

Valhalla Community School

February 26, 2013

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Registration Needs List
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Public Speaking Competition

By: Josie K.

The Public Speaking Competition was held on February 7, 2013 at 7:00 P.M and ended around 10:30 P.M. Two students from each class had a chance to go to the competition. Altogether, there was twenty-four speakers, but two speakers were absent from the event. All speakers spoke in randomized order. There were three divisions; junior, intermediate, and senior. Grade 5 to grade 9's had an opportunity to either get first or second place in their division. Everyone did great! The winners were announced after the impromptus. Impromptus were VERY impressive. The winners for the junior division were, Sabrina, in second place with her speech, Greek Mythology. Sabrina and Hanna had tied for second place! It was a hard choice! I guess they weren't too happy when they found out they had to do ANOTHER impromptu as a tie breaker, but Sabrina won the judges over. First place went to Josie K. with her speech, Why the World Needs Honey Bees. The intermediate winners were Hallie in second place with her speech, Ned Kelly. First place went to Josie S. with her speech, Endangered Species. The senior

winners were tied between Daytona and Lane for second place. They had to do a second impromptu. Daytona with her speech, Self Harm, took the trophy after the



judges thought and thought... Another hard choice! Daytona was in second place. Ben won first with his speech, Bull

Fighting! They all did amazing! This competition was successfully attended and the audience was VERY supportive! Thank- you for all the speakers, judges, timer, and the teller! Congratulations to everyone!

Valentine's Day

By: Conrad

February 14, 2013 was Valentine's Day as we all should know. To celebrate the whole school wore either red, pink or white. The grade 5/6 class had a "Steal your Heart activity". For half the morning if a girl spoke to a boy the boy got the girl's paper heart. For the other half of the morning if a boy talked to a girl the girl got the boy's paper heart. In the end the boy's winner was Conrad with four hearts and the girl's winner was Sierra with three hearts.

Later that afternoon, the school gave students a choice of a dance or a movie. The movie was "Lady and the Tramp". The dance was very fun and the best part was the balloons that were scattered all over the gym, 'cause who doesn't like balloons? All too soon our fabulous school Valentines' Day celebration was over. I'm sure all of us will count down the days till next Valentines' Day.

VALHALLA COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISER

Sobeys – Beaverlodge IGA Gift Cards
***Now available for purchase at the School Office ***
Card denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100
Cheques payable to : Valhalla
Playground Committee
+13% of sales towards the Playground
Project when redeemed at Beaverlodge
IGA

Join us on Facebook :
www.facebook.com/valhallaplayground

Dear Parents:

We are very happy to announce that we have hired Ron Lundgard as our new Transportation Director. Ron brings to us a background that has seen him work for 25 years leading the employees of Cargill among his various endeavors. He has built a home in Valhalla in the past year and we are very pleased to welcome him aboard our team. Ron comments on joining VSF "I appreciate this opportunity to be working with all of you, from what I hear a winning team..and am going to try my utmost to become as strong a team member as I'm sure you all are."

The success of Valhalla Community School is due in no small part to the capacity of our bussing system to transport children to and from school in a safe and timely manner. This system has been organized under the direction of Doug Kochendorfer since the beginning of our Charter. On behalf of our staff, parents, students and the board, I would like to extend an enormous thank you to Doug for the wonderful service he has rendered to the Valhalla School community over the past five years.

John Picard, Superintendent

Bus Driver's Corner:

Important Notice:

March 01, we have a new Transportation Director. Ron Lundgard can be reached by calling 831-8314.

AGM Notice

The **Valhalla School Foundation Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the Viking Room of the Valhalla Viking Centre**. Childcare will be provided in the gym. Two directors are coming to the end of their terms and our interim position will need to be elected at that time. Diane Nordhagen has stated that she will not be letting her name stand for another term, Tara Fehr has not yet confirmed her plans and Donna Steyer has agreed to let her name stand for the position she has been filling in the interim. In any event, interested individuals, who fit the qualifications stated in the bylaws, are able to let their names stand for election as a charter board director. Directors are elected for three year terms. An information package for potential nominees can be picked up at the office. Part of this package is *The VSF Director Nomination Profile Agreement*, which needs to be signed by anyone entering his or her name as a nominee.

Upcoming Events

March 1, 2013
Report Cards

March 6, 2013
Parent Teacher Interviews
Make your appointment to see your children's teachers!

March 6, 2013
Basketball Fundraising Canteen
Enjoy great snacks! Support our teams!

March 7,8 2013
Teachers' Convention
No School!

March 15, 7pm
Viking Room
VSF AGM
Come hear about VSF's year and plans. Be involved with our school's board!

April 22 – 26, 2013
VCS Registration Week
New Registration Procedures!
More information coming!

