

**PARENT - STUDENT HANDBOOK
Fort Vermilion Public School
2021-2022**



**Principal: Mrs. Bonnie Hunley
Assistant Principal: Mrs. Maija Mayo**

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Fort Vermilion School Division # 52

Welcome to Fort Vermilion Public School

The Mission of Fort Vermilion Public School is that we strive to create positive, inspiring, and safe environments that foster sharing, learning and growth. Most importantly, we respect each child's uniqueness, and we make every effort to create educational experiences that are advantageous for every student.

Welcome to Fort Vermilion Public School! We are excited to have each and everyone of you become part of the Fort Vermilion Public School Family and look forward to working with you throughout the coming school year. It truly takes a team of parents, students and teachers to help everyone grow to their fullest potential and we are glad to welcome you as part of our team.

Bonnie Hunley and Maija Mayo
Principal and Vice-Principal



Fort Vermilion Public School Staff List 2021/2022

School Trustee: Leah Lizotte

Teaching Staff	Position
Bonnie Hunley	Principal
Maija Mayo	Assistant Principal/Counsellor
Donna Guitard	ECS/Religion
Jackie Winsor	Gr. 1
Cathy Brand	Gr. 2
Sheryl Zoski-Charles	Gr. 3/4 LA/SS/Lit Coach
Veronica Vaandering	Gr. 5
Amy Zacharuk	Gr. 6
Tina Jones	Gr. 7
Brandon Hillier	Gr. 8
Katelyn Heidinger	Jr/Sr Soc Studies/CTS
Torrey Protz	Jr/Sr Math / Science
Abigail Peckford	Jr/Sr English/CTS
Bryann Starner	PE/Math/CTS
Cynthia White	Inclusive Ed/Gr 3/4 Math/Science

Support Staff	Position
Monica Wieler	Secretary/Nutrition Facilitator
Marilynn Boissy	Secretary
Mental Health Therapists: Debbie Arnld & Leah Martens Wellness Coach: Leanne Bulldog	Connection Team
Success Engagement Coaches: Wendy McLean & Kaylynn Grand	FNMI Support
Deanna Brown	Educational Assistant
Daleen Lizotte	Educational Assistant

Megan Parenteau	Educational Assistant
Nikki Parenteau	Educational Assistant
Audrey Randle	Educational Assistant
Monica Smith	Educational Assistant
Megan Stokes	Educational Assistant
Jody Lapp	Early Literacy Assistant
Faye Patmore	Speech Assistant/EA
Carole Shelton	Head Custodian
Adina Malmquist	Head Custodian
Tenessa Malmquist	Custodian

Staff Member	Bus Driver
Greg Mayo	Bus Driver

STUDENT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

Daily office hours are from 8:30am - 3:30pm. There is voicemail to take messages outside of office hours.

BUSSING

Transportation to and from school is available for all students. In-town bussing will be available beginning October 1, 2021. There will be more information to follow regarding the in-town bussing. The Fort Vermilion School Division provides transportation for rural students at no charge. To make arrangements for transportation, or if you have any questions, concerns or comments regarding transportation, please call Ken Peters at the Fort Vermilion School Division Bus Garage (928-3860).

There is a bus information app that can be downloaded and will inform you when buses are cancelled.
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bus-status/id1374365482>
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.boxclever.busstatus>

This information will also be placed on the FVSD website as well as Fort Vermilion Public School website and our Facebook page

COLD WEATHER POLICY

Bus service in a certain area is to be cancelled by 6:30 am 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. This communication must be posted to the schools' website and Facebook page

Extra-curricular activities on cold days are cancelled and rescheduled where needed. Once the weather reaches -25 C or colder, administration will declare an indoor recess.

CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important that the office have accurate contact information for parents and guardians in the case of accidents, illness, or other emergencies. Many people change addresses or phone numbers during the year so please let the school know of any changes. We also would like your email address as an additional means of communication.

DOORS

All outside doors, except the front door, are locked by 9:00am.

