

September

Elm Street School

Check us out at: www.elmstreetschool.ca

2011



PLEASE
REMEMBER
THAT WE ARE A
PEANUT AND
NUT AWARE
SCHOOL when
packing your
lunches. Peanut
butter cannot be
consumed at
school. We have
several children
with severe aller-
gies and we would
appreciate your
cooperation .

**KINDERGARTEN
FEES...**
\$110 this year.
\$50 will be for in-
structional materi-
als and \$60 will be
used to fund nutri-
tion programs,
field trips etc.
**Fees are payable
by September
30th in the office.**

Message from the Staff.....

We've hit the ground running for the 2011-12 academic year. We enjoyed welcoming students back into our classrooms. As always, we have some changes and updates to let you know about:

New staff members: Ms. Weeks is the new principal of Elm Street school. She has spent the past two years as the vice principal at South-view School and is looking forward to working with students and staff. Mrs. Frey is our new grade four teacher. She has held a position in our district for twelve years and we are excited to welcome her to Elm Street School. We would like to welcome back Mrs. Randall from maternity leave. She is teaching our grade three students this year.

We will be continuing our Terrific Kids program this year. The first assembly will be September 30th at 8:45am in the gymnasium. We will be adding Elm Street Writers of the Month to the assembly to celebrate our budding authors and journalists. Please join us in celebrating Elm Streets Terrific Kids!

Elm Street School is now officially recognized as a Tribes School. Please look for further information at www.tribes.com.

The government of Alberta supports lifelong learning by providing quality online resources for children from Kindergarten through to grade six. Check it out at <http://www.learnalberta.ca>
USERNAME: LA39
PASSWORD: 3338

continued next page...

Important Dates in September:

Sept 1—Coupon Fundraiser Kickoff
Sept 5- Holiday—No School
Sept 12—School Advisory Council Annual General Assembly at 9:00 am
Sept 15— Picture Day
Sept 16—NO SCHOOL PD Day
Sept 28— Goal Setting Night and BBQ 5:00-7:00
Sept 28— Elm Street School participates in the school Terry Fox run
Sept 30—Terrific Kids Assembly at 8:45 families welcome!

Goal-Setting and Family BBQ: September 28th

5:00PM- 7:00 PM

The BBQ will take place at 5:00 followed by an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and set goals for the upcoming academic

SCHOOL FEES:

This is a reminder that the fees for students in grades 1—6 for resource texts and other supplies are \$105.00 this year. These fees are payable by **September 30th** in the office. Lunch fees are \$5 per month. This can be paid in full or in installments.

We are pleased to be continuing our snack program this year. We will be providing students with a healthy morning snack everyday of the week. In addition several times throughout the year students will receive a hot lunch compliments of the Dream Center.

We are able to offer our intramural program beginning in October. Lots will be happening in the first couple of weeks so please drop into the school or check out our website.

www.elmstreetschool.ca

Elm Street Staff

SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

TIMES.... The morning session is from 8:25 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The afternoon session is from 12:40 p.m. to 2:43 p.m. One Friday a month students will not have school. Please refer to the school calendar on the district website www.sd76.ab.ca for more information.

PARKING.... We would appreciate it if parents would park on the street behind the school and have children walk across the playground to enter the building.

Also, please remember that parking is prohibited in the bus zone and the handicapped zone in the front of the school as well as the staff parking lot. The police will be monitoring parking lots and bus zones and issuing tickets for violators.

SCHOOL PICTURES.... Will be taken on September 15th. If any parents would like to volunteer their help this day, it would be greatly appreciated.



North Flats Neighborhood Association

The NFNA runs our out of school care program. The program runs Monday through Friday from 2:43 until 5:30. Registration is on Tuesday, September 6th from 2:45pm to 5:30. The spaces fill up quickly so please register as early as possible.

OFFICE HOURS...

Please note that the office hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to noon and again from 12:45 to 3:30 pm.

