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September 13, 2011

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# Valhalla Community School

## Welcome Back!

2011-2012 has begun; excitement energizes the hallways. With many new students, staff assignments, new facilities and a new grade 9 class as well, we're looking forward to a busy and rewarding year as we work together in the best school in Alberta!



**Valhalla**  
Community School

### Inside this Issue

- 1 Welcome
- 1 Staff
- 2 Announcements
- 3 Tryouts, Assemblies,  
Events, Community News

#### Attachments:

- Volunteering Information
- Piano Lesson Sign Up
- Hot Lunch Order Form

### The staff ...

and their present assignments are as follows (these may change):

Reanna Stockman is K program instructor and general Teaching Assistant  
Cindy Mumert is overseeing the K program & teaching grade 1/2 and French  
Jennifer Leblanc is teaching the 3/4 class and 1/2 Math  
Vivian Fowler is teaching grade 5/6  
Margo Steuernagel joins us teaching junior high LA, SS and Options  
Kelli Flint is teaching junior high Math, Sciences and PE as well as gd 3/4 PE  
Judy Hauger is our speech and general Teaching Assistant  
Frieda Bratland is our German instructor and a general Teaching Assistant  
Shelly Dachuk is a general Teaching Assistant  
Anna Odd is our Administrative Assistant  
Steve Mumert is our Principal and teaching gd 9 LA, gd 1/2 PE, Science, junior high options/leadership  
Jason Bratland, Vicki Leman, Pat Moutray and Janelle Trodd are our bus drivers  
Jennifer White is our custodian  
Ray Battochio is our school Superintendent  
Jolene Kochendorfer is our school board chairperson  
Mary Ann Westad is our Secretary-Treasurer  
Doug Kochendorfer is our Director of Transportation

### **Please Note!!**

*The newsletter is available on the school website. Bus cancellations are also posted on the website.*

#### School Supplies:

We do ask that each student bring: a non-marking pair of running shoes for inside use, a back pack, a lunch kit. Please

put your child's name on all their belongings.

## Resource Fees

As a public charter school we do not charge tuition fees. Like other public schools, we do charge a fee for materials provided for the student's personal use. The fees charged are on a cost shared basis between parent/guardian and the Valhalla Community School.

Fees are as follows:

**Resource fee** for Kindergarten: \$75/yr, Grades 1-9: \$100/yr. and **textbook rentals** for grades 1-9: \$50/yr. A family maximum is \$300 per family per year. Grade 5-9 students will have to pay a \$10 **deposit for their locker lock**. The deposit will be refunded when the lock is returned at the end of the school year. Fees may be paid in installments or in cases of financial hardship a waiver may be made. Please contact the office for more information.

## Agendas

All K-9 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.

### Swimming:

Kindergarten and Grade 5/6 swimming lessons are on September 12-19. The pool and the school need swim forms, fees and consent forms back this week if students will be participating. Swim fees this year are \$55/student payable to Valhalla Community School

## Volunteering

We need volunteers at VCS! If you can help please contact the school or **Linda Mackay at 780.354-8504**

Very quickly we need help with volleyball coaching; we don't yet have boys team coaching in place. Any adults or older (high school) students interested in helping out with practices please contact Mrs. Flint at the school.



### Bus Driver's Corner:

We want to welcome all our returning students and their families back to VCS and a big welcome to students and families who are new to us this year.

Returning this year as bus drivers are Vicki, Pat, Jason and new with us this year is Janelle Trodd. As well we have a list of sub drivers available to assist them when needed.

Please remember to be at your pick-up spot 5 minutes before your pick-up time so our buses can stay on time. Thank-you to all our parents for your patience as pick-up times are fine tuned and routes are finalized. Please call your bus driver the night before if your child will not be **on the bus**.

**Please remember the new distracted driving law. Do not call or text your driver while they are on their run.**

If you need to contact your driver during their run please call Doug Kochendorfer, our director of transportation, on his cell @ 831-5701 or home @ 356-2114, and he will radio your driver for you.

We hope you all have a safe, wonderful year.

If you have any questions please call me anytime.

Doug Kochendorfer

## 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.

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.

*Volunteering (continued)*

The school is also very much in need of volunteers who have the time and interest to work in the classrooms on a regular or semi-regular basis. This work involves supervising students, helping teachers with students in class. We also need volunteers who can help students with simple computer tasks, such as logging onto user accounts, understanding computer directions, etc.

Please contact us if you can help!

## Student Assemblies, etc.

At Valhalla Community School, we have a few regularly occurring events.

