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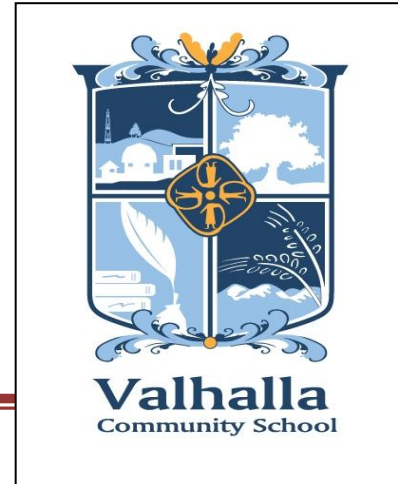
September 4, 2012

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# Valhalla Community School

## Welcome Back!

**2012-2013 has begun;** excitement energizes the hallways. With new faces and old friends, familiar routines and new approaches and upgraded facilities, we're looking forward to a busy and rewarding year as we work together in the best school in Alberta!



### Inside this Issue

- 1** Welcome , the Staff
- 2** Announcements
- 3** More Announcements

**Attachments:** Sept. Calendar,  
Bus Letter, Satin Slippers Dance  
School Pictures

### 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  
John Heikel is back teaching grade 5/6 and most science classes  
Margo Steele returns teaching junior high LA, SS and Options  
Kelli Flint is teaching grade 6-9 Math and several PE classes  
Angie Tetreau joins us as general Teaching Assistant  
Frieda Bratland is our German instructor and a general Teaching Assistant  
Laura Wade is a general Teaching Assistant  
Lorraine Gerow is a general Teaching Assistant  
Anna Odd is our Administrative Assistant  
Steve Mumert is our Principal and teaching gd 9 LA, , junior high options/leadership  
Jason Bratland, Vicki Leman, Pat Moutray and Janelle Trodd are our bus drivers  
Don Morton is our custodian  
John Picard is our school Superintendent  
Jolene Kochendorfer is our school board chairperson  
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're asking that parents provide students with school supplies as specified on the class supply list and bring: a non-marking pair of running

shoes for inside use, shoes or boots for outdoor 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. 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-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.

## Swimming:

We're swimming in the new Beaverlodge pool this year! Kindergarten and Grade 3/4 swimming lessons are on September 17-20 and September 24-27 (Mon-Thurs: 8 lessons). The pool and the school need swim forms, fees and consent forms back ASAP (Sept. 14 at latest) if students will be participating. Swim fees this year are \$55/student, payable to Valhalla Community School.

Grades K-2 swim in June, Grades 5/6 swim in November. Details TBA.



## Books Needed!

Our grade 7/8 class is in need of good quality, good condition used novels suitable for junior high aged readers.

If you have some well written novels with appropriate content please contact Mrs. Steele at the school.

Thanks!

## Bus Driver's Corner:

Our drivers and I would like 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 Janelle.

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 call your driver before 6:50am, all our drivers leave their homes around 7:00 am.**

**Please do not call or text your bus driver during their route.**

If you need to contact your drivers during their runs 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, super 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.

## Important VCS Notes!

Each year brings changes. Sometimes different routines are hard to remember and get used to. Always though, the purpose of trying something new is to improve the students' school experience. Help us in this ongoing effort!

This year we have enough lockers for all students in grades 3-9.

Formerly, VCS had early dismissal on the first Monday of each month.

### **This year early dismissal will be every Monday.**

We are giving up PD days in October and February; taking them in 30 minute increments on Monday after school. The aim is to provide teachers with time to study and work together regularly to benefit students' learning and classroom experience. Classes will dismiss at 3:10pm each Monday.

This year VCS is asking parents to supply their children's school supplies. Classroom supply lists were given out in June and can be requested now. Please do not send all your child/ren's supplies at once, but as needed throughout the year.

#### ***AISI Corner:***

Remember what AISI stands for? Alberta Initiative for School Improvement!

