

Panda Press

MAY
2021

École Lacombe Upper Elementary (<http://www.elue.wolfcreek.ab.ca>)

(403) 782-7410



PROJECT HOPE 2021...Giving HOPE to Students in Kenya!

Once again the care & compassion from our students and families reaches well beyond our own community. For the past few weeks Peer Support students have been promoting the sale of raffle tickets for one-of-a-kind pieces of willow furniture. All proceeds of this fundraising will go to "A Better World Canada" to support the purchasing of books for the students at the Kayonza Deafblind Centre in Rwanda.



***Project Hope** is our school's **international service learning** project. It is our chance to do something great for others beyond Lacombe. Giving HOPE to others!

Since 2007, we have raised over \$16, 000 for children in Kenya, Africa! The money we've raised has gone towards classroom resources such as textbooks and desks, supporting children living in orphanages, providing food for students, and water projects to provide water for students.



GRAND TOTAL RAISED:
\$1250.00

*The school started being built in February 2021.
Here are some pictures of the school during construction.*



A HUGE THANK YOU to our Peer Support Team, families and community members who have helped support this important project! We are also very grateful to be working with Eric Rajah from "A Better World Canada" to ensure Project Hope brings HOPE to students in Kenya.

Winners of our willow furniture donated by
Audrey Krenzler:

If interested in purchasing or renting
any of this beautiful furniture, please
contact Audrey



Willow Bird Bath won by Sherri Dowler



Willow Welcome Sign won by Wyse Family



Willow Picture Frame won by Nicky de Vrij

Minutes: School Council - Wednesday, April 28, 2021

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who attended our School Council meeting! Following is a summary of the meeting highlights.

School Council Executive:

Chairperson—Deanna Woodworth

Vice Chair—Vacant

Secretary—Nicole Rawlinson/Sonja Dykslag

Treasurer—Christina Rice

Staff Representatives—Mrs. Maryann LaFrance

Administrative Representatives—Sonja Dykslag and Nicole Rawlinson

Board Members—Kelly Lowry and Brent Buchanan

Team Reps:

Hunger Busters Hot Lunch Program—Angela Richter Wymann-Richter

School Council Display Case—All members

Old Business:

1. Joint School Council Meeting - Speaker and Date - Noah Boaky Yiadom on Mental Health - March 24th, 7:00. Approximately 40 people in attendance. We will look at hosting another joint meeting again next year.

Correspondence and Reports:

1. Treasurer's Report: Christina Rice

Annual report was completed and submitted.

Hot lunches began in March, providing some needed revenue.

Current balance \$3173.20, with some income still coming from hot lunches.

2. Hunger Buster's Team Report - Angela Wymann-Richter

Hot lunches have gone very well. All vendors have done a great job following Covid protocols! Orders have been very accurate, students and staff are very happy to have this special treat each month since March! Costs are increasing slightly with most vendors due to packaging and cost of staff for individual packaging of hot lunches.

3. Trustee's Report: Kelly Lowry

New Superintendent has been hired. All board meetings are still on ZOOM and can be viewed on YouTube. Board is working on the new Assurance Model and still dealing with budget decisions. Bus driver appreciation is coming up next week. Debating how to honor retiring staff with Covid restrictions still in place. The Virtual Learning Program (VLP) will continue next year, on a limited basis for families still requiring an alternate learning environment due to medical reasons.

4. Principal's Report: Sonja Dykslag

Update on the success of our protocols and response to the new Covid-19 measures. Students and staff are doing an excellent job of following all safety measures. We are very proud of how well staff are responding to the need of finding new, often virtual ways to still maintain the strong culture and collaboration at our school.