HOT LUNCH..... Every Tuesday, starting September 13th, Elm Street will be selling hotdog lunches. For \$3 students will receive a hotdog, a snack and a juice. Additional hotdogs are available for \$1 each. Students who wish to have a hotdog lunch are asked to give their money to their homeroom teacher Tuesday mornings. Proceeds go to our outdoor education, our nutrition program and field trips.

For safety reasons, children are not allowed to be in their classrooms until the first bell rings in the morning.

There will be teacher supervision outside starting at 8:10 am.

All children are expected to be outside, weather permitting, until 8:25 am.

Please remember to call in and let the school know if your child will be absent for any reason. (403) 526-3528

**Elm Steet School Association
Elm Street School
Annual General Meeting
Monday, September 12th at 9:00 a.m.**
Everyone is encouraged to attend!

Come for the coffee, come for the connections, come for issues, come for your kids!

Elm Street School Association is in a rebuilding stage All are welcome and we are actively seeking members. Meetings will be limited to one hour. If the meeting time does not work for your schedule please contact the office to see how you can still participate. Thank you for your continued support of Elm Street School.

Questions or comments? Feel free to contact the school and we will have a member return your call:
(403) 526-3528

Coupon Fundraiser

On August 30th students brought home an order form for coupon books. The books cost \$20.00 and ten will remain with the school. The books have incredible value and if you would like to look at a book before purchasing please stop at the office. The profits from sales go right back to the classrooms to fund field-trip transportation, admission costs and other school activities.

Students can win prizes while selling coupon books. These include a brand new mountain bike and a class party.

This is one of Elm Streets biggest fundraisers of the year and we are counting on your support to make it the best one yet.

Ask your kids all about it!

Many thanks to those of you who make this fundraiser a success!





Medicine Hat School District No. 76

601 – 1st Avenue S.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4Y7 Fax: (403) 529-5339 Phone: (403) 528-6701

September, 2011

Dear Parents:

Re: Fair Notice

The safety of our children is a top priority for all of us. We, as a school system, have been involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the City of Medicine Hat Police Service, Southeast Alberta Child & Family Services and Alberta Health Services Mental Health Consultants. The District has developed a plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

This letter is to inform you that our school system has a policy that requires principals (as part of a trained team of professionals) to complete a “threat assessment” in all cases of students making significant threats to harm themselves or others. The purpose of the assessment is to determine how best to support high risk students so that their behavior does not become hurtful or destructive. If your child tells you that a student has behaved in a threatening way at school, please confirm the information with your principal and be assured that your principal will be taking measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If your principal invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, please contact the school administrators and be assured that the principal is acting in the best interest of your child and all students in the school. Our ultimate goal is safety.

This letter is intended to serve our community with fair notice that we, as a school community, will not accept ‘no response’ to a threat in our schools. Our goal is to respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for a safe and caring learning environment.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and fortunate to have our community partners assisting us with this initiative. If there are any questions please feel free to call your school principal or myself at 528-6701.

Sincerely,

Dr. Grant Henderson
Superintendent of Schools

GWH/sg

Edited from: Threat Assessment Training Guide – 2nd Edition



Medicine Hat School District No. 76

601 – 1st Avenue S.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4Y7 Fax: (403) 529-5339 Phone: (403) 528-6701

September 1, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Students in grades two to eight in Medicine Hat School District No. 76 will again be writing the Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT-4) this year. The CAT-4 is a testing system that assesses the essential learning outcomes of the following basic skill areas: reading, language, spelling and mathematics. The data generated from these tests will provide valuable information regarding students' strengths and needs.

CAT-4 testing will occur the week of September 19 – 23, 2011. It is particularly important that students have regular attendance during this week. If your child must be absent, it may be possible for them to write the test another time. Otherwise, they will be scored on the portion of the test completed.

Individual student and class reports will be provided to the schools to assist teachers with program planning and program provision. At the schools' parent-teacher interviews, a parent report will be available for parents to take home so that you have information on the performance of your child.

Further information may be obtained on the parent section of the Canadian Test Centre website – www.canadiantestcentre.com or by contacting your school principal.

