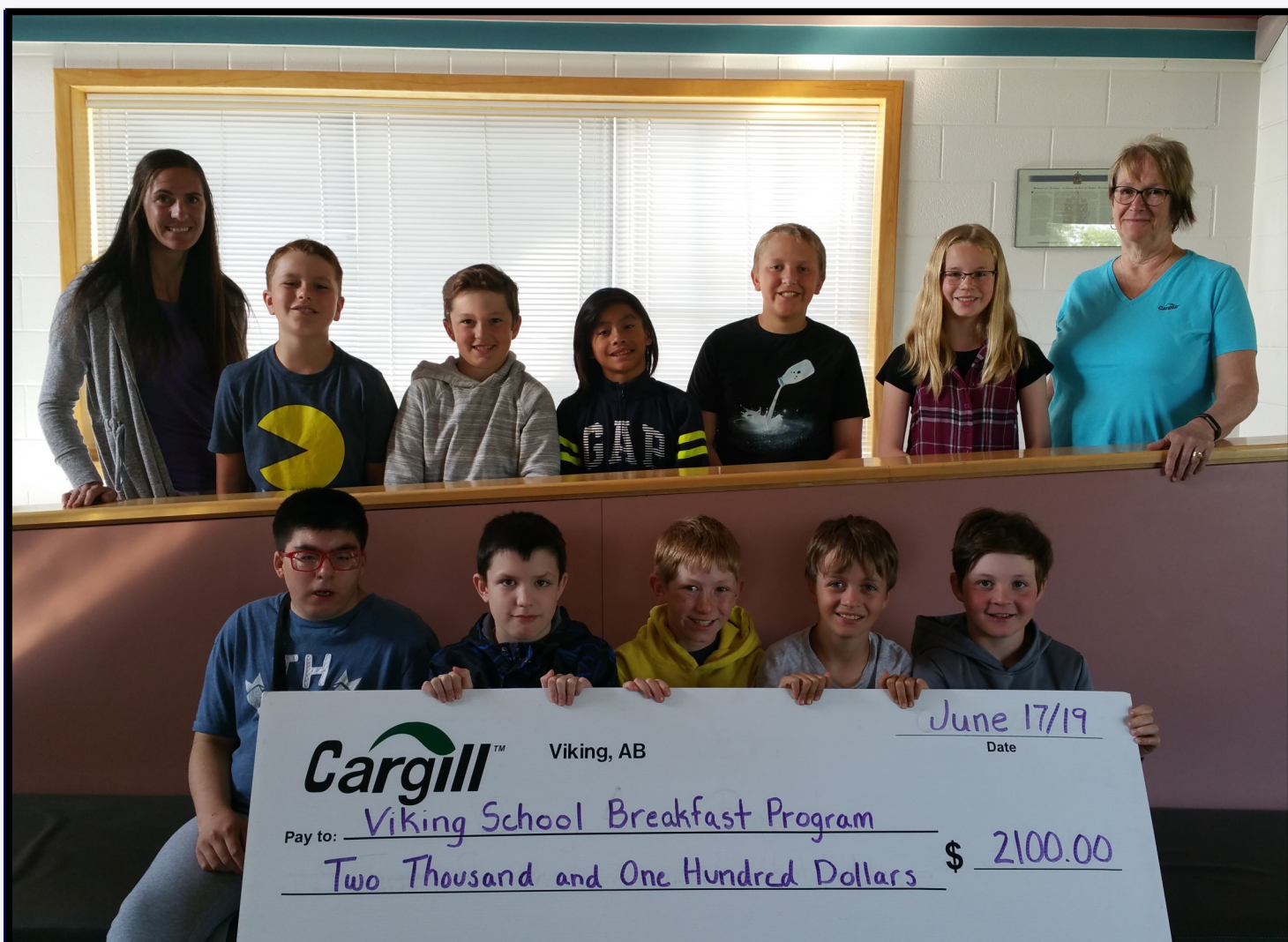
Viking School will again be participating in the DeSimone Farms fruit sale fundraiser. Order forms will be available in October with product delivery in November. More information will be available closer to the beginning of the fundraising campaign.

Please come and join us at our next School (Parent) Council meeting on **September 25th** at **5:30 pm** in the Home Economics room.

Mr. A. Madsen

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY Wednesday SEPTEMBER 18th Hawaiian Day





Thank you to Cargill for the very generous donation made to the Viking School Breakfast Program. Mrs. Terri Cummings and Mrs. Pat Sevcik, representing the "Cargill Cares" program, are pictured above presenting the donation to some happy Viking School students



Viking School proudly welcomes Mr. Brett Jakubec, a past student and now a student teacher. Brett is in his final year of his Degree in Education at Concordia University. Brett will be working with students and his mentor teacher, Mrs. Trudy Josephson, until the Christmas Break.