New Business:

- a. Joint School Council Chairs Meeting Information - Deanna/Sonja - New ward boundaries have been set. Class sizes remaining stable throughout the District next year, and in most cases so are School Social Workers. SIVA training for staff. Potential new Mental Health Wellness day for the District next year.
- b. New Superintendent Selected - Tim De Ruyck - We are excited to meet him! He will be touring schools in June.
- c. Project Hope Fundraiser - Annual international service learning project. This year we raised funds to purchase books for a deaf & blind school in Rwanda.
- d. Walk for Kids Fundraiser - Lacombe Big Brothers Big Sisters - Great opportunity for our students to help support this essential service in our community.
- e. Enrollment for 2021/2022 - Down 38 students - Staff Reduction (2.0) - We are reducing by 1 English and 1 French Immersion classes.
- f. Wolf Creek Academy Update - Students from this program are being blended back into their home schools (with Educational Assistant support) for 2020-21.
- g. Outdoor School ??? - At this time WCPS is not allowing field trips due to Covid-19.
- h. Wonderful Wednesday - June 9th - All grades will participate in this annual special day! Plans are being made to offer a full day of fun activities.
- i. Basketball Hoops/Courts/Path to Junior High - It's time to spruce up our courts! Replacement of hoops approximately \$3500.00. Looking for donations & community partnerships in the community.
- j. Canadian Parents for French Money - \$411.00 - Funds from this council have been divided and equally relocated to all French Immersion schools in Lacombe.
- k. Track and Field Day - Healthy Luncheon for all students from Nutrition Grant
- l. Nutrition Grant - Funds from this grant have been used to provide support for students and families through the Snack Program (accessible for all students) and grocery cards.
- m. Staff thank you luncheon - **Motion:** Christina Rice made a motion for school council to provide lunch for staff on June PD day, motion passed (approximately \$350.00).
- n. Debit card for online banking - **Motion:** Chad Peavoy made motion to get access card which allows ability to access online banking, motion passed.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 26th – If needed

June - No Meeting

Questions & Comments:

If you have any suggestions, questions or concerns regarding the above School Council happenings or if you have any items you would like included on future agendas, please contact Principal, Sonja Dykslag, at 782-7410.

Quality Citizenship Recognition - April 2021

École Lacombe Upper Elementary School recognizes the value, necessity and significance of positive, contributing citizens within our school, community and society. It is our goal as a school, in conjunction with the home, to develop and enhance citizenship qualities and characteristics within individuals. This will provide an opportunity for every student in École Lacombe Upper Elementary School to work towards realizing his/her own personal aspirations while making a positive contribution to society as a whole. Students who demonstrate behaviors as delineated in the following criteria shall be eligible for the Quality Citizenship Recognition Award.

- Demonstrate positive interpersonal relationships with peers and adults.
- Demonstrate a consistent high level of responsibility, dependability and cooperation.
- Demonstrate a high level of consideration for the personal feelings and property of others.
- Demonstrate a positive role model in terms of leadership and participation in both school and classroom activities.

This month, the following students are being recognized as outstanding citizens and were provided a certificate for a pizza luncheon from Boston Pizza.

Neveah Russell	Belle Skene	Wyatt McAreavy	Amelia Mason
Aerlann Thompson	Easton Amundsen	Alexis Jaggard	Kingston Schultz
Annabelle Choi	Bella Flett	Rayah Soosay	Amelia Wigmore
Kendal Pimm	Emma Taylor	Ian Jeffries	Chance Flewelling
Cam Mckinley			

Congratulations to these outstanding citizens and also to our Staff of the Month: Mme Miller, Mrs. Norris, Mr. Richter and Mrs. Wymann-Richter.



We would like to extend our appreciation to Marty Curtis of Subway for sponsoring our Student of the Month Program this year! Once a month each teacher will choose two or three Students of the Month and these students will meet with Mrs. Dykslag or Mrs. Rawlinson and will receive a coupon compliments of Subway!

Huge thank you to Boston Pizza for continuing to sponsor our monthly Quality Citizen lunches. Due to Covid, Boston Pizza has generously changed up their program and are giving each Quality Citizen a certificate for an individual pizza and a pop! **Wow, what great supporters of our school!**



Subway Students of the Month - May 2021



- ◆ Commencing the fourth week of September and ending the last week of June, each homeroom teacher will select three or four students once a month for this student recognition program.
- ◆ Students for this program will demonstrate academic excellence and/or excellent academic effort.
- ◆ Students who are chosen for this program will be called to the office by the administration and bring with them the work for which they have been selected. The student will share/discuss the work with the administration.
- ◆ A copy of the student's work and the student's picture will be displayed on the Student of the Month boards outside the general office for the following month. The student's name will also be announced.
- ◆ Students will receive a certificate highlighting their accomplishment and they will receive a gift coupon from the Student of the Month Sponsor, Subway.
- ◆ The administration will make a Happy Call to each student's parents/guardian congratulating the student on his/her accomplishment (s).