EMERGENCY and FIRE EXITS

Evacuation routes are posted on the walls of each classroom. In order to avoid any complications, students should be familiar with the exits they would use for each classroom they occupy throughout the day. Fire drills are conducted at various times during the year. In the event of a fire alarm students should proceed out of the appropriate exit and gather at the South end of the school. Students are encouraged to wear indoor footwear at all times in the event of a drill, a fire or an evacuation.

SECURITY CAMERAS

The school is equipped with security cameras for the personal safety for all staff and students. Activity throughout the building and the school grounds is recorded by the cameras and saved on a hard drive.

YEAR END AWARDS

Fort Vermilion Public School recognizes student achievement in grades 1-12 with five different awards presented at the Awards Day Program on the last day of the school year. These awards celebrate student accomplishment in: Academic, Citizenship, Athletic. Each of these awards has specific criteria which is posted in the school and is available upon request.

PARENT INFORMATION

LEGAL PARENT OR GUARDIAN

The school can only release personal academic or disciplinary information to legal parents or guardians as stated in our student records. If you feel our records may be incorrect please contact the school immediately. If legal guardianship of a child changes during the year, any papers indicating such change must be forwarded to the school as well.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please inform the school of any medical condition & allergies your son/daughter may have. It is necessary for us to know about the problem and the immediate treatment if we are to respond wisely given any emergency situation. If your son/daughter requires medication, the parent/guardian is required to fill out a request to administer medication for approval by the principal. Any medication to be administered must be in the original supply bottle with instructions from the prescribing doctor.

It is highly advisable that those students with life threatening medical conditions (i.e. allergies) provide the school with an Epi-Pen or Asthma Inhaler.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Students can get upset and require extra and special attention at times of crisis in the home. Please inform the teacher if there is a situation of critical illness, bereavement, or family discord in the home.

ALTERNATE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

No alternate bussing is allowed for the 2021-2022 school year due to Covid 19 cohorting.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Professional Development Days are spread throughout the year to focus on making improvements to teaching. Students do not attend these days.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS/CALENDARS/WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

School information is provided in a variety of ways (i.e. newsletters, calendars, Facebook page, school website). Lunch menus will be posted the first week of each month, additional paper copies of the newsletters will be available upon request. These are a handy reference for parents and students alike as to what special events occur on specific days of the month. Updates will also be emailed throughout the month to advise you of changes or new events.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

In keeping with School Board policy; a School Council is established early in the school year to advise the school administration and the Board. All parents of students are encouraged to attend the monthly School Council Meetings. The purpose of the council is to advise school administration and the Board in respect to general operational items. It is not a forum for personal issues specific to individual students or school personnel. It can be a powerful opportunity to help build a team to develop projects and ideas that can be beneficial to the growth of the school and additional opportunities for its students.

FVSD SCHOOL LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

A lockdown is a security procedure when there is a school wide safety concern. A lockdown is called by the office requiring staff and students to remain in a secured and locked room. Students out of the building during a lockdown should proceed to the Fort Vermilion Cultural Complex. A lockdown is considered to be over when the “all clear” signal is given by the person who called the lockdown. All practice lockdowns will be communicated to staff, students and parents prior to the occurrence. A staff member will initiate Lockdown via approved method for your school. School Staff will call 911 immediately or as soon as possible, preferably from a school phone. Provide school name and full address. Stay on the line with the 911 Operator and provide info as requested.

Office staff will, if safe to do so:

Post signage at the main entrance stating “THE SCHOOL IS IN LOCKDOWN, DO NOT ENTER. PLEASE LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY”. Email school staff stating: “Lockdown check in, please respond”. If there is no communication from the office, all staff should follow the attendance

instructions outlined in step 5 in order to be prepared with this information.

Classroom teachers/staff will:

Immediately check the hallways outside their classrooms and gather nearby students. Close, Lock, and Barricade (if possible) the classroom door, shut off all lights, close and cover windows if possible. Ignore dismissal bells. Ensure all mobile devices are silenced. REPLY ALL to email stating: number of students present, names of students missing or absent, extra students or adults present. Remain in lockdown until the RCMP or a school administrator clears your room. This means that the door is not opened for ANYONE once locked. Any staff outdoors when a lockdown occurs, will move away from the school immediately and proceed to the emergency evacuation staging area assigned by your school. Staff will remain there until further instructions are issued by RCMP or school administrators. Should the fire alarm activate during a lockdown, staff WILL NOT respond as they normally would. Remain locked down, use critical thinking skills, know the evacuation route and be prepared to react if smoke/fire is detected. RCMP or the school administrator will end the lockdown by clearing each room individually. There will be no announcement made over the PA to end the lockdown or drill.