It Is Good To Be Back Together

Students and staff were happy to be reacquainted, September 3rd, after a nice summer break.

Pictured are Miguel, Willy and Lucius having free time in Mrs. Loveseth's room (left) and Jacob, Lucius and Derrick have fun playing in the sand together during recess (right).

Orange Shirt Day September 30th

Communities coming
together in a spirit of
reconciliation and hope
because
Every Child Matters.



Thank you!!



**Thank you to everyone who ordered school supplies
through Write-On Stationery!**

\$200 was raised for Friends of the Society of Viking School Parent Council which will go towards enhancing student learning at Viking School.

Kaitlyn, Quinn and Ethan Girczyc delivered the school supplies to the classrooms so they were ready for the students on the first day.

**TERRY FOX RUN [K-9]
VIKING SCHOOL
SEPT 27 2:00**

(Pledge forms due Sept. 24th)

**Cheques made payable to The Terry Fox Foundation
OR**

ONLINE donating to the school is fast, fun and easy!

- Go to terryfox.org
- Click Set Up Your Fundraising Page Here

<http://www.terryfox.org/schoolrun/students/#start-here>

TO DONATE...

- Click GIVE TO A STUDENT
- Receive receipt IMMEDIATELY

MARATHON



OF HOPE

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM VIKING SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Viking School Parent Council is in need of new members!

Parent Council plays a crucial role within our school. It is very important that parents understand the role that council fulfills. Probably the most important role is that council is a forum with communication and discussion with school administration about current issues. It is where your voice will be heard and definitely listened to. Members will be able to vote on important issues that influence the quality of education that your child receives: you can have a voice!

Parent Council is directly responsible for the Hot Lunch program. Without a proper functioning council, the Hot Lunch program will no longer exist.

Parent Council also pays for many things that parents may not be aware of:

Agendas for students in grade 1 to 6 are paid for by Parent Council.

Each year Parent Council gives money to every grade, Kindergarten to 12, to be used towards paying for bussing of field trips.

Parent Council sponsors the Grade 12 General Diploma Award.

We also sponsor students that request a donation for Encounters with Canada yearly.

Sadly, the attendance of parents and interest shown in the goings on in your child's school has diminished over the past couple of years. If we do not get enough members for a Parent Council, we may be downgraded to simply an advisory group to the principal. This group would only meet if the principal had the need to gather input from parents, but they have no voting right/say in any decision-making. If this should happen ALL benefits/sponsoring will fall away: there will be no Hot Lunch program and you as parents will be paying more from your own pocket for agenda's, bussing costs, etc.

Being part of Parent Council is NOT a big commitment. We meet on the second Wednesday of every month (excluding December and June) at 5:30pm for about an hour to an hour and a half. We get important information from our school administrators about issues such as staffing, program planning, budgeting, etc. There is always time for open discussions of new items. It truly gives you as the parent better insight into what goes on in our school.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

Viking School Parent Council is looking for volunteers to run the Hot Lunch Program this year. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Suzanne Jakubec.

Viking School Parent Council is also looking for new members, including a new Chair. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Melissa Radford or attend the AGM on Wednesday September 25, 2019 at 5:30pm at Viking School. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Please consider stepping up and helping out in our school.

Melissa Radford

Outgoing Viking School Parent Council Chair
On Behalf of Viking School Parent Council



12 excited Kindergarten students joined the rest of the Viking School Students, September 5th, to start their educational journey.



**WELCOME TO VIKING
SCHOOL'S YOUNGEST
LEARNERS**



September 4, 2019

Dear Parents,

As most of you (except for new Grade 4 parents) know, I use an on-line classroom messaging system, called ClassDojo. **This year I plan to use the Dojo only for my Elementary classes.** I will use the Dojo system to notify you of class announcements, such as test dates and content. There is a free app for you to download to receive these updates. If you were “connected” to this app last year you should still have it on your phone.

Last year almost all parents gave me their e-mail address. However, in accordance with Antispam laws, I need you to give me permission every year to continue to use this method of Home/School communication. **If you were connected last year I have your e-mail address, but I still require your permission to use it again.** Please let me know if the e-mail address you are now giving me is different from the one I already have, by just writing “new” beside it. If you would like reports sent to more than one e-mail address, please give me both addresses. This is helpful when both parents wish to receive the reports, especially if both parents don’t live in the same home.

