



Valhalla Community School

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October 15, 2013



School Supplies:

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Drama Begins!

It's hard to believe it's already that time of year again, but it is!

It's time to start up Drama Club in preparation for the Christmas concert => It will be the same format as last year, with the acting being done by willing volunteers who are able to practice from 3:45-5pm every Wednesday night up until the Christmas concert.

A song will be provided to each class to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to participate in the evenings performance. Our first Drama Club practice will take place **Wednesday October 9.**

Please consider allowing your child to participate. These practices are open to Grade 3-9.

School Council Question of the Week!

Do you value the Hot Lunch Program? How many times per month would you like to see the Hot Lunch served?

If you wish to comment on the question of the week please call or text your response to Barb @ (780) 882-4508.

See Mrs. LeBlanc for additional information about the drama program.

Bus Drivers' Corner

Our school has an enrollment of 115 students this year. Two of our buses are very near their capacity for the transport of students. During winter months our students will be wearing bulky winter clothing which will make for some tight seating on buses. This highlights the school requirement for parents or guardians to contact the school to get permission in advance of any busing changes for their children. It is not to be expected that certain buses will have the space available to transport your child to another destination as that bus may already be at capacity. To help us accommodate requests for students traveling a different bus, please contact the office or the Transportation Director two days in advance of anticipated needs. Thanks!

Mark Standring (Transportation Director): (780) 897-3517

VCS Office: (780) 356-2370

Please
Note!!
 The newsletter is available on the school website. Bus cancellations are also posted on the website.

School Pictures

Will be taken on Tues-
day,

October 29



Lockers ...

Parents,
children ^{please} have a ^{make} sure your
lock for their
locker.

All lockers
have ^{are now required}
a lock to ensure ^{to}
and to keep locker ^{security}
and ^{doors} closed
our hallways tidy.

Agendas

All K-6 students are given agendas to help organize their school activities. Parents are asked to initial the agenda **each evening**. Teachers will have homework and messages written in agendas. The agenda is an excellent way for home and school to communicate. Notes regarding absence, bus travel, parent pick up may also go in the agenda; let your child know to share your message with the teacher and office if need be.

Junior High teachers can be contacted directly by parents.

Effective and timely communication between school and home is a critical part of the partnership that makes our school community special.

Student Council Elections!

Voting for Student Council was held on Thursday, October 10.

Results are:

President: John B.

Vice President: Agatha

Secretary: Josie K.

Historian: Anna

Note: a student council treasurer will need to be elected in a by-election. Interested students please see Mr. Mumert for a nomination form.

Upcoming Events

October 18
Extra Kindergarten day

October 24,25
Staff PD Days
No School

October 29
VCS
School Pictures

October 30
6 pm, VCS
VSF Board Meeting

October 31
Halloween!

November 4
7 pm, VCS
School Council Meeting

November 7
1 pm, VCS
VCS Remembrance Day Ceremony

Community News

Valhalla Community Library:

Library Hours: Mondays 10am-4pm, Tuesdays 10am-5pm, Wednesdays 10am-8pm, Thursdays 10am-5pm, Fridays Closed

New members always welcome; memberships are free! For any information

please contact Gail Perry: 780.356.3834

Reminders

If your child is going to be away from school, please inform the office and the bus driver.

If your child is going home with a friend or neighbour, please send a note to the bus driver and the school (two days in advance!)

If your child is arriving late, or being picked up early, please sign them in or out at the office.

If your child needs utensils for lunch, please provide them.



**Valhalla Community School
2013-2014**

General Volunteer Form

Welcome to another action packed, fun filled and fast paced school year at VCS! There are so many events, activities and necessary functions that occur here throughout the school year. **All of them need people to plan, coordinate and staff them.** Some of these activities require small but long term and consistent time commitments. Some of them are one day, single shift opportunities.

There are many volunteer opportunities for families, friends, school council and community members throughout the school year. In addition, or as an alternate, to regular meetings, there are other activities that result from our work that you may be able to help with.

As a committed and involved supporter of our children's education, your time and expertise are greatly valued. If you would like to participate in any of the following activities, please check those of interest.

This form will assist us in contacting you with the jobs that would best suited for your interests and abilities. For activities that volunteers work directly with children, VCS requires a current criminal check on file.