Students will:

Move to the designated secure area in the classroom and remain silent and still while the teacher ensures the doors are locked and secure. It is important to remain quiet and to make sure all devices are turned off. Any students not in a classroom when a lockdown is initiated should stay out of hallways and traffic areas. Find a hiding spot, if possible go to the nearest classroom and stay quiet until the lockdown is over or you are removed by the RCMP or the school administrator (bathrooms, open classroom, library, etc.) Any students outdoors when a lockdown occurs, will move away from the school immediately and proceed to the emergency evacuation staging area assigned by your school. Students will remain there until further instructions. Should the fire alarm activate during a lockdown, students WILL NOT respond as they normally would. Remain locked down, use critical thinking skills, know the evacuation route and be prepared to react if smoke/fire is detected. RCMP or the school administrator will end the lockdown by clearing each room individually. There will be no announcement made over the PA to end the lockdown or drill.

Bus Drivers will:

Upon learning of a lockdown occurring, take all the students to the emergency evacuation staging area. Take attendance and remain there until further instructions from RCMP or the school administrator.

Parents/Guardians will:

Upon learning a lockdown is occurring, gather at the designated parent staging area and await further information from the RCMP. Parents must not approach the school at any time during a lockdown. Parents must not attempt to contact their child on any mobile device.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is a major factor contributing to student success and is mandated by law

(School Act) for anyone under 16 years of age. While the goal is to maximize student time in their courses, it does take into consideration that there will be times when students must be away.

- attendance is recorded for K - 6 in the morning and again in the afternoon
- attendance is recorded in every period for grades 7 - 12
- warning bells ring in the morning and after lunch
- students will be considered late after the class bell rings.
- Students will be considered absent for a class 15 mins after the bell rings.
- parents should phone whenever an absence or lateness is unavoidable

ATTENDANCE (HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES)

An attendance policy for high school credit courses is already in place at the school. Alberta Education denies funding for non-passing students who have missed 50% of their classes. Once a student reaches this number of absences (45 class days for a 5 credit course) and are below a passing average, students will be removed from their regular class and put into a modular system to try and earn some credits for the remaining period.

DRESS

Students are expected to dress respectfully for a K-12 learning environment. Students wearing clothing that is deemed disrespectful, suggestive, provocative, insulting and/or unsuitable for public school including graphics depicting or suggesting violence, gang colors, profanity, pornography, alcohol, drugs, etc. will be asked to change their clothing choice. While it is recognized that choice of attire/grooming are matters of expression and subject to fashion or current trends, any form of dress that is determined to interfere with the learning environment is prohibited.

The following general rules apply to the dress code:

1. Clean footwear must be worn at all times. Anyone entering the building will be asked to clean or remove wet/dirty footwear.
2. Clothing is to cover the chest, back and midriff. Low-cut shirts that allow inappropriate exposure will not be permitted. Shirts and pants are to meet at the waist to prevent exposure of the midriff.
3. Undergarments except bra straps are to be covered at all times.
4. Shorts, skirts and dresses shall be of an appropriate length to allow for standing, sitting, and bending while still providing adequate body coverage. Garments that reach the mid-thigh meet the requirements of the dress code.
5. Clothing shall be free of inflammatory, suggestive, or other inappropriate writing, symbols, advertisement, or graphics. This includes apparel advertising alcohol/tobacco products, those promoting drugs/drug paraphernalia, or ones with any type of sexual connotations.
6. For the safety and security of staff and students, the faces of all individuals must remain visible. Anyone who needs face covering for religious reasons will be exempt from this.

VALUABLES AND SECURITY

In general, leave valuables at home and do not bring anything of significant value to school. **The school is not responsible for lost/stolen articles or money.**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

Fort Vermilion Public School is dedicated to supporting students to perform to the best of their academic abilities. Optimum learning takes place only when students approach their work with intention and integrity. If students choose to act dishonestly, consequences will follow.