Therefore, please fill out and return the form below so that your child’s weekly reports may still be sent to you. Or, you can message me on your Dojo if you’re already connected.

For new users, once I receive your e-mail address and enter it into the system I will send you an invite and then you will be able to download the free app that will connect you to our class. Please don’t try to connect before I send you the invitation.

If you were connected last year everything should just “roll over” automatically. **If you are new to the system you cannot connect unless I have entered your e-mail address.**

You are welcome to check out the ClassDojo system for yourself by logging into www.classdojo.com.

Thank you,

Mrs. Lori Sarafinchan
French Teacher

Please use the following email address to enable Home/School communication using the ClassDojo system. My e-mail address is _____.

Parent’s signature:

September 3, 2019

To Parents/Guardians of Grade 7, 8 and 9 Students:

Our Board of Education has authorized the teaching of the elective unit Theme V, Human Sexuality to Grade 7, 8 and 9 students as part of the Alberta Education Health Curriculum. **The new Health and Life Skills K-9 Curriculum under Personal Health W-7-3, Under Safety and Responsibility W-7-12, 13, 14 have the Human Sexuality Portion as a mandatory part of the curriculum.**

The purpose of the Human Sexuality Unit is to help students acquire some basic understanding of bodily changes, which may occur to them now or in the near future.

Parents retain the right to exempt their child from school instruction in Human Sexuality education. If you decide that you **DO NOT** wish to have your child work in this area, please inform the school by **NOTE** within **TWO WEEKS** of receiving this notice. Alternative arrangements will be made for any children not participating.

Should you require more information, please contact your child's Health teacher at the school at 780-336-3352.

Sincerely,

Lori Sarafinchan
Health Teacher

Viking School

Picture Day Wednesday October 3rd (Re-takes Nov 8th)



Get ready for Picture Day

- Mark your calendar
- See our tips for Picture Day at lifetouch.ca



2019 is a Rainbow Of Possibilities



Bulletin boards were prepared with welcoming messages to greet students as they entered the school halls on Sept. 3rd.



REMINDER

Please return completed registration forms to the School Office (if you have not already done so) as soon as possible.



Viking School

BELL TIMES & INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

2019-2020

Bell Times:

Secondary		Inst Min	Elementary		Inst Min	Outside
8:30 AM	Doors Open		8:30 AM	Doors Open		8:30 AM
			8:35 AM	Literacy Support/Reading	5	
8:40 AM	Classes Begin	40	8:40 AM	Classes Begin	85 (40) (45)	
9:20 AM	Block 1 Ends		9:20 AM	Block 1 Ends		
		40				
10:00 AM	Block 2 Ends	30	10:05 AM	Recess Begins		
	HS REDESIGN		10:18 AM	Warning Bell		10:18 AM
10:30 AM	Block 3 Begins	40	10:20 AM	Recess Ends	90 (45) (45)	
11:10 AM	Block 3 Ends		11:05 AM	Block 3 Ends		
		40				
11:50 AM	Block 4 Ends		11:50 AM	Block 4 Ends		
			12:05	Lunch Begins/Ends		
12:23 PM	Warning Bell		12:23 PM	Warning Bell		12:23 PM
12:25 PM	Block 5 Begins	40	12:25 PM	Afternoon Begins	80 (40) (40)	12:25 PM
1:05 PM	Block 5 Ends		1:05 PM	Block 5 Ends		
		40				
1:45 PM	Block 6 Ends	40	1:45 PM	Recess Begins		
	5-minute break		1:57 PM	Warning Bell		1:57 PM
1:50 PM	Block 7 Begins	40	1:59 PM	Recess Ends	72 (36) (36)	
2:30 PM	Block 7 Ends		2:35 PM	Block 7 Ends		
		41				
3:11 PM	Block 8 Ends		3:11 PM	Block 8 Ends		
3:11 PM	Dismissal		3:11 PM	Dismissal		
Secondary Instructional Min./Day		351	Elementary Instructional Min./Day		332	

Note: 1. In 2018-2019 Viking School will have 174 instructional days as approved by the Superintendent.

Instructional Hours:

Elementary: 332 minutes per day x 174 days (-720 minutes for early dismissal) = 57 048 minutes (950.8 h)

Secondary: 351 minutes per day x 174 days (-810 minutes for early dismissal) = 60 264 minutes (1004.4 h)

Kindergarten: 332 minutes/ day x 89 days (-720 minutes for early dismissal) = 28828 minutes = 480.5 h