Name			
Email			
Home phone		Best time to call	
Work phone		Best time to call	
Cell phone		Best time to call	

<input type="checkbox"/> Grounds and beautification	<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Helping hands	<input type="checkbox"/> School Council
<input type="checkbox"/> After school sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Home based	<input type="checkbox"/> On Call
<input type="checkbox"/> Chaperone	<input type="checkbox"/> Hot Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Truck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ski Hill
<input type="checkbox"/> Casino	<input type="checkbox"/> VSF board/committees	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Donations
<input type="checkbox"/> Trades – please indicate trade below	<input type="checkbox"/> School Correspondent	<input type="checkbox"/> Supervision-Noon and Recess	
Is there another way you feel that you could best contribute or			

<input type="checkbox"/> Committees: Small committees may be organized throughout the school year, based on the needs identified by our school community. Involvement on these committees provides participants with an opportunity for meaningful contributions while increasing their knowledge of our school.
<input type="checkbox"/> Media Requests: Occasionally, the media is looking for the parent, family or community perspective on stories they are reporting. If you would feel comfortable talking to the media, check here. The school council chairperson or principal will contact you first to determine your interest and availability for each request.
<input type="checkbox"/> Surveys: For those who aren't able to attend additional meetings, online, mail and/or telephone surveys providing input on current or future issues and initiatives is a great opportunity to express your opinions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Email or phone updates about School Council, Parent Association, or District events/meetings.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mentorship and Skills Bank: School Councils are all about people working together to support student achievement and success. This is an opportunity for everyone to contribute to the success of our students. Completing this section does not commit your time, but you may be contacted as a valuable resource for potential learning opportunities or special projects in the school. Other family members and friends can complete this too!
<input type="checkbox"/> Skills or interests I can share with students, staff and parents: (Please list any/all you'd like to share)

Availability: (Please include time of day, Morning, Afternoon, Evening, etc.)

Mon _____ Tues _____ Wed _____ Thurs _____ Fri _____

We look forward to your participation in the wide variety of volunteer opportunities at VCS.

I agree to release this information to a volunteer liaison, Valhalla School Foundation and to be contacted by VCS office as volunteer opportunities arise.

Volunteer Signature _____

Date _____



Valhalla
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**Valhalla Community School Confidentiality Agreement & Volunteer Code of Conduct
School Year 2013-2014**

Parent & family volunteers are an integral part of VCS. Everyone volunteering at the VCS must have a current signed volunteer application. Volunteers that work unsupervised, directly with students require a criminal record check, a child intervention check and a signed agreement form.

VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT

Volunteers at Valhalla Community School shall:

- be on-time and reliable in fulfilling volunteer commitments.
- exercise kindness while volunteering for Valhalla Community School.
- respect and abide by the confidential nature of anything they might see or hear while volunteering.
- be prompt and dependable for the times they agree to volunteer.
- conduct themselves in a businesslike and fair manner, without partiality to individual students.
- motivate children to work and help them succeed in school.
- graciously accept direction and constructive criticism from staff members for which they are volunteering.
- acknowledge the teacher as the authority in the classroom.
- NOT confront a teacher regarding disagreements or differences of opinion in the presence of children.
- be respectful of the classroom by not disrupting a teacher's instructional time or student learning.
- Dress modestly and appropriately for a school environment (i.e. midriff covered, no short shorts/skirts, no spaghetti straps).
- Wear a current volunteer nametag at all times when volunteering at the school
- sign in and out at the front office when volunteering at the school.
- record all VCS volunteer hours, including those worked outside of school, on the log sheet in the front office.
- Ensure that all children (e.g. younger siblings, non-students) accompanying the volunteer on school premises are supervised at all times and must not be disrupting school activities.
- arrange for a replacement in the event the volunteer cannot meet their scheduled obligations
- call the school (780-356-2730) 24 hours in advance and inform appropriate staff of any volunteer replacements via voice mail.

I understand that in my capacity as a volunteer for Valhalla Community School, I will acquire information and knowledge which is either legally protected as confidential, or information and knowledge which is of a personal and private nature. I understand and agree that I shall not disclose to any other person or organization, any information acquired during my work as a volunteer without express and written consent of that person or from the school's administration. My signature below constitutes my acceptance of the terms of this confidentiality agreement.

Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

Valhalla
Community School

PAGE FOR VOLUNTEER TO KEEP

Please contact Anna Odd aodd@valhallaschool.ca or Steve Mumert sjumert@gmail.com via email or at the VCS office at 780-356-2370 for more information.

Thank you and warmest regards

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Grounds And Beautification - This group will be responsible for bringing some life into the school grounds by planting and maintaining bushes, trees, and flowers

Classroom Volunteer - Volunteer assists a teacher on a weekly basis. Activities include helping students one to one or in a small group, preparing instructional materials, or helping the teacher with other tasks

Helping Hands - Volunteer responsibilities include typing, photocopying, laminating and preparing materials for use in the classroom or with projects

After School Sports –help with coaching after school sports and supervise students as required

Recycling – taking contents of recycling to recycle bins

Trades - Are you a tradesperson willing to offer your expertise?

School Correspondent/ Reporter– This person would be responsible for organizing photos and articles for distribution to local papers. Ideas include VCS events, student articles and accomplishments, VCS accomplishments.