In order to minimize situations where cheating or plagiarizing may take place, students will acquire skills with respect to documentation of sources (bibliography, endnotes, and quotations) and studying. Appropriate consequences (academic penalties, suspensions, etc.) will apply to acts of plagiarism, cheating, collusion or other acts through which a student unfairly misrepresents their effort or achievement. **Plagiarism** occurs when a student knowingly represents any idea or work of another person in any academic assignment, test, or examination as their own. **Cheating** occurs when a student obtains or attempts to obtain an unfair advantage over other students in the context of preparation or performance on any academic assignment, test, or examination. **Collusion** occurs when a student knowingly allows their work to be submitted by another student.

BEHAVIOUR and DISCIPLINE

The students and staff of Fort Vermilion Public School are dedicated to treating each other with respect, kindness and compassion in an inclusive environment. Fort Vermilion Public School is a PAX school, where our goal is peace, productivity, health and happiness for everyone. The PAX program teaches children to visualize what they would see, hear, do, and feel in a peaceful classroom/environment. Teamwork is encouraged as students work in cooperative groups to make their world a better place. Self-regulation is developed over time.

SCHOOL FUNCTIONS

All school regulations and PAX apply at school functions (eg. dances, athletic events, trips, and any other activity sponsored by the school). When you attend a school function, you are expected to demonstrate responsible behaviour. Suspended students will not be allowed to attend school functions.

FORT PUBLIC CODE OF CONDUCT

At Fort Vermilion Public School, we believe in helping children acquire self-discipline by giving them firm, clear guidelines and expecting them to become increasingly responsible for themselves. Our Code of Conduct reflects that belief.

- We will work towards establishing a moral conscience, setting high personal standards for ethical behaviour, and for leading a balanced life.
- We will show pride in ourselves and work towards excellence in all that we do: academics, extracurricular activities, athletics, and behaviour.
- We will recognize and celebrate the strengths we all hold, and assist each other in improving those areas that are challenging to us.
- We will respect the rights of our peers and celebrate the uniqueness of each individual. We will show concern for their well-being at all times.
- We will respect and honour our parents and teachers for their knowledge, guidance, and support.
- We will respect private and public property.
- We will show pride in our school by adhering to the school's Code of Conduct, and by enhancing the learning environment for everyone so that our classrooms are safe and enjoyable places to learn.
- We will learn to take our place as active and responsible members of our communities.

A Guide for Good Behaviour

At Fort Vermilion Public School maintaining the dignity of each person, in all situations, is crucial in managing behaviour. We appreciate and respect that each student is an individual and comes to us with a varied background of experience and abilities. We believe in the responsibility model of

discipline. By implementing logical and consistent consequences, and by providing individuals with opportunities to become responsible and caring members of the community, they will learn about their behaviour, their choices, and their impact on others while still maintaining their dignity.

Unacceptable Behaviours

Fort Vermilion Public School is committed to upholding and teaching moral and social values. Setting rules, policies and disciplinary procedures is necessary to ensure fairness to individuals and the well-being of our community.

Unacceptable behaviours include:

Physical Aggression: pushing, grabbing, kicking, hitting, pinching, spitting, tripping, etc.

Social Alienation: gossiping, embarrassing others, ethnic/racial slurs, excluding from group, etc.

Intimidation: threatening others verbally, physically, etc.

Sexual Harassment: remarks, gestures, or actions of a sexual nature.

Bullying: repeatedly teasing, belittling and/or aggressive negative behaviour which may result in creating feelings such as fear, sadness, embarrassment and/or anger.

Fort Vermilion Public School also adheres to the Canadian Human Rights Act and will uphold the following statement from the act which prohibits discrimination.

Prohibited grounds of discrimination 3 (1) For all purposes of this Act, the prohibited grounds of discrimination are race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, disability and conviction for an offence for which a pardon has been granted or in respect of which a record suspension has been ordered (Government of Canada, 2019).

Procedure

- All infractions will be recorded. For minor infractions, it is the responsibility of the adult in charge (teacher, administrator, etc.) to intervene and assign consequences that may be warranted from the list of consequences for minor infractions.
- For major infractions and repetitive minor infractions, an administrator will be involved in the process. Parent(s) will be notified.
- Each incident will be treated on its own merit.

