



Bison Bits *Buffalo Head Prairie School*

Bison Bits is published the first and third Tuesday each month to inform parents about school events and provide important information.

Upcoming Event

Wednesday, May 8

Hats On for Mental Health Day
BBQ Burgers & Chips Orders
Due

Thursday, May 9

Ascension Day

Friday, May 10

ECS Field Trip
(BOTH ECS Classes)

Saturday, May 11

Club 250

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day

Monday, May 13

PAT—Grade 9 LA Part A

Tuesday, May 14

BBQ Burgers & Chips Lunch

Wednesday, May 15

Volunteer Appreciation Supper
6:30pm-by invitation

Friday, May 17

School Closed

Sunday, May 19

Pentecost

Monday, May 20

Victoria Day-Pentecost
No School

Tuesday, May 21

Pentecost
School Closed

Thursday, May 23

Subway Orders Due

Scholastic Book Orders Due

FVSD Jr. High Track & Field
Divisionals @HLPS

Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) Dates

This year, due to the piloting of new curriculum, the only grade 6 PAT will be Social Studies. Grade 9 students will write tests in all four core subject areas.

Grade 9 Language Arts Part A— May 13	Grade 9 Language Arts Part B— June 12
Grade 9 Math Part A— June 13	Grade 9 Math Part B— June 18
Grade 9 Social Studies— June 19	Grade 6 Social Studies— June 19
Grade 9 Science— June 20	

All students in the FVSD will be writing their PATs digitally (on computers) this year. Teachers have made efforts throughout the year to prepare students for such testing.

Community Cook-Off Report

The Community Cook-Off was a huge success. \$1196.30 was donated and will be given to La Crete Support Services. A big thank you to Mr. Hache and the grade 5 class for their fantastic work on this classroom leadership project.

Cook-Off Winners:

Pasta: Kathy Buhler & Michelle Teichroeb

Pizza: Brandi Knelsen

Drink: Paul Braun & Bentley Peters

Meat: Taylor Peters & Beckett Unrau

Dessert: Britney Bergen, Heidi Fehr & Julia Wiebe

Congratulations to all trophy winners, and a big THANK YOU to all who participated!

Hats on for Mental Health Day

This week is Mental Health Awareness Week. Hats on for Mental Health Day is happening on Wednesday, May 8. Students and staff are encouraged to wear a hat to help raise awareness around mental health issues.

2024-25 ECS Orientation

Parents, please note that the ECS Orientation will take place on **Friday, May 24**. Orientation will provide children an opportunity to spend time with Mrs. Carey in the kindergarten classroom, which should help them with transition to school in the upcoming school year.

Volunteer Appreciation Supper

We appreciate our school volunteers! Volunteers make BHPS a better place for everyone. School volunteers will receive an invitation to participate in a special event on **May 15 at 6:30pm** to celebrate their efforts.

We look forward to seeing parents on May 15!

May Long Weekend

School is closed from May 17 to May 21. We wish you a fantastic May long weekend with your family and friends!

Last Day of Pre-ECS

Tuesday, May 7, was the last day of Pre-ECS for this school year. We have been so fortunate to have skilled, organized leaders from our community leading the program again this year and many parents have expressed their appreciation.

A huge thank you to Mrs. Darlene Wieler & Mrs. Trudy Klassen for their leadership and dedication to this year's Pre-ECS program.

Parent Requests—ECS, Grade 1, 2 and 3

Buffalo Head Prairie School will have two classes in kindergarten, grade one, grade two and grade three next school year. In these classes, parents may feel strongly about a specific class that they wish to see their child in. We ask that only requests of high importance be made (student learning need, support for medical issues, a necessary friend connection, etc.).

Parents that have requests to be considered when class lists are made for the upcoming school year must make an appointment to meet with Mr. Fehr on Thursday, May 23 from 1:00-4:00pm. Meetings will be a maximum of 10 minutes and must be completed in person. Please call the school office at 780-928-2282 to make an appointment.

FVSD Jr. High Track and Field Divisionals

The FVSD Track & Field Divisionals will be taking place in High Level on Thursday, May 23. Students from BHPS will be given the opportunity over the next few weeks to practice and prepare for the divisional meet during the Jr. High options period that takes place every afternoon. The team will be led by Mr. Driedger. Keep your eyes open for permission forms in the upcoming days for students that have expressed interest.

BHPS Elementary Track and Field

We are looking forward to our annual Elementary Track and Field Day on Friday, May 24. This is typically a full day with a lot of activity. If any parents are interested in helping volunteer in some capacity, please contact Mr. Hache at the school. Also, our grade 9 class will be running a hot dog/lemonade stand as a fund raiser toward their grade 9 trip. All parents are welcome to come out and cheer on your children as they participate in this fun event.

