

ELM STREET SCHOOL

A Place of Possibilities

Student/Parent HANDBOOK *2016/2017*

Celebrating over 100 years of quality education



ELM STREET SCHOOL

1001 Elm Street SE
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Medicine Hat School District #76

Quality Education Since 1911
“A Place of Possibilities”

MISSION STATEMENT

Our school community and its partners are dedicated to providing our children with the environment to pursue their goals and dreams and to meaningfully contribute to our community.

VISION STATEMENT

We envision a learning environment that will increase achievement, creative thinking, citizenship and impact.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL— Mrs. Corbett

On behalf of the staff at Elm Street School I would like to welcome you to our school. We have an excellent staff who work very hard to meet the needs of children. We are committed to offering the best possible program for each child and invite you, as a parent/guardian, to work with us as partners in helping your child achieve success.

Open and honest communication is an important part of a successful learning environment; so please contact your child’s teacher or myself if you have an issue you would like to discuss. Please join our Elm Street School Association meetings or stop by the office to find out how you can be involved in your child’s education.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Corbett
Principal
403-526-3528 ext 4802

District Priorities

Medicine Hat School District #76 continues to strive for excellence in public education. To this end, our Board of Trustees has identified the following priorities for schools across our system:

1. Putting the Public Back into Public Education - The district continues to recognize the need to hear and listen to our stakeholders. Trustees visit schools on a regular basis and host a town hall meeting to assist in the district planning.
2. Improved Learning Through Enhanced Instruction - Building upon our work in Cooperative Learning remains a priority. The next school year will see the continued work of Spencer Kagan layered upon the Tribes learning process and Instructional Intelligence.

ELM STREET SCHOOL STAFF – 2016/2017

TEACHING STAFF

Principal	Mrs. K. Corbett
Early Learning Program	Ms. L. Tschritter
Kindergarten	Miss K. Klaiber
Grade 1	Mrs. J. Stewart
Grade 2	Mr. C. Rittinger
Grade 2/3	Miss C. Schauerte
Grade 3	Mrs. K. Randall
Grade 4	Miss D. Hausauer
Grade 5	Miss. M. Freeman
Grade 6	Ms. J. Marshall
Learning Coach/P.E.	Mrs. S. Nelson

SUPPORT STAFF

Administrative Assistant	Mrs. H. Schick	
Head Custodian	Mr. A. Yaremchuk	
Evening Custodian		
Community Resource Worker	Mrs. R. Fairhurst	
Educational Assistants	Mrs. B. Giroux	Mrs. C. Boylan
	Mrs. J. Augustino	Mrs. C. Hanson
	Mrs. D. Leonard	Mrs. D. Crooks
	Mrs. J. Poitras	Ms. K. Koch

ELM STREET SCHOOL

A PLACE OF POSSIBILITIES



2016 – 2017 School Year

Month	Dates
August	31—1 st Day of School
September	1—ADmazing coupon book fundraiser starts (formerly SUTP) 5—No School Labour Day 16—No School – Teacher PD 23—River Flats Run 29—Terry Fox Run
October	3—Catalogue fundraiser starts 7—No school – Teacher PD 10—No school Thanksgiving 11—Picture Day 25—Last day of catalogue fundraiser 31—Halloween Parties—PM only
November	4—No school – Teacher PD 7—Picture retakes 11—No school Remembrance Day 18--No school – Teacher PD
December	16—No School – Teacher PD 23—Noon dismissal Dec 26 – Jan 6 Christmas Break (inclusive)
January	9—Classes begin 20—No school Teacher PD
February	17—No school Teacher PD 20 - 24—No school—Family Day, Days-in-lieu, Teachers' Convention
March	17—No school Teacher PD 24—No school – Teacher PD
April	13—No school Teacher PD 14—21 Easter Break (inclusive)
May	19—No school Teacher PD 22—No School Victoria Day
June	16—No school Teacher PD 29—Last day for students—Noon dismissal

- **Parent Council meetings are scheduled for every month. Meeting times will be determined by interested members.** This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to become involved in our school. Parental involvement is necessary for student success! Our Chair is Ms. Kari Fischer.

TRIBES

Tribes evolved through the work of Jean Gibbs when concerned educators and parents were looking for ways to—

- Motivate children’s learning
- Improve academic achievement
- Support classroom management and manage school behavior
- Keep kids in school in a safe, risk free environment.