Jaxen Melnyk

Rosalie Neumann

Kendal Pimm

Ava Baumgartner

Emma Woodworth

Maddox Bennett

Gabby Richards

Mohsin Tahir

Brooklyn Briault

Jonah Unger

Haglee Craig

Ace Hale

Ibrahim Al Omar

Mya Gallant

Melanie Murrieta

Jaxson Wicks

Sydney Kohlman

Alexis Torgerson

Mercedes Anstey

Jesus Luna

Tone Varekamp

Joe Forgie

Brock Klimosko

Keydeth Saddleback

Calob Baker

Evony Morrison-
Martin

Kaydence Ignas

Chase Myers

Melvyn Murrieta

Rogn Vis

Aiden Baumgartner

Logan Callihoo

Carter Branscombe

Mason Corbett

Samantha Duda



WCPS opting out of piloting Alberta Education's draft K-6 curriculum

Ponoka — With considerable thought and review, Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS) will not be participating in the pilot program of the draft K-6 curriculum for the 2021/22 school year. Piloting this new curriculum is voluntary for school authorities in Alberta.

The main considerations stem from:

- the timing of the draft K-6 curriculum release
- ensuring learner outcomes are developmentally age-appropriate
- ensuring the content reflects research-based 21st-century learner outcomes including a balance of critical thinking and knowledge-based learning opportunities
- ensuring adequate representation of foundational knowledge and understanding relating to Indigenous people throughout the grade levels

“For the time being, our focus remains on student and staff well-being during a time where continuity of learning and recovery from the pandemic is paramount,” said Jayson Lovell, WCPS Superintendent. “When appropriate, WCPS staff will be supported and encouraged to participate in various in-district and provincial professional development opportunities to assist our teachers in preparing for the new curriculum in its final form.”

In the coming weeks and months, staff and community will have an opportunity to provide feedback to Alberta Education and we will continue to connect with our stakeholders by offering further updates as they are made available.

Providing Feedback

Alberta Education's draft K-6 Curriculum is currently open for public input. To view the curriculum in its entirety, please visit: www.alberta.ca/curriculum and provide your input at: www.alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say

COVID-19: STAY AT HOME GUIDE

WHEN DO I KEEP MY CHILD HOME?



Wolf Creek Public Schools

We inspire success, confidence and resilience in every student

BEFORE LEAVING HOME: COMPLETE A DAILY SELF-HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Daily self-screening form available on your school website.

My child is sick. How long do they need to stay home?

CORE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

- **Fever** (38 °C or higher)
- **Cough** (continuous, more than usual)
- **Shortness of breath/ difficulty breathing** (continuous, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply)
- **Loss of sense of smell or taste**

THIS IS MY CHILD. NOW WHAT?

If your child has one or more of the Four "Core" COVID-19 Symptoms, they must do one of the following before they will be allowed to return to school.

1. Stay home and isolate for a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms began.

Isolation requirements are set by the Alberta Government. More information on isolation requirements are available at: www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx

2. A student can return before 10 days ONLY if they receive a negative COVID-19 test result, AND symptoms are gone, AND they are not a close contact of someone with original or variant COVID-19.

Please Note: Siblings of a child with symptoms can still attend school, unless they too have symptoms, or are a close contact of someone confirmed with original or variant COVID-19.

How do I book a test?

Parents can fill out the **COVID-19 AHS Online Self-Assessment Tool** at: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx> or call Health Link 811.

What if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

AHS will contact you with your child's test results.

If positive for COVID-19, your child will have to isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is longer.

Close contacts of confirmed cases of original or variant COVID-19 are legally required to quarantine and monitor for symptoms.

Quarantine requirements vary dependent on household or non-household close contacts. AHS will direct close contacts on quarantine requirements. Make sure to visit www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx for more information on quarantine.

OTHER COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

- **chills** (without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather),
- **sore throat/painful swallowing,**
- **runny nose/congestion,**
- **feeling unwell/fatigued, lack of energy,**
- **nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea,**
- **unexplained loss of appetite,**
- **muscle or joint aches,**
- **headache,**
- **conjunctivitis** (commonly known as pink eye)

THIS IS MY CHILD. NOW WHAT?