Our school has a new AISI research project this year. Our staff and students will be participating in a study of visual and auditory sequencing and processing. The research is called the "Simply Smarter Project" and we'll be partnering with an organization called The NACD Foundation (National Association for Child Development).

More details to come!

Contact Mrs. Mumert for more info.

## Volleyball Try-Outs

VCS is looking for any student's (grade 6-9) who would be interested in trying out for our after-school Viking Volleyball teams. The volleyball season runs September through to the middle of November. The commitment involved would be approx. two times per week after school from 3:45 – 5:15pm comprised of mandatory practices and games. The students would also compete in two weekend tournaments (TBA). These students are ambassadors of VCS so therefore **excellent student behavior is expected at all times**. Students are also expected to change into appropriate gym clothing and running shoes for all practices and will be assigned a school uniform for games. Transportation will be provided to all 'away' games, but parents must pick up their child afterwards. Parents must also provide their own transportation to both tournaments. Unfortunately, this year we need to charge a small fee (?) to offset the transportation costs. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Boys – Monday Sept. 10 (3:15 – 4:45pm) and Wednesday Sept. 12 (3:45 – 5:15) Coach Ms. Fowler

Girls – Tuesday Sept. 11 and Thursday Sept. 13 (3:45 – 5:15) Coach Mrs. Flint

## *Community News*

### **Valhalla Community Library:**

Library Hours: Mondays 11am-4pm, Tuesdays 11am-4pm, Wednesdays 10am-6pm, Thursdays 11am-5pm.

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

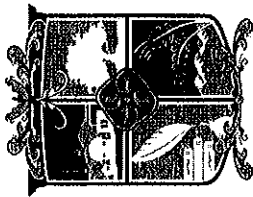
please contact Gail Perry: 780.356.3834

## **School Council**

School (Parent) Council will begin with their AGM, scheduled for Sept.25, the same night as Meet the Teacher. Meeting starts @ 7pm. Parents can visit teachers, tour the school, etc. following the parent meeting.

All parents are asked to attend if at all possible. Council serves an important advisory /communication role.

***We need your participation!!***



**Valhalla**  
Community School

John Picard, Superintendent  
 Steve Mumert, Principal  
 Anna Odd, Admin Asst  
 Reanna Stockman, Gr. K & TA  
 Cindy Mumert, Gr. K, 1/2 & French  
 Jennifer LeBlanc, Gr. 3/4  
 Vivian Fowler, Gr. 5/6  
 Margo Steele, Gr. 7/8  
 Kelli Flint, Gr. 9  
 John Heikel, Gr.5/6 LA 7-9 Science  
 Frieda Bratland, TA  
 Lorraine Gerow, TA  
 Laura Wade, TA  
 Angie Tetreau, TA  
 Don Morton, Custodian

Director of Transportation  
 Doug Kochendorfer  
 356-2114 Residence  
 831-5701 Cell Phone  
 Bus Drivers:  
 Jason Bratland 814-1058  
 Vicki Leman  
 354-8881 / 402-1385  
 Pat Moutray  
 356-2372 / 831-9150  
 Janelle Trodd  
 830 -9943

# Valhalla Community School

Telephone: 780 356 2370 Fax: 780 356 2789  
 Box 143, Valhalla Centre, AB T0H 3M0  
 Website: <http://www.valhallacommunityschool.ca>

## September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Labour Day	<b>4</b> First Day of School	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Playschool Registration	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>18</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>19</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>20</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>21</b> CSW	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<sup>25</sup> Gd 3/4 Swimming/Meet the Teacher night/School Council	<b>26</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>27</b> Gd 3/4 Swimming	<b>28</b> School Pictures/Extra Kindergarten Day/Terry Fox	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>		Kindergarten Days Every Tuesday		Kindergarten Days Every Thursday	Extra Kindergarten days To Be Announced	



# Valhalla School Foundation

Operating Valhalla Community School, Northern Alberta's First Rural Leadership Charter School

Box 148 Valhalla Centre, AB T0H 3M0  
Phone: 780-356-2370 Fax: 780-356-2789

Dear Valhalla Charter School families:

On behalf of all the transportation staff, welcome to another school year! Student safety is the top priority for all involved with transportation at VCS, so I would like to go over a few items in order to help clarify expectations and procedures regarding bussing your children.