Elm Street is an official Tribes school and through this work strives to create inclusive learning communities. During the school year we will offer **Parent University**. In this course certified staff will share how they use this program with our students as well as how we use design thinking processes and are implementing the **Ministerial Order** on the **Framework for Student Learning**. Dates will be announced in collaboration with the Elm Street School Association.

FOIP RELEASE FORM

As a result of changes in copyright and various other legislations, including the Freedom Of Information And Protection Of Privacy Act (FOIP), schools are required to have permission from parents before any of the children’s work or photographic images can be displayed outside of school. This would include any of the following:

- record, photograph and tape (audio, video, still) your child
- display images of your child or child’s work on the School Website
- publicly display any of your child’s works, and
- reproduce any of your child’s work for nonprofit, educational purposes.

It would also be understood that the production(s)/work(s) may be shown at educational displays during open house, in-service sessions and other school related activities at school or school board sites or at school or school board sponsored displays in the community, the internet, or included in educational or promotional materials.

This consent is to be noted on your Elm Street Registration Form and is valid for the school year. In the event that, during the school year, you wish to revoke or change your consent, please advise your child’s principal in writing.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the collection, use, and/or disclosure of your child’s personal information please contact the school.

The Ministerial Order and the 10 Competencies

Alberta Education and the Minister of Education produced a document called the Framework for Student Learning. Out of this came the Ministerial Order of May 2013, challenging schools and school districts to prepare students for the 21st Century. This order outlined 10 competencies which students need to develop over time. A competency is an interrelated set of attitudes, skills and knowledge that is drawn upon and applied to a

particular context. Elm Street School will design learning opportunities to foster the growth of these skill sets in collaboration with parents, students, the larger community and colleagues. Please look for evidence on our school blog, at learning showcases and through discussions with your child.

- know how to learn: to gain knowledge, understanding or skills through experience, study, and interaction with others
- think critically: conceptualize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate to construct Knowledge
- identify and solve complex problems
- manage information: access, interpret, evaluate and use information effectively, efficiently, and ethically
- innovate: create, generate and apply new ideas or concepts
- create opportunities through play, imagination, reflection, negotiation, and competition, with an entrepreneurial spirit
- apply multiple literacies: reading, writing, mathematics, technology, languages, media, and personal finance
- demonstrate good communication skills and the ability to work cooperatively with Others
- demonstrate global and cultural understanding, considering the economy and sustainable development
- identify and apply career and life skills through personal growth and well-being

General Information

School Hours

Monday to Friday

Mornings: *8:25-12:00*

Lunch: *12:00 - 12:40*

Afternoons: *12:40 – 2:45*

Office Hours:

7:45am - 3:15pm



June 30, 2016

Dear Parents:

RE: Fair Notice and Process (Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment: V-TRA)

In Medicine Hat School District No. 76, the safety of our children is a top priority. Along with our community partners, we are committed to keeping our schools safe for students and staff. The District has developed a plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others, which includes all staff must report all threat related behaviours.

What is the purpose of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The Violence Threat/Risk Assessment (V-TRA) is designed to be proactive in developing intervention plans that address the emotional and physical safety of those involved; to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat; and to begin to understand the factors that contribute to the threat-maker's behaviour.

What behaviours warrant a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment to be initiated?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet, or made by gesture. Every threat must be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated and a response and follow through completed.

What is a Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Team?

Each school has a multi-disciplinary V-TRA team that includes the school administration, school based counsellors and support staff, and may also include district resource staff and community partners (i.e. police, mental health practitioners). It is important for all parties to engage in the Student V-TRA process. If for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process, by the threat-maker or parent/guardian, the threat assessment will still continue to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

What happens in a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The process of a Student V-TRA begins when threat making behaviors are reported. The V-TRA protocol is then activated. Interviews will be held with the student(s), the threat-maker, parents, and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. An intervention plan will be developed and follow-up meetings will occur, as deemed necessary, to ensure that interventions are supporting all those involved.

If your child tells you that a student has behaved in a threatening way at school, please confirm the information with your administrator and be assured that your administrator will take measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If your administrator invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, be assured that the administrator is acting in the best interest of your child and all students in the school.

This letter is intended to serve our community with fair notice that we, as a school district, will not accept “no response” to a threat in our schools. We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and we are fortunate to have the commitment of our community partners. If there are any questions, please feel free to call your school administrator or myself at (403) 528-6701.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Davidson
Superintendent of Schools