If your child has ONE of the above "other" symptoms, they can return to school if they are feeling better, as long as it has been at least 24 hours.

Testing is not needed if they only have one of the above "other" symptoms, and it improves after 24 hours.

If they are not getting better, if they get worse or develop another symptom, keep your child home until symptom(s) resolve, use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended.

If a child has TWO or MORE of the above "other" symptoms:

- Keep your child home.
- Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended.
- Your child can return to school and activities once their symptoms go away as long as it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started.

What if my child has traveled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?

When entering or returning to Alberta from outside Canada, individuals are legally required to quarantine for 14 days.

Should Close Contacts be tested?

AHS recommends that all Albertans, including students and staff in schools, who are close contacts be tested. Book a COVID-19 test as soon as you receive confirmation that you are a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19. If the test results are positive for COVID-19, please be in contact with us, as that greatly assists in further contact tracing.

More information at: www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/covid-19

For more information on the Government of Alberta COVID-19 measures: www.alberta.ca/covid19



May 3 - 9 is Mental Health Week

To celebrate Mental Health and Mental Wellness we have some great activities planned:

Monday, May 3 - Get Relaxed, Get Excited, Get Active, Get Laughing. Today is the first day of Mental Health week. Classes will talk about "What is Mental Health" and watch some videos to kick off the week.

Tuesday, May 4 - Self Care - We will focus on what to do to take care of you!

Wednesday, May 5 - What gets you excited? Today all students are invited to wear their hats in school. Hats on for Mental Health.

Thursday, May 6 - What do you do to stay active? We will talk about the importance of being active and stop our day to do some physical activities. Be ready to sweat a bit!

Friday, May 7 - Laugh today! We will take time to laugh with each other!

As family, take time this week to discuss your families ways of achieving mental health and wellness.

"Being able to be your true self is one of the strongest pieces of good mental health."

Here are some links that discuss and promote positive mental health:

- ♦ [Everyday Mental Health Tips](#)
 - ♦ [31 Tips to Boost Your Mental Health](#)
 - ♦ [5 Finger Breathing](#)
 - ♦ [3 Minutes Mindfulness: Body Relaxation for Classrooms](#)
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Transition Plan for Students going to École Lacombe Junior High School



During the week of May 3—7th, parents will receive an electronic letter which will be called the ÉLJHS parent Orientation letter. In this letter, parents will learn about the programs at the Junior High and they will be asked to provide feedback about their child's learning needs. All parents will be asked to complete an online student information form which will help the Junior High staff place students in classes for next year. In addition to that form, our teachers and staff provide the Junior High with a learner profile about each child. The grade sixes will also participate in some school tours, meet Junior High staff and will be provided a lot support as they get ready to leave our school to head over to the Junior High. This is super exciting. If you have any questions or concerns, please call either School Principal.

Important Dates to Note for Grade 6's going to ÉLJHS:

- ◆ Parent Orientation letter sent home digitally May 3 - 7
- ◆ Online Parent Information meeting May 18, 6:30 pm
- ◆ Welcome Breakfast, August 31, 7:30 - 9:30 am
- ◆ Special Orientation Day for grade 7's September 1, 2021

Wonderful Wednesday!

As we head into spring, we are looking ahead to our 33rd annual Wonderful Wednesday activity day. For the past 32 years, our students have had the opportunity to take part in a fun-filled day of crafting, sports, touring local businesses and many other activities. This year this event will be held on Wednesday, June 9. Due to Covid 19 the events planned for Wonderful Wednesday will look a bit different, but we still plan to have a special day with a variety of fun and informative sessions for the students.

All grades will participate in Wonderful Wednesday on June 9th, 2021. The schools nutrition grant will be providing lunch for all students. More information will be provided soon.