Sincerely,

Sherrill Fedor
Associate Superintendent, Student Services



Healthy Schools Healthy Futures



Alberta Health
Services

Welcome back to the 2011 - 2012 school year!

Alberta Health Services staff from Public Health, Healthy Weights, Addictions and Mental Health, Health Promotion, Dental Health, Tobacco Reduction and Safe Communities will be contributing to our newsletter pages.

We work in partnership and focus on promoting the health of students, staff, and families in the school community.

If you are looking for general health information contact **HEALTH LINK** at 1-866-408-5465.

Have a safe, healthy, and happy school year.



Does your child have a chronic medical condition?

Some tips to help keep your child safe and healthy:

- Inform the school of your child's condition
- Provide a Medic Alert® bracelet for your child
- Provide the school with current medical instructions as recommended by your physician
- Provide the school with up-to-date auto-injectors and keep them current
- Provide information to school and teachers
- Participate in the development of an emergency response plan for your child

For more information, contact your school's public health nurse or discuss with the school principal.

For information on:

Allergies/Asthma www.aaia.ca

Anaphylaxis www.anaphylaxiscanada.ca

Diabetes www.diabetes.ca

Terry Fox National School Run Day Wednesday, September 28th, 2011

Get out your running shoes and run for a cause!

In 1980, Terry Fox faced huge challenges while running a marathon a day for 143 days during his 3,339 mile Marathon of Hope. Terry challenged himself every day with one goal in mind: raise the most money he could to end cancer. Now it's your turn. Join your school community in celebrating Terry's heroic effort by promoting health and taking part in the National School Run Day on September 28th!

Schools are invited this year to "Take the Terry Fox Challenge" and unite by issuing a school challenge. Challenge ideas include: costume runs – dress up like a superhero or a rock star, obstacle course or dance challenge and many more.

Check out www.terryfox.org to find out more and get involved!

Breakfast for Learning

With students heading back to the classroom makes September a great month to focus on healthy eating. We know well-nourished children have improved memory, problem solving skills and creative abilities – overall they perform better in school.

A healthy breakfast should contain at least 3 of the 4 food groups, such as a bowl of whole grain cereal with milk and fresh fruit. You may also try whole grain toast, a hardboiled or poached egg, celery/carrot sticks and a glass of milk.

Take the time to get your children off to a great start with a nutritious breakfast every morning.

For more information and ideas on Breakfast for Learning visit www.breakfastforlearning.ca.

Welcome back from First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education (FNMI Education)! We hope you enjoyed your break and are ready for a new school year. My name is Jen Karpiuk and I am the FNMI teacher for your elementary school. My classroom is located in Crescent Heights High School in Room 712 and I can be reached at 403-527-6641 (ext. 8712) or email jen.karpiuk@sd76.ab.ca. The coordinator of FNMI Education is Deborah Lloyd, who can be reached at the Medicine Hat High School Legacy Room (600/601) at 403-527-3371 (ext. 7601) or email deborah.lloyd@sd76.ab.ca.

We have a few reminders to start the year off:

- Please ensure that when student registration forms are completed that the student's ancestry is included by checking the appropriate box on the form (First Nations, Metis or Inuit). We hope to maintain accurate records of the FNMI students in our schools as part of the Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative (ALDCI). For more information about ALDCI, please check the Alberta Education website (<http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/fnmi/aldc.aspx>) or contact the Legacy Room. Benefits of identifying students include accessing academic support, traditional counseling, acknowledgment at graduation, and eligibility for scholarships.

- We will be holding our First Nations, Metis and Inuit Advisory Committee (FNMIAC) meetings on a regular basis again at the Medicine Hat High School Legacy Room. Students will receive information once the date is set. FNMIAC is aimed at providing support, fellowship and making connections between parents, school staff and the community.

- Students in grades 3 through 7 who are identified as First Nations, Metis or Inuit may access the Culturally Enhanced Tutoring program, located in the Medicine Hat High School Legacy Room, starting in January. Parents, teachers and administrators can recommend students for participation by contacting one of the FNMI teachers.

Please feel free to visit me in the Legacy Room or to contact me by phone or email if you have any questions!