Infraction: any inappropriate behaviour that does not follow the guidelines of the classroom or school code of conduct.

Consequence: a fair and logical action that addresses the inappropriate behaviour.

INCIDENTS OF A CRIMINAL NATURE

In the case of a report of an incident of a criminal nature, the school administration will obtain pertinent facts and notify the police, if appropriate. We will work closely with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In a case where there is a reasonable suspicion that a student may be in possession of an illegal substance or a weapon, administration, or delegate, may execute a search of a student's belongings or their locker; such a search will be conducted in the presence of another adult. The follow-up of each incident will depend on the nature of the incident and action will be taken after

consultation with central office, police, and any professional whose involvement will be deemed necessary.

NO SMOKING

There is no smoking on Fort Vermilion School Division property. Students who leave the property or are smoking on school property will be given a one time warning, the second time this happens an in-school suspension, and repeated incidents result in out of school suspensions.

BULLYING

Bullying is a repeated intimidation that emotionally hurts the victim much more than the instigator. Bullying behaviour varies by age and gender and may include, but is not limited to, physical bullying (pushing, bumping, raised fists, hitting) social bullying (spreading rumours, encouraging isolation) and cyber bullying (texting, facebook, snapchats). Any form of bullying is unacceptable behaviour and will be dealt with by the Office.

EFFECTIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT AND STUDENT MANAGEMENT PLANS

Maintaining an effective school and classroom climate is ultimately about meeting the needs of all involved in a respectful and caring manner so learning can take place and where necessary behaviours can be addressed and changed. Our staff is committed to working in a respectful and rational manner to help students develop the social and learning skills necessary to properly function within the school environment. The primary concern is to provide a safe and positive learning environment for everyone and is clearly linked to the Fort Vermilion Public School Code of Conduct. Actions taken based on inappropriate behaviour will be based upon individual needs, degree of the issue and the ability of those involved to understand and deal with the consequences of the situation.

TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT/CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Teachers will review the FVSD Guidelines for All Technology Uses for Students and FVSD Student Technology User Agreement as well as the FVSD Student Internet Use Guidelines, User Agreement and Parent Permission Form with students annually and as needed throughout the year. The FVSD Student Internet User Agreement and Parent Permission Form will be signed by the student and the parent annually before students are given access to the Internet. These will be kept on file at the school.

Cell Phone Use

Students may have cell phones in the classroom and must only use them briefly to check messages when individual work is being completed. During instruction time, when teachers are presenting, cell phones are to be kept face down or put away.

At no time are cell phones used to take pictures or video during class time. Students must not play loud music or have headphones or buds on during instructional time.

Teachers will work with students to use their personal devices appropriately. If personal devices are becoming a distraction and taking away from student learning, students may be asked to put their cell phone away for the duration of the class.

Non compliance to teacher requests will result in disciplinary action depending on student action and can include but is not limited to:

Cell phone taken away for the class.
Cell phone taken away for the afternoon or morning
Cell phone use prohibited for a limited period of time
In-School or Out of School Suspension

STUDENT LEARNING

Supporting Student Success

We all have a role to play in helping your child be successful.

Parents can support your child's learning by:

- ensuring regular attendance
- working in partnership with school staff
- providing a quiet place for your child to study at home
- staying informed and keeping in touch with school staff. This includes reading newsletters and other school materials
- going to parent-teacher conferences

Teachers will help your child succeed by:

- providing programming that's suitable for your child
- providing many opportunities and different ways for students to show what they know
- giving students who've missed important assessments and activities the chance to complete the work
- clearly explaining what's expected of students in all courses and how student work will be graded/marked (i.e., course outline)
- keeping detailed, accurate notes describing your child's successes and challenges
- communicating with you regularly about your child's progress and achievement
- providing opportunities for you to be involved in your child's learning

Students have a responsibility for their own learning and are expected to:

- come to school every day and on time
- finish their assignments, projects and tasks to the best of their ability
- participate in activities to celebrate learning
- show that they're learning
- take advantage of chances to revise or redo assignments or tests so they can show growth in their knowledge and skills

Student Evaluation

At Fort Vermilion Public School we determine grades/marks in a variety of ways:

Formative Assessments

Throughout the year, your child will work on many activities that help them increase what they know and practice their skills. These activities show your child's teacher how they are doing, what their strengths are and where they can improve. This is called formative assessment.