Classroom Requests

In planning for the next school year, staff and administrative teams at École J.S. McCormick and École Lacombe Upper Elementary work collaboratively to assign students to classroom settings where their educational, emotional and social needs can most effectively be met. This involves a committed team approach; the current homeroom teacher(s), administration, family school liaison worker and the inclusion coach make recommendations for placement. The team considers the 'big picture' in creating classrooms which are balanced for gender, differing academic abilities, and the potential for positive social/emotional interactions. As a parent, if you have a classroom request for your child that results from a specific academic or social/emotional need or concern your input is valued by the placement team.

Our 2021-2022 tentative classroom teachers are listed below. If you wish to make a classroom request for our school or for a student coming to us from EJSJ based on a specific academic/social concern, please explain the rationale in a signed letter (from a parent or guardian), include a first choice **AND second choice** and submit to the school office no later than Friday, May 21, 2021. Please understand that because the team will be considering all the factors involved in the "big picture" it may not be possible to honor your request.

"Tentative" Classroom Assignments for 2021-2022

Grade 4 English

Mrs. Nelson
Mrs. Parsons/Mr. Epp
Miss Rimmer

Grade 5 English

Mrs. Freitag
Mrs. Norris
Mrs. Wagar

Grade 6 English

Mrs. Mackay-Hawkins
Mrs. Marshall
Mr. Richter
Mr. Rankin

Grade 4 FI Mme Forman

Grade 4/5 FI Mme Miller

Grade 5 FI Mlle Lebrasseur

Grade 6 FI M. Durocher
Mme Ince

TOWN (URBAN) BUS STUDENTS

Students living in Lacombe

MUST re-register for busing each spring for the fall!



User Pay fees are applied to students who live less than 2.4 km from school.

User Pay students are accepted on a first come first served basis

AND only if there is space available on a bus.

User Pay students will be put on a waiting list if their registrations are received late and/or the bus in that area is full.

If you have moved you must notify the school of the address change **PRIOR** to registering for busing.

Cross Boundary students must re-apply each year by filling out the regular application and the cross boundary application. Please note that cross boundary fees will apply.

Fees are currently under review and will be released by the School Board in late spring 2021.
(Distances are calculated using a routing software and Alberta Education criteria)

**REGISTER ONLINE USING YOUR PARENT PORTAL
OR THROUGH SCHOOLENGAGE**

DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING IS JUNE 15, 2021

For more information please contact Wolf Creek Public Schools Transportation Services

E-mail - transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca

Phone - 403-785-0726 (Direct) or 403-341-4153 (Red Deer) or 403-782-8726 (Lacombe) ext. 1332

Website - <https://www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/school-division/transportation/bus-status-page2>

COUNTRY (RURAL) BUS STUDENTS

Lacombe students who live in the country and are new to busing (i.e. kindergarten students or students changing schools) OR have moved to a new rural location are required to register for transportation.



To register your full legal land description AND complete blue sign (911 address) are required on the application.

**Unsure of which school your child should attend,
please call us with your legal land description.*

If you have moved you must notify the school of the address change **PRIOR** to registering for busing.

Cross Boundary students must re-apply each year by filling out the regular application and the cross boundary application. Please note that cross boundary fees will apply.

**REGISTER ONLINE USING YOUR PARENT PORTAL
OR THROUGH SCHOOLENGAGE**

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Website - <https://www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/school-division/transportation/bus-status-page2>



Camp Evergreen

• COME CAMP WITH US! •

MAY-AUGUST
2021

Did your child miss out on their school trip this year? We have the solution for you: Wholehearted Camping! Bring out the whole family and enjoy an amazing outdoor experience!

www.camp-evergreen.com/wholehearted-camping | 403-638-4230



May 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2	3 Bus Driver Appreciation Week	4	5 Hats on for Mental Health	6 Spring and Class Photos	7	8
	Mental Health Week					
9	10	11	12	13	14 Booster Juice	15
16	17	18 ÉLJHS Virtual Parent Meeting 6:30 p.m.	19	20 Extreme Pita Lunch Durocher and Parsons/Epp Spring and Class Photos	21 Staff PD/ Collabora- tion Day	22
23	24 Victoria Day No School	25	26 BBBS Walk for Kids Sake School Council Virtual Mtg 7:15 p.m.	27 BBBS Walk for Kids Sake	28	29
30	31					

June 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Wonderful Wednesday Lunch will be provided for all students.	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Last Student Day Report Cards Go Home	26
27	28	29	30			