



SANDHILLS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL – Wendy Morris

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Julie Gallant

FVSD TRUSTEES – Tim Driedger & Benj Friesen

Care

Accountability

Respect

Excellent Effort

School Mission: Sandhills Elementary School is a safe, fun place where our minds and bodies grow.

February 4, 2025

Written by Students of Sandhills

Second Step Spotlight Emotions Management Stop and Name Feelings



It's okay to have strong feelings. But when children have strong feelings, it can be hard to think about what to do. They can get back in control by calming down. The first step is to use a stop signal to catch their own attention and to tell themselves to stop. They might say "Calm Down" or "Relax!" Next, they can use their feeling detective skills to name their feelings. When they recognize their feelings, the thinking part of their brain can start to manage them. Take a moment to talk to your child about which stop signal they like to use.



Grade 1 - 3 Skating February 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11

Please refer to the schedule on the back of the February calendar to see when your child's skating days are happening.



Subway Sale (\$3.00)

Thursday, February 6
Orders are due by 10:00 am on
Wednesday, February 5.

100 Day Celebration Food Drive February 3 - 7



Students are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items. During our 100 Day assembly on **Friday, February 7**, we will organize food items into groups of 10 and skip count by 10's to practice our math skills. Our goal is to reach 100! After the assembly, food items will be donated to La Crete Support Services Food Bank.

*****Non-perishable food items cannot be outdated.*****

100 Day Celebration Friday, February 7

100 Day signifies the halfway point of the school year, and we will mark the day with a school wide celebration. The 100 Day Organizing Committee has wonderful and cooperative events planned for students. We will have an assembly, in the gym for all students, on **Friday, February 7 at 12:45 PM**, where we will participate in some activities as a whole school. **Parents are welcome to attend.** Students will also participate in events in their classrooms.



Red/Pink Day Tuesday, February 11

Help Sandhills celebrate Red/Pink Day by wearing red and pink!

If your child would like to hand out valentine's cards to classmates and friends, you can request a first name class list from their teacher.



Healthy Snack Tuesday, February 11

Family Day Monday, February 17 School Closed

Schools will be closed on Monday, **February 17 for Family Day**. Regular classes will resume Tuesday, February 18.



School Closed for Annual Teachers' Convention February 13 - 14

Part of a teacher's professional responsibility is that he/she attends an annual convention to review new teaching strategies, curriculum and resources. It is also an opportunity for teachers to link with teachers outside the FVSD.

Schools will be closed February 12 - 14. Teachers in the Fort Vermilion School Division will attend the Northeast Teachers' Convention in Edmonton, February 13 and 14.

New this year: support staff will attend a conference put on by FVSD specifically designed for them. These sessions will provide them with information to better equip them in their roles as support staff.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025-2026 School Year

Will your child be in Kindergarten at Sandhills Elementary in Sept 2025?

Stop by the School Office and complete their registration form!

February 18 - 21, 2025 | 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Sandhills Elementary School Office

Children **MUST be 5 years old on or before December 31, 2025** to register, as per FVSD regulations. The following pieces of identification are required for official registration, please bring these documents with you:

- **Birth Certificate** OR **Canadian Citizenship** papers for your child;
- **Alberta Health Care Number**
- **Current Address / Legal Land Description**



Live in town? Bring your house number and street/avenue (ex. 10202 94 Avenue)
Live out of town? Bring your rural 911 address (green road sign)

Phone: **780-928-3947**

Sandhills Elementary School
10202-94 Avenue, La Crete



Hot Dog Sale

Thursday, February 20
(\$1.50)

Please write in your child's agenda if they will be having a hot dog. Ketchup and mustard are the condiments that will be available.



Gr. 2 - 3 Chess Club
February 24, March 3, 10 & 17
3:00 - 4:00 pm

Grade 2 - 3 Chess Club will take place, after school, on **Monday, February 24, March 3, 10 & 17**. Permission forms will be sent home after Teachers' Convention.

