



Valhalla
Community School

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February 3 2015

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Accountability Pillar Surveys

Every year Alberta Education seeks information from students, teachers and parents about how their education experience is going. This is done through surveys. Students and teachers participate in on-line surveys at school.

The parent survey is scheduled to be fielded in the next couple of months . These surveys are mailed from Alberta Education and returned directly to Alberta Education. The parent survey in small schools (fewer than 120 students in grades 4-12) includes parents of all students in grades 4 and above.

It is very important that as many parents as possible complete and return the surveys to Alberta Education.

Please make every effort to get your responses back to Alberta Education. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school.

Did You Know

... That VCS offers many programs and services?

- Alberta Education program of studies is followed and taught
- Second Languages (French and German) are taught by well qualified bilingual teachers
- Art, drama and music experiences are given to all students; through classroom instruction, Christmas concerts and other performances through the year, extra-curricular drama programs, extra-curricular music offerings, Junior High Options
- Rural leadership focus teaching and activities; whole school age appropriate public speaking training and practice, "community values" modelling and teaching, public service encouragement and opportunities
- In-class student/teacher support by highly skilled and caring educational assistants
- Support for English Language Learners
- Extra help for students who require it
 - one on one pull out with instructors (especially at elementary level)
 - ability-based placements in elementary in reading program modified programs and special accommodations when needed
- Enhanced Learning Opportunity (ELO) class (30 min/day) for all junior high students to help keep a head of homework and learn study skills
- Study, Knowledge, Initiative and Life-long Learning (SKILL) Program in Junior High for enhancing study and life skills and even more help with homework (by teacher placement or parent request)
- Gender segregated Physical Education and Health/Leadership classes for junior high students
- Extra-curricular sports programs
- In school speech therapy services
- In school access to Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) counselling and small group support
- In school access to Alberta Health Services counselling

Speech Competition This Friday!

Students in all grades have been working hard to prepare for the VCS annual speech competition. The competition will be held on February 6, 2015.

Preliminary competition was held during school hours in class prior to the finals competition. Winners in each competition level have advanced to a finals speak-off to be held this Friday evening.

All VCS students do an age appropriate public speaking activity in class. The best of these will present their efforts at the Feb.6 evening event.

Come out and support our students as they bring their best public speaking efforts to us ... Friday, February 6 beginning at 7 pm!

WHAT I LEARNT TODAY



Check out the
Valhalla Community
Charter School
Facebook Page!

Like us on
Facebook

MIGHTY PEACE DAY!

Many of our grades 6-9 students have plans to participate in this year's Mighty Peace Day in Grande Prairie.

This is an event designed to encourage and inspire students to "Be the difference" ... to get involved in social action projects to improve our community and world. To be eligible to attend the event students must have participated in at least one local and one national social action project.

To help our students become eligible, the VCS Student Council hosted a PIE IN FACE fundraiser last week!

They raised \$334 to support the local SPCA and Ryan's Well, an international social action project.

Thank you to all who participated and supported this event!

Pictures can be seen on the school's Facebook page.



Upcoming Events

*February 6
VCS Speech Competition
7pm*

*February 9
Grade 9 Farewell Meeting
5:30 pm*

*February 10
Mighty Peace Day*

*February 13
PD Day, No School*

*February 16
Family Day, No School*

*February 19
VSF Board Meeting
6 pm*

*March 5-6
Teachers Convention*

*March 13
Report Cards*

School Council

The school council raised \$2180 at our Christmas Silent Auction. Thank you to everyone that donated or participated. These funds are used to help out our wonderful school.

Grade 9 Farewell Meeting

A meeting will take place on Monday, February 9th at 5:30pm to plan our grade 9 farewell event. We would like to form a committee of parents, students and staff to plan this occasion. We are looking for input to ensure this evening is memorable and meaningful for all. Please attend if at all possible, we NEED to get organized. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Children's Author Coming to VCS

*The Valhalla Community Library presents Canadian author **Laural Randall**. Laural has been publishing farm picture books since 1997 and has four that have been delighting readers, young and older, ever since the first one was published. She has currently released her fifth picture book!*

*Laural will be presenting to the Valhalla students on Tuesday, Feb. 10th. Grades 1-4 (and their parents if they wish) are invited to a **Story Time** presentation in the Library from 1 to 2 pm.*

Laural has published farm stories from her central Alberta home with titles like "Lolly and the Hat", "Peter's Surprise", "Braided Pigtails" and "The Great Chuckwagon Race".

These wonderful books will also be made available for purchase!

PE News!

PE classes will be doing a skating unit (K-9) in February. Date for skating will be Feb 17,19,24,26 . This is a mandatory unit for all students to participate in. Students will need to bring skates and a helmet (any kind of helmet will do) for all sessions. The school has some extra hockey helmets but no skates. If your son/daughter does not have skates, please try to beg, borrow or buy some. We will also need parent helpers to volunteer to help tie skates. A schedule and more detailed information will be coming when available!



Cookbooks for Sale

The Valhalla Community School has cookbooks for sale. Parents, students, community members and community groups have all contributed to create our own unique cookbook. They are available at the school office for \$15.75 each including GST . All proceeds are to be used as a school board fundraiser. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Basketball Fundraising

The basketball teams are having a 50/50 draw. Sales will be at noon recess. Bring two loonies and fill the space on the basketball, once the basketball is filled a name will be drawn to win the cash.

Win a free iTunes gift card from your School Council!

... just for reading our newsletter and giving us feedback to this question:

Did you know that school council provides a babysitter at school council meetings?

(Check one) Yes _____ No _____

Sign this slip, have your child return it to the office draw box.

Winner will be drawn at next month's assembly!

Students Name _____

Parent's Signature _____