The following are some basic principles regarding bussing. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for more details. The handbook can be viewed on our website [www.valhallacommunityschool.ca](http://www.valhallacommunityschool.ca).

- To ensure safe delivery of the students, the number one rule for everyone riding the bus is to obey the driver. Students will be assigned a seat. They are to remain seated while the bus is in motion, conduct themselves in a quiet and courteous manner, and keep the aisles clear at all times. Should issues arise the discipline process is outlined in the handbook. Discipline on the bus is an extension of the classroom; therefore, serious or continuing problems will result in the involvement of the principal.
- Please have students at their morning pick up spots at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time. If your child is not going to be on the bus in the morning, please contact the driver before 6:50 am or contact the Transportation Director, so that the driver can be notified by radio.
- If your child will not be on the afternoon run, please inform both school office and driver. A note is required. Written permission is required from a parent before a student can be dropped off at another stop.
- Please ensure students are dressed appropriately for the weather at all times. Check the handbook for information regarding cold weather clothing and bus cancellations.

Drivers for each of the routes are as follows:

Route 1 Jason Bratland (780) 814-1058

Route 2 Janelle Trodd (780) 830-9943

Route 3 Vicki Leman (780) 402-1385, (780) 354-8881

Route 4 Pat Moutray (780) 831-9150, (780) 356-2372

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Your support and cooperation are appreciated. We look forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Doug Kochendorfer  
Transportation Director  
(780) 831-5701

# *Satin Slippers*

Dance Registration and/or Workshop  
September 11-13, 2012

4-8pm

Basement of Beaverlodge Community  
Centre

We offer classes in Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop,  
All Boys hip hop, Modern, Tap, Lyrical,  
3 & 4 year old Preschool combo

Classes available for 3 year olds to Adults

Questions please contact the studio at  
satinslippersdance@yahoo.ca  
780-518-2341

The schedule for the workshop and more  
information can be found at  
[www.satinslippersdance.com](http://www.satinslippersdance.com)

# *School Photo Day is Coming!*

*Paquin Photographs will be at our School on*

***Friday, Sept. 28th***

Keep in mind for clothing choices that bold bright colours look great on our blue toned background.

Send a comb or brush for last minute touch-ups.

Three photos will be taken of your child on picture day with proof order envelopes being sent to your school the next school day. Please note that there is a specified return date for your order to be returned to the school. Orders after this time can be dropped off at Create-a-Portrait (by Northern Vision Centre) after the school return date has expired and are subject to the late handling fee.

Families with 3 or more children who attend schools photographed by Paquin's are eligible for a family discount. See below for list of schools. See the proof envelope for details and the REQUIRED family discount coupon.

Retakes are done at the Create a Portrait store on specific dates; again see the proof envelope for details.

Late orders and retakes DO NOT QUALIFY for the family discount special offer.

Thanks! Call Paquin Photographs if you have questions - 780-532-2180

Schools we photograph:

AlexanderForbes, AspenGrove, Avondale, BeaverlodgeElem,  
BRHS, Bezanson, ClairmontCommunity, CrystalPark, DerekTaylor, ÉcoleNouvelleFrontière,  
Elmworth, HarryBalfour, HelenETaylor, Hillside, HolyCross, HytheRegional, IVMacklin, KateriMission  
MaudeClifford, Montrose, MotherTeresa, Parkside, Ridgevalley, RobertWZahara, SexsmithSecondary,  
StClement, StGerard, StJoseph, StMary's(Sexsmith), StPatrick, Swanavon, TeepeeCreek, Valhalla  
And Wembley Elem.