Upcoming New Registration Procedures

Administration has given a lot of thought into ways to strengthen the relationship between the school and our families. We want to be more intentional about working with families and having parents involved and active in the school.

One of the avenues we're looking at is streamlining and improving the school registration process. (We know it is a lot of paperwork!)

Beginning this spring, we will be hosting a Registration Week. From April 22 to April 26, we will ask parents to book one evening appointment at the school to come in and complete the registration process for next year. From 4pm to 8pm each evening, bookings for 30 minute time slots will be available. The office is accepting bookings beginning this week.

Students will not be considered registered for 2013/2014 until payment of school fees has been completed or alternate arrangements have been made.

Staff will be on hand to help with the paperwork. If parents want to take the opportunity to meet with any teachers, they will be available too.

We're hopeful that this will help make the process easier for families and allow us to let waiting list families know earlier about the availability of places for their children.

On the registration evenings you will need to bring along:

Childs Birth Certificate

Childs Alberta Health Care Number

Mailing Address

Legal Land Description

County Address

2012/2013 Registration fees paid

2013/2014 Registration fees

School Fees

If you have any questions or would like to book an appointment please contact the school office at 780-356-2370

Parents, staff and board members,

What a great opportunity I have had to be part of such a successful project as the Valhalla Community School. As some of you are aware, I am resigning as Transportation Director as of February 28 and our new Transportation Director, Ron Lundgard, will be taking over March 1. Ron can be reached by calling 831-8314.

We have had many challenges and decisions to make with our project as a whole and in particular the transportation system. Everything thing we have faced has been new, so consequently all our procedures and policies have had to be created from scratch, an opportunity, but also a big challenge.

Lately, I find myself thinking back over the last five years. I remember seeing our original three busses, for the first time, parked and ready for us at the Bus Centre in Acheson with Valhalla Community School in bold letters along the side. I remember driving them to our school, with Trone Arnet and Rob Kjemhus, and the excited crowd which was waiting when we got there. Thank you Trone and Rob for all the countless hours of volunteering you did to get our transportation up and running. Also, thanks to John Moutray who has had a big role over the last couple of years in keeping our busses running.

I remember sitting in the school parking lot the first day of school and watching the students unloading off our busses. The long winter of our third year, missing lots of days because of the weather and road conditions and the mornings I got the call that our bus had hit a moose, nicknamed Kevin, and the deer Spike and Bumper.

Transportation is really about the kids, getting them to school and home again safely and promptly. We can't do that without the very dedicated and diligent group called our bus drivers. Vicki and Jason have been with us for five years. Pat joined us for the start of our second year when our routes expanded and a fourth bus was needed. Janelle made her timely arrival at the start of our fourth year. Thank you to all our spare drivers as well. It has been my pleasure to have worked beside all of you.

To all who contribute in any way thank you for all you do to make this dream Valhalla Community School an incredible reality.

Sincerely,

Doug Kochendorfer

Hello!

My name is Kaylee Galipeau and I am a student teacher here at Valhalla Community School. Last week I had the pleasure of observing the routines of the teaching staff and students at VCS. Moving forward I will be doing some teaching and assisting in many different classes with your children. These include: Grade 1/2 Phys Ed, Science, & Social Studies, Grade 3/4 Phys Ed & Social Studies, Grade 5 Math, and Grade 7/8 Language Arts and Health/Leadership. I look forward to getting to know your children and helping them to be successful.

Since I will be spending so much time with your students I'd like to also tell you a bit about myself. I am 22 years old and was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta. My mother is originally from Valhalla Centre, and many members of my family still reside in the area.

I attend the University of Alberta in the Bachelor of Education program as an Elementary General major and Social Studies minor. For my first practicum, I taught Grade 1 at Beaverlodge Elementary. Outside of University I have grown up as an active participant in the Scouting movement and have been all the way through the program. I also grew up learning and competing in dance in various styles. I hold leadership positions in the national body of Scouts Canada and am currently the National Youth Commissioner & Chair of the National Youth Network as well as an Officer of the Scouts Canada Board of Governors. I love animals and currently have an African Hedgehog named Harper.

I'm looking forward to working with your student until the end of April under the close guidance of Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Mumert, Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Heikel, and Mrs. Flint. I have found this community to be very welcoming and am really enjoying my time here. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at k.galipeau@gmail.com or the school phone number.

Sincerely,
Kaylee Galipeau

I am collecting pictures of myself teaching for use in my portfolio, which will be used to chronicle my professional development as a teacher. My portfolio will be viewed by potential employers and will be available on-line. May I use pictures of your child in my portfolio? If so, please sign and return the permission slip below. Thank you.

I give KAYLEE GALIPEAU permission to take pictures of my child _____ during school activities, and to use the pictures in her teaching portfolio.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date