



SANDHILLS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL – Gilbert Morris

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Rachel Dika

FVSD TRUSTEE – Tim Driedger

Care

Accountability

Respect

Excellent Effort

*School Mission: Sandhills Elementary School is a safe, fun place where our minds and bodies grow.
May 14, 2020*

Written by Students of Sandhills

Parent Preference for ECS Attendance Days 2020/2021

This is a reminder to parents of ECS students that Sandhills is still taking registrations for the 2020/2021 school year. For those parents that have already received the ECS Attendance Days Preference Form, please return the form as soon as possible. The form can be dropped off, outside the front doors, in the blue library book bin, Monday through Friday from 9 am - 3 pm, or returned by mail. **Please be advised that “requests” will be accommodated in the order in which they are received, so a quick response is encouraged.**

Option A: Tuesdays/Thursdays/Alternate Fridays

Option B: Mondays/Wednesdays/Alternate Fridays

While we make every effort to accommodate your wishes, we can make no guarantees about student placement. You will receive a call from the school in late June or early July to let you know your child’s teacher as well as the days he/she will be attending.



2020-2021 Class Lists Important Information for Parents

Parents may make phone appointments with the principal to share information that may affect their child’s class placement for the 2020-2021 school year.

Parents requesting appointments must be aware of the following:

- **All appointments will be a phone appointment format with the school principal.**
- **Phone appointments can be made for May 25. No requests will be taken before or after this date.**
- **Please call the school as soon as possible to book a phone appointment.**
- All parent requests **MUST** be focused on the student learning needs of the child that the school may not be aware of.
- **Requests for specific teachers or to put children with their friends will not be considered. There are simply too many students in the school to allow for these choices.**
- Requests for **current grade 3 students** must be made with Ridgeview.

Class lists are created by school staff that have the best interests of all students in mind. There are efforts made to ensure that past history is analyzed and specific student learning needs are considered. Our goal is to create class lists that allow the greatest number of students possible to experience success in school. Only make an appointment if it is truly necessary.

2020-2021 School Attendance

Your child's teacher will be contacting you to ask if your child [children] **will or will not** be attending Sandhills School next year. This information will assist us in planning and determining class sizes for the next school year. Thank you for your assistance.

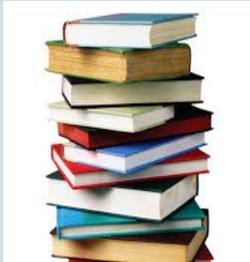
Thank you for all the support you give to the school!

Read Alouds

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, at approximately 11:00 am, Sandhills will post a read aloud, on our Facebook page, from a different staff member. Enjoy!



Library Books



We are encouraging parents to **return library books that students have finished reading, as soon as possible.** We request that **all library books be returned by the end of May.** A library bin has been set-up outside the front doors, **Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 3 pm** for the return of library books and baggy books. Thank you for your assistance.

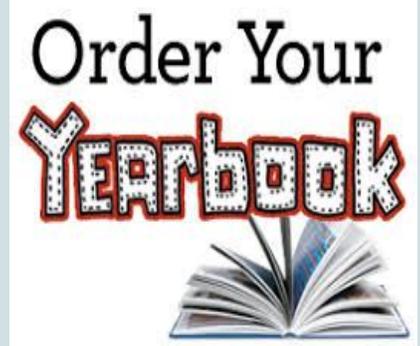


Final Mail out of Schoolwork

The last distribution date for your child [children's] schoolwork will be Monday, May 25. Round 4 packages will be mailed out to you on this date.

Pre-Order 2019-2020 Yearbooks

2019-2020 yearbooks are available to be pre-ordered. The order form that was emailed to you will be sent in your child's schoolwork package. It is also available to you through **SchoolCashOnline.com**, our website and facebook page. If you choose to order online you do not need to return the form. If you are not ordering online please return the form in the blue book bin outside our front doors. To guarantee a 2019-2020 yearbook please order by **June 10, 2020.** Yearbooks will arrive in the fall of 2020. The cost of each book will be \$15.



2020 Early Intervention (PUF) Changes

Starting in the fall of 2020, Alberta Education has changed the criteria for early entry of pre-kindergarten students. As a result, students with mild to moderate delays in speech and/or language no longer qualify for PUF funding. Please read the new FVSD guidelines (italicized below) regarding the Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Program (formally known as Early Intervention at Sandhills). Should you have any questions about whether your child now qualifies, please contact our Inclusive Education coordinator, Mrs. Rachel Dika at the school.

NEW FVSD Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Program Guidelines

The Fort Vermilion School Division offers a Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Program to those children with a severe disability or severe language delay who require additional support beyond that offered in a regular ECS program. The intention of the program is to provide early intervention to address the specific needs of the individual child and better prepare him/her for schooling.

To be eligible,

- 1. Children must be a minimum age of 2 years 8 months and less than 4 years 8 months of age on September 1. Students over 4 years 8 months are no longer eligible for PUF funding.*
- 2. An assessment by a qualified professional of a severe disability or severe language delay must be provided to the school.*

Due to limited personnel and budget restraints, children will be prioritized and a waiting list will be created based on the following:

- ⇒ Priority will be given to those children who are a minimum of 3 years 8 months of age on September 1 with a severe language delay, followed by children who are 3 years 8 months with a severe disability.*
- ⇒ Next priority will be given to children who are a minimum of 2 years 8 months of age as of September 1 with a severe language delay, followed by children who are 2 years 8 months with a severe disability.*

*Children that qualify under these guidelines will be enrolled in the Sandhills Pre-Kindergarten class and have their needs supported under the direction of a qualified teacher. It is our goal to have students placed in programs by **September 30, 2020**.*

*The deadline for application into the 2020-2021 FVSD Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Program, is **December 1, 2020** (space permitting).*

If you have any questions regarding the Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Program in your community, please contact the Inclusive Education Coordinator at your school.