We have a regularly scheduled early dismissal day the first Monday of each month. (We apologize that we missed printing this in last week's newsletter)

Student assemblies are usually held the first Tuesday of each month at 12:40pm. Visitors are welcome to attend.

VCS also uses a Compressed School Week calendar. This means that **in general**, every second week there is no school on Friday. However, sometimes the CSW is moved from its regular spot to a different day to accommodate a special need. For example, a couple were moved from their original date to days surrounding the May long weekend to make time for the grade 8/9 Quebec field trip this year.

CSW Fridays (no school) are shown on the monthly calendar that goes home with students, and are also on the year calendar on the school web site. Please check to confirm dates. Feel free to contact the school if you are unsure if a particular Friday is a school day or a CSW.

## Volleyball Tryouts!

Volleyball tryouts begin today and continue the rest of this week.

Tuesday, Sept. 13 – Girls Only

Wednesday, Sept. 14 – Boys Only

Thursday, Sept. 15 – Girls and Boys

Tryouts run from 4pm – 5pm each day.



## Upcoming Events

**Sept.16**

**VCS**

**Grade 3/4 Terry Fox Fund Raiser**

Lemonade/Cookie Stand Sale

**Sept.22**

**VCS**

**Grade 5/6 Terry Fox Fund Raiser**

Carnival

**Sept.23**

**First CSW Friday**

(No school)

**Sept.29**

**VCS**

**Grade 1/2 Terry Fox Fund Raiser**

Fruit Sale

**Sept.30**

**VCS**

**Grade 7,8,9 Terry Fox Fund Raiser**

PJ/Wacky Hair Day, Waffles

**Sept.30**

**VCS**

**Terry Fox Run**

Whole school run/walk for cancer

### *Community News*

#### **Valhalla Community Library:**

Library Hours: Tuesdays 11am-5pm, Wednesdays 10am-6pm, Thursdays 11am-5pm. New members always welcome; memberships are free! For any information please contact Gail Perry: 780.356.3834

**Valhalla Community School  
2011-2012**

**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. Please fill out one form per volunteer, 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

Trades – please indicate trade

Is there another way you feel that you could best contribute

**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 the volunteer liaison, Valhalla School Foundation and VCS office to contact me as volunteer need arises for a volunteer.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Valhalla Community School Confidentiality Agreement & Volunteer Code of Conduct School Year 2011-2012

Parent & family volunteers are an integral part of VCS. Everyone volunteering at the VCS must have a current signed volunteer application. Volunteers that work directly with students require a criminal records check and an 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 Linda Mackay 780 354-8504 or 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** –

**Recycling** – taking contents of recycling to recycle bins

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

**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** – every second Friday is VCS hot lunch program. Organizing orders & food prior to and on the Friday helping to 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 – Teri 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 for a minimum of 6 weeks.

**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

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- 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.

HELLO TO ALL BUDDING MUSICIANS!

IT'S TIME FOR PIANO LESSONS AGAIN.

IF YOU HAVE TAKEN PIANO LESSONS FROM ME (RHONDA KRAUSE) OR ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING LESSONS PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIS WILL ENABLE ME TO PLAN A SCHEDULE AND GET STARTED WITH LESSONS. I PLAN TO BEGIN THE MIDDLE OF SEPT.

STUDENTS WILL HAVE INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION ONCE A WEEK AND WILL BE EXPECTED TO PRACTICE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK SO A KEYBOARD OR PIANO IS A NECESSITY.

MY FEE IS \$17.00 PER LESSON PAYABLE AT THE END OF EACH MONTH.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS PLEASE CALL ME AT 780-356-2725.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS.

NAME OF STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE IN SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU ARE A NEW STUDENT PLEASE TELL ME WHAT MUSICAL TRAINING YOU'VE HAD IN THE PAST

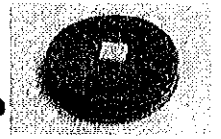
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(FEEL FREE TO PUT SIBLINGS ON THE SAME PAGE.)

(First Come first Serve)



# Waffle Lunch Fundraiser



This year, as a fundraiser for Terry Fox, the grade nine class is holding a Waffle Hot Lunch. It will be held on **Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>**, before the Terry Fox run. Please return this form by: Friday September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Condiments such as syrup, butter and jam are included.

All beverages are juice box sized.

Please circle your flavour of choice. If you don't, we'll just guess.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity

Total Cost

Waffle:

\_\_\_\_\_

X \$1.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Drinks:

\_\_\_\_\_

X \$0.50

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

-Apple Juice

-Orange Juice

- Chocolate Milk

Ice Cream Cone:

\_\_\_\_\_

X \$1.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

-Vanilla

-Chocolate

Grand Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you! Your support is much appreciated! ☺