School Council Meeting

Monday, February 24
at 7:00 pm



If you have any items that you would like discussed at the meeting please contact our school council chair, Melanie Wiebe, at 780.502.4745, prior to the meeting.

Sandhills Elementary School
School Council Meeting
November 25, 2024

Present: Wendy Morris, Julie Gallant, Vicki Pitre, Melanie Wiebe, Aimee Peters, Courtney Banman, Byron Peters, Jelena Rountree, Rosanne Driedger, Stephanie Acreman, Ken Wiebe

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Approval of agenda: With the addition of clarification on end of school day routine the agenda was approved by Byron Peters, seconded by Courtney Banman.
3. Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the October 28 meeting were approved by Courtney Banman.
4. Business arising out of minutes – No business arising
5. School report- Mrs. Morris & Mrs. Gallant
 - A. Mathletics – Stephanie Acreman
 - This is an app for grade 3 students designed to help students with math learning based on where they are at.
 - The app would not allow access to the internet
 - B. Gym Mats
 - We discussed a design that is to be put on the new gym mats.
 - C. Enrollment – up to 364
 - D. Field Trips & Special Events
 - So far this year there have been field trips to the gleaners, Heimstead, bakery, fire station & library
 - Special events at Sandhills: open house, cross country divisionals at Pinelodge, Terry Fox run/picnic, bus safety presentations, forestry presentations and picture day, after two attempts.
 - E. Food sales – now on Thursdays
 - F. Report Cards
 - Looked at student profile reports and discussed how to read the report

G. FVSD Board Report

- School goals in literacy, numeracy, connectivity and careers and strategies to achieve goals were shared
- Sandhills students grow consistently in literacy and numeracy each year
- Career goal is new this year

H. Christmas Concert

- Stage set up by school council and staff on December 9 at 3:00 pm
- Concerts- December 16 & 17 at 10:30 am

I. Lost and found – please check if anything belongs to your child. The lost and found is overflowing!

6. Chairperson's Report – Melanie Wiebe

- A. A council and chairpersons meeting will be held on November 27.

7. Additions to the Agenda

- A. Staff Christmas lunch will be arranged and prepared by the school council.

8. Next meeting: January 27 at 7:00 pm

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm

Volunteers in Schools Intervention Record Checks & Vulnerable Sector Checks

As per Fort Vermilion School Division policy, all parents attending a school field trip, volunteering on a regular basis, or working alone with students, must provide Sandhills with a clean **Vulnerable Sector Check** and a clean **Intervention Record Check**. Volunteers are responsible for ensuring that they give a copy of these checks to each school they want to volunteer at.

If you are required to submit a new Vulnerable Sector Check or an Intervention Record Check it must be completed within the last 6 months in order to be considered valid and acceptable.

The **Vulnerable Sector Check** may be obtained at the Mackenzie County Office in La Crete (Monday - Friday between the hours of 8:30 am - 4:30 pm). **You are required to have a letter from FVSD in order to apply for your vulnerable Sector Check.** It can be picked up at the Sandhills office.

In order to obtain an **Intervention Record Check** you can go to the FVSD website and there is a fillable Intervention Record Check form you can access. On the FVSD website, type Intervention Record Check in the search bar, click on Required Record Checks, scroll to Intervention Record Check, Alberta Residents: How to Apply, Click on Intervention Record Check Form. Forward your completed form along with a copy of two (2) pieces of government issued ID (one with a photo) as a second attachment to: CS.IRCNorth@gov.ab.ca Examples of accepted forms of ID: driver's license, AB identification card, Treaty status card, AHC, firearms license, birth certificate, passport. Do not send a copy of your Social Insurance Number.

Alternately you can click on the following link to access the form. [Intervention Record Check](#)
You can also contact High Level Children's Services by calling 780.926.4441 and they will email you a form.