Teachers use this information to adjust their teaching, give your child feedback to help them improve and prepare your child for times when they will receive grades/marks.

Summative Assessments

During the school year, your child will have a chance to show what they have learned up to that point in time (summative assessments).

Using their judgment as professionals, teachers make decisions based on the curriculum outcomes and give grades/marks to your child. They base these decisions on what they've seen your child do (observations), discussions they've had with your child (conversations) and the work your child has completed (products).

Reporting Dates 2021/2022:

FORT VERMILION SCHOOL DIVISION

Reporting Student Progress to Parents and Students

2021-2022

The schedule below indicates the minimum requirements that schools in FVSD schools will follow in reporting student progress to parents and students. Schools/teachers may report to parents and students at additional times if they choose or if the need arises. Parents should be notified as soon as possible if there is a concern regarding their child's progress.

In 2020-21 parents of students in ECS through grade 6 will receive **three** Report Cards, and parents of students in grades 7 through 12 will receive a minimum of **four** Report Cards.

Progress for students in ECS through Grade 3 will be reported using the FVSD ECS – Grade 3 Report Card. Progress for students in grades 4 through 12 will be reported using the Powerschool Report Card and Progress Report templates (FVSD). *Cumulative reporting will be used for grades 4 through 12.*

Report- ing Period	Report Cards Going Home Date
Period 1	November 26, 2021 (K-6) November 19, 2021 (7-12)
Period 2	March 11, 2022 (K-6) February 4, 2022 (7-12)
Period 3	June 23, 2022 (K-6) April 29, 2022 (7-12)
Period 4	June 23, 2022 (7-9) June 27, 2022 (10-12)

Additional progress reports and mark sheet printouts may be issued during the year, especially in semester high school courses and early in the school year. Parents and guardians should also contact their child's teacher for mark updates if and when they feel it is necessary as well as accessing the Parent Portal through Power School.

CREDIT LOADS

Most students will complete their high school program in three years and all students are expected to enrol in a full program unless s/he has the permission of the Principal to take a less than full program. Students who wish to obtain an education will have a greater likelihood of success if they are registered in courses which are compatible with their interests and aptitudes. Each semester is designed so that students are able to complete 20 credits.

COURSE OUTLINES

Within the first week of classes, Junior and Senior High students will receive a course outline and evaluation guide for each course they are registered in. The course outline will explain what topics will be covered in the course, as well as approximate dates for chapter or units, and how the course will be evaluated.

COURSE CHANGES

A student may request to change a course within the first two weeks of the semester to be in the most appropriate courses to suit the student's program. Course changes are considered after consultation with a counsellor or a school administrator, the parent and the student.

SENIOR HIGH HOMEROOM POLICY

Grade 10 Homeroom

Any Sr. High student with less than 33 credits will be placed in the Grade 10 Homeroom regardless of age. At no time during the year will a first time Grade 10 student be moved up to another homeroom.

Grade 11 Homeroom

A student must have a minimum of 33 credits and have completed a 10-level English and Social in order to be placed in the Grade 11 Homeroom. Students within a few credits of 33 will be allowed until Sept. 30 of that current school year to earn that number of credits which will bring them to 33 credits. At this time they will be moved into the next homeroom. At no time after Sept. 30 will a student be allowed to move up to another homeroom.

Grade 12 Homeroom

A student must have a minimum of 65 credits and have completed a 20-level English and Social in order to be placed in the Grade 12 Homeroom. Students within a few credits of 65 will be allowed until Sept. 30 of that current school year to earn that number of credits which will bring them to 65 credits. At this time they will be moved into the next homeroom. At the beginning of the second semester a student may be moved to the Grade 12 Homeroom on the recommendation of the Principal or Career Counsellor. This will occur only if the student has everything in place to graduate that current school year. During no other time of year will a student be moved up a homeroom.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Alberta Education mandates that each student requires 100 credits to receive an Alberta High School Diploma. Specifically, students must have English and Social Studies to a 30 level, Math and Science to a 20 level. 40 options credits at which 10 must be at the 30 level, and 10 credits in CTS or Fine Arts. For more questions please contact our career counselor.