School Council – is the voice of the parents and students within the school community. Meetings are monthly and parent are encouraged to come to the informal meeting. It's a great way to meet other parents, voice ideas and concerns and connect to the school community. Child care is provided during meeting.

Truck – do you own a truck, which could be used for general hauling (pulling water tank trailer for watering trees)

Hot Lunch –VCS hot lunch program is set on certain days. Help is needed organizing orders and food prep prior to the hot lunch day and helping hand out lunch to the classrooms.

Home based volunteering – typing, costumes, baking, telephone calls,

Chaperone – field trips, swimming lessons, school events (playday, parties)

On call- volunteer as needed – Terry Fox Run, Christmas Concert etc

Ski Hill – Each family is asked to adopt a day for management and running of the ski hill. This is a major fundraiser for the school community. Training is supplied and it's a great way to spend the day as a family while contributing to the school community. The ski hill generally operates from January to April depending on snow conditions. Open every weekend and holidays from 10-4. Positions include 2 kitchen staff, 2 rental volunteers and 2 T bar lift volunteers per day.

Donations – for fundraising and to contribute to the school community. Please indicate donations that would be available or if you would prefer to be contacted

Supervision- Supervision of students on the playground and in the hallways/classrooms during recess and lunch breaks

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- motivate children to work and help them succeed in school.
- graciously accept direction and constructive criticism from staff members for which they are volunteering.
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- be respectful of the classroom by not disrupting a teacher's instructional time or student learning.
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- Ensure that all children (e.g. younger siblings, non-students) accompanying the volunteer on school premises are supervised at all times and must not be disrupting school activities.
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Spring Lake Parent Group

For the past five years the parents of the Valhalla Community School have voluntarily operated the Spring Lake Ski Hill as our main school fundraiser. The ski hill operates from January until April every Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm. The volunteering consists of running the concession, cooking burgers, wiping tables, cutting vegetables and visiting with customers. In the rental shack we set skis and snowboards, and size boots. Outside volunteering consists of running the T-Bar, it is as easy as setting a bar under a kids butt!! As you can tell it is very easy to do and it is a lot of fun. We offer an incentive to our volunteers: each day you volunteer gets you a free day of skiing or snowboarding.

We use the funds that we generate from the ski hill to purchase items for the school to benefit all of our children. Over the past five years we have purchased choral risers, 30 student desks, 5 new desktop computers for the teachers, \$3000 of Science Equipment and donated \$5000 to the purchase of our new stage curtains. They are all large sum purchases. In 2012-2013 our new purchases were new globes for each classroom, \$900 to support Team X field trips, \$5000 of Sports Equipment and \$2700 for the purchase of the school's new Student Information System: Maplewood.

We would like to thank all of the families involved in the 2012-2013 Ski season that volunteered their time to help better our facility.

A special thank you to:

Beaverlodge Building Centre for donating lumber for new picnic tables.

Mike Trodd built the picnic tables.

Roger Stedel, Tim Corbett and RDS Boarding and Taping, for the boarding, taping and paint in our chalet
Normie Johnson for creating our season pass tickets.

Byron Bue, and Devon Canada for the fire wood.

Participation and volunteering at the ski hill has been declining. The same parents that are there every weekend from January until April are looking for help to run it. **We are asking for every family to volunteer one weekend/or two separate days of their time from January until April to help assist in fundraising.** If there is no interest we understand and will need to re evaluate and decide if selling chocolates and wrapping paper would be a better fit for our group instead. This would still involve your participation so you can choose how you would like to assist with our very important cause..Fundraising for our wonderful school. Please email your feedback along with your choice of volunteer days to aodd@valhallaschool.ca

We look forward to a great 2013-14 Ski Season!!

If you are interested in further information, volunteering or have questions please contact Anna Odd aodd@valhallaschool.ca or 780.897.2055 or Lorraine Gerow @ 780.831.4627. Check out our facebook page.

Sincerely,
Anna Odd

I/We _____ am willing to volunteer one weekend/two separate days of my time from January 2014 to April 2014. Please choose from the dates below that work for your schedule.

My phone number _____

My Email _____

Once everyone has chosen the dates they would like to volunteer, a calendar will be sent out via email with the set schedule. Remember opening and closing dates depend on snow.

When choosing a date please mark beside the date you would like to volunteer and the names of people volunteering that day.

- Saturday January 4th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday January 5th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday January 11th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday January 12th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday January 18th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday January 19th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday January 25th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday January 26th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday February 1st: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday February 2nd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday February 8th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday February 9th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday February 15th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday February 16th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Family Day Monday February 17th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday February 22nd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday February 23rd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday March 1st: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday March 2nd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday March 8th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday March 9th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday March 15th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday March 16th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday March 22nd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday March 23rd: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday March 29th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday March 30th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Saturday April 5th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)
- Sunday April 6th: _____ (Names of people Volunteering this day)

Please complete and send back to the school office for Anna.

Thank you.