Grade 4 Forestry Camp

The grade 4 class enjoyed a Forestry Camp field trip on Friday, May 3, at Pine Lodge Bible Camp organized by John Thurston, from the Northern Lights Forest Education Society. The theme for the day was "Boreal Forest and Waste in Our World". These days are always a highlight for our students. Thank you to Mr. Diver and Mrs. Schellenberg for taking students on this educational and memorable trip.



School Community Campout

With the weather finally being warm and comfortable, we are once again provided with an opportunity to enjoy one of our favorite summer pastimes: camping! There is a BHPS school community campout planned at the school for all BHPS families on June 7-9. Everyone is welcome to come out for the weekend or drop in for a few hours. If you have any questions, contact Karen Wolfe, who is the lead organizer, at 780-841-4183.

Parent Information Night: Living in a Social Media World

Presented by the FVSD Connection Team

May 27, 2024
@ 7:30PM

Buffalo Head
Prairie School

TOPICS OF PRESENTATION

Technology & the brain

- How the brain works and is impacted by technology.

Social Media and Mental Health

- Apps youth are using and their impacts on anxiety and depression.

How parents can help

THE CONNECTION TEAM

Our connection team provides mental health and wellness services to students across the school division. We provide support through classroom programming, small groups, individual services and family support. For more information see [Our Connection Team](#). For referrals, visit the [FVSD website](#).

Buffalo Head Prairie School
School Council Meeting- April 29, 2024

Present: Ryan Knelsen, Maria Wieler, Larry Goertzen, Mike Friesen, Danny Teichroeb, Dale Driedger, Katharine Neudorf, Frank Bergen, Chris Fehr, and Kaliana Haag

- 1. Call to Order at 7:04pm**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. M/S Danny/Mike that the agenda be approved. Carried**
- 4. Minutes from Previous Meeting** – Katharine read the March 25, 2024, meeting minutes.
- 5. Approval of Previous Minutes - M/S Frank/Mike that the March 25, 2024, minutes be accepted as presented. Carried.**
- 6. Chairperson's Report**
School expansion update. \$500,000 budgeted for the expansion, as per Mr. McMann.
- 7. Principal's Report**
 - a. Current enrollment is 269 students, with 13 grade 9 students leaving and 33 ECS students enrolled; students' enrollment for 2024-2025 is expected to be about 289 students.
 - b. Staffing Update- Congratulations to Mr. Driedger in his new position at Blue Hills School as Principal. Mrs. Shannon Peters has been hired as Assistant Principal here at BHPS. BHPS has been allocated another teacher for the 2024-2025 year. Darian Goertzen has been hired for the junior high position. Mr. Fehr and Mr. Driedger are still working on interviews for the grade 2 position.
 - c. Hand games- the decision was made not to send the students after all. There could be an opportunity in the near future for instruction on the hand games being presented to our school.
 - d. FVSD mandate is for students to write digital Provincial Achievement tests, going from paper to digital.
 - e. Pre-ECS is concluding on May 7, 2024. Thank you to Mrs. Darlene Wieler and Mrs. Trudy Klassen for leading this. 33 students have already been enrolled for ECS 2024-25.
 - f. High School Grade 9 parent meeting is on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00pm. LCPS, BHCS, and Pathways will be presenting to our parents what our students have for options in high school. The collegiate model offers many different academies for the students to choose from for their future career. Junior high students will be expected to have a basic knowledge of computer programs, typing skills, etc.
 - g. Volunteer appreciation supper is planned for Wednesday, May 15, 2024. Thank you to all our volunteers who give of themselves and their time, it is greatly appreciated!
 - h. Elementary Track and Field is planned for Friday, May 24, 2024. All parents are welcome.
 - i. Considerations by central office to run CTF at BHPS instead of LCPS for the next school year. Space and finances are a concern and how that will look like. Qualified teachers to lead the CTF?
 - j. BHPS scholarship is offered to all BHPS students choosing post-secondary education. Shaelyn Wieler has applied for the scholarship and council members agreed to approve that.
 - k. Randy Rodgers Scholarship Fund – Information was shared with council members about this new Scholarship Fund, which will take some time to develop and prepare. This will be for students that have completed grade 12 at La Crete Public School or the Learning Store (now Pathways). Priority is to be given to BHPS students who want to further their education to further help the community whether it is in medicine or another profession that will benefit our local communities. Determination of how to develop this will made in accordance with the written wishes of Mr. Rodgers.
 - l. Playground Pole Shelter update- Quote was \$26,676.30 for the cost of the shelter. Larry described the shelter as a gazebo style building. Larry made the motion to go ahead with building the shelter. Council members seconded the motion. Carried. Council members determined the south side of the school would be the best place for this.
- 8. Financial Update**
 - a. **SGF Budget Review** Minimal change.
 - b. **Operational Budget Review** 64% spent at end of March (April expenditures not finalized). We are in good financial standing and will likely have a small surplus at year end.
- 9. Trustee Information**
 - **No Report**

Next Meeting Date: May 27, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.