Valedictorian Criteria

To ensure consistent criteria in selecting valedictorians at high schools, including one valedictorian from the Learning Stores, within the Fort Vermilion School Division division-wide criteria has been established:

Student must have completed two semesters (one in the grade 12 year, 4 quads 2 quads in the grade 12-year in the given school)

Student must be eligible for a high school diploma.

Student must have the highest academic average as calculated three weeks prior to graduation in the following courses:

- English 30-1
- Math 30-1/Math 30-2
- Social 30-1
- Highest 30 level Science course (Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Science)
- Any one other 30 level course excluding Work Experience and Special Projects or an averaged combination of 5 CTS courses
- In the event no students have a 30-1 level course the same criteria is used for 30-2

The valedictorian will have the first right of refusal to deliver the graduating speech. The graduating class will select a grade 12 student to deliver the graduating speech if the valedictorian declines.

The valedictorian speech must be approved by the Principal.

Honor Cord for Graduation

Recipients will receive recognition during the graduation ceremony (Honor Cords) for an average of 80% or higher using the following criteria for a total of 4 designated subjects:

1 course in English

- English 30-1, 30-2, 30-4

1 course in Social Studies

- Social Studies 30-1, 30-2, 20-4 (certificate students)

2 other courses at a 30 level from the following:

- Math 30-1, Math 30-2, Math 30-4
- Science 30 or Biology 30 or Chemistry 30 or Physics 30
- Any other 30 level course excluding work placement and CTS courses (i.e. Aboriginal Studies 30, Art 30, Geography 30, Psychology 30)
- CTS 30 level (5 credits at a 30 level, any category), excludes work placement

STUDENT SERVICES

CAREER COUNSELLING

The school counsellor is available for career assistance in the following ways:

- to provide up-to-date college information

- to help students explore career fields
- to assist with filling out applications to colleges, universities and jobs
- to provide student loan, bursary and scholarship information and applications
- to help prepare resumes, cover letters and interview skills
- to assist students in course selections
- to make referrals to outside community agencies

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

The Community Health Nurse visits the school on a regular basis. As long as parental consent has been granted the following services will be provided:

- vision and hearing tests (upon request)
- immunizations - hepatitis B (Grade 5)
- chickenpox vaccine (Grade 5 & 6)
- TB tests (Grades 1 - 9)
- Immunization
- updates as required

Families new to the school are encouraged to contact Community Health Services to advise where the immunization records for their sons/daughters can be obtained. Whenever immunizations take place, immunization cards are sent home with each student. Questions or concerns about these services can be directed to Community Health Services at 927-3391.

EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Fort Vermilion Public School offers a variety of after-school teams and clubs that students may join. We have a very dedicated and energetic staff to provide the opportunity for students to excel in certain athletic and creative areas as well as develop attributes of leadership and citizenship. Long term permission must be obtained for most of these activities to ensure parents are informed of their responsibility for transportation. We want students to enjoy the activities that are offered, but there is an expectation that they will first attend to their responsibilities as students. (Current FVSD Covid-19 guidelines are in effect)

LIBRARY

The primary purpose of the library is to provide materials for students and teachers that will enrich and support the school curriculum. In addition, the atmosphere in the library should be conducive to study and to the quiet pursuit of an individual student's interests through the available materials.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are signed out and returned to the library. Textbooks are tracked and students are expected to take care of such books and return the item loaned to them earlier in the year. Failure to do so may result in a charge for the textbook. The average cover price is \$50 while some go as high as \$110.

LOCKERS

Lockers will be utilized in grades 2-9 during winter months to accommodate extra clothing (ski pants, jackets and such). Lockers are the property of the school and any damage may be charged to the student assigned to that locker. The school has the right to open lockers at any time without the student's permission.

No Locks are to be utilized.

Gym lockers are utilized for Sr. High students taking Physical Education if they would like a change of clothes.