



## Promoting Citizenship at ÉLUES

**What is a good citizen? A good citizen is someone who:**

- cares about the feelings and rights of others
- shows concern for the safety and well-being of others
- stays informed about issues and voices their opinion
- conserves resources and follows the 3 R's - reduce, reuse and recycle
- uses their skills to make a better community and a better world

**What are we doing at ÉLUES to promote citizenship?**

- Students are aware of concepts such as democracy, justice and equality
- Grade six leadership program supported by regular meetings focusing on the traits of a good leader.
- Student's voices, ideas and opinions are heard in the classroom through class discussions and class meetings
- Students can express themselves without fear of embarrassment or failure
- We aim to create an environment where every student is treated equally
- Students are encouraged and expected to treat each other with dignity and respect
- Peer Support and Conflict Mediation Skills are taught and reinforced by the school's Peer Support Team
- Students are aware of themselves as members of the global community and are encouraged to be proactive-- like organizing bake sales to raise money for children in another country, or recycling and saving energy
- Students are recognized and praised for demonstrating positive citizenship skills
- Classroom lessons focus on understanding the concepts of poverty, freedom, equality and justice.
- Every class focuses on a service learning project throughout the year benefiting people less fortunate than ourselves
- Participating and raising funds for the Better World Organization who aim to bring care to third world students
- AND MUCH MORE!!

## **A Brighter Workspace, Thanks To Wolf Creek Cabinets!**

We'd like to send a huge thank you to Whitney Anderson and Wolf Creek Cabinets for their amazing donation of new cabinets and countertops in our office. Our office is brighter and more functional with so much additional storage space! We are so grateful for their generous support!! If you stop by the school, please come by the office to see our beautiful new space!!



# School Council Happenings

## École Lacombe Upper Elementary School - School Council Meeting Minutes - January, 31, 2024

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who attended our School Council Meeting on January 31, 2024. Following is a summary of the meeting highlights.

In attendance: Craig Fullarton (Principal), Jewel Graham, Jacqueline Belbin, Renee Spelt (virtually)

7:17pm Meeting called to order

### **Correspondence and Reports:**

1. **Hunger Busters** (Angela Richter): Craig provided an update on the status of hot lunches and the school's commitment to keep prices affordable for families rather than prioritizing it as a way to raise funds.
2. **Trustee Report:** Not in attendance
3. **Treasurer's Report** (Christina Rice): Not in attendance
4. **Staff Report** (Michele Brousseau): Update on the usage of the new C-Pens that the council recently funded and how they have been extremely beneficial to our staff and students. Staff wanted to place on record their gratitude for this support. Craig shared that Holly Cade has been hired as an EA after the retirement of Vicky Cornish.
5. **Old Business:**
  - Craig shared information about potential speakers that could be brought in using the school council grant. Based on needs, council would like to inquire about booking Jo Phillips of JoOutLoud to present on student use of social media. Craig will contact Jo about her availability and more details will be shared when known.
  - Payment for grade 6 camp is now available online with the intention of giving families the opportunity to pay in installments.
  - Jewel will inquire about replacements and repairs for the Bamboo mascot costume. Craig will share photos of the current costume and ideas of how we would look at any changes.

### **Principal's Report: Craig Fullarton**

As we enter February, planning for the 2024/2025 school year is already underway. We have started to deliberate on decisions regarding our calendar as well as communicate with families who will be impacted by the divisional boundary changes between Lacombe and Blackfalds.

We are excited about upcoming parent engagement opportunities that will focus on relevant and timely topics that impact both students and families such as social media use and the impact of AI in learning. More details about these events will be shared soon.

As always, on behalf of the staff, we would like to thank our school council for all of their continued support.

### **New Business**

1. Joint School Council Meeting Confirmation - March 19th, 2024 - Craig shared details of the event that will be happening at Lacombe Composite High School. Greg Esteves, Director of Technology in Wolf Creek School Division will be presenting on the benefits and pitfalls of AI. All parents are welcome to attend and more information will be shared out by school channels in the near future.
2. Fundraiser Updates/Society? Renee Spelt (School Council Chair- ÉJSM) proposed the idea of creating a fundraising society in collaboration with EJSM. JS will be discussing this idea at their meeting on Thursday and Renee will let us know the outcome. There were several questions about the process and logistics of a joint society. This will be discussed at future meetings.  
Several other fundraising ideas were suggested by those in attendance for consideration.
3. Spring Event- The idea of a school-wide dance, silent auction, and community evening was presented to parents who overwhelmingly agreed. Grade 6 students will assume a leadership role in making this event happen and funds raised will go towards the costs associated with grade 6 camp.
4. PAT Updates- Craig informed parents of upcoming changes to grade 6 PATs. Exams will now be written on a digital platform and calculators are no longer permitted on Math PAT exams.
5. Nutrition Program- Craig updated those in attendance of the remaining budget to support our nutrition program. A family has also contacted the school and offered to help in terms of donations and giving their time to support the program. This help is greatly appreciated.
6. Differentiated Calendar- Craig shared the approved calendar for the 2024/2025 school year. In-lieu days were pointed out and SEDO days were discussed. Craig let the council know that this will be discussed at the next staff meeting.

**Future Meetings:** What other interests does our school council have?

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

**Wednesday, February 28th**, Tuesday, March 19th - Joint School Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 29th. **June No Meeting**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 28th, 2024**

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

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, Craig Fullarton, at 403-782-7410.

## Quality Citizenship Recognition - January 2024



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 will be treated to a complimentary coupon for an individual pizza and pop coupon from Boston Pizza:

Adalyn	London	Elliot	Axton
Logan	Kora	Alexis	Freddy
Hailee	Will	Gwenyth	William
Emma	Jordana	Ellie	

Congratulations to these outstanding citizens and also to our Staff of the Month: Mrs. Brousseau, Mrs. Wagar and Mme Forman.



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 Mr. Fullarton or Mrs. Ouellette and will receive a coupon compliments of Subway!

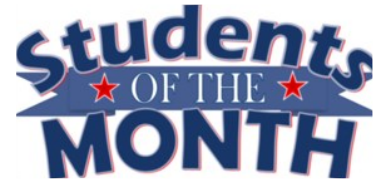
Huge thank you to Boston Pizza for continuing to sponsor our monthly Quality Citizen lunches. Each Quality Citizen gets to enjoy a pizza party at the school!!

**Wow, what great supporters of our school!**



**Boston  
Pizza**

## Subway Students of the Month - January 2024



- ◆ 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).

<b>Kiren</b>	<b>Leif</b>	<b>Tristan</b>
<b>Kam</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>Willow</b>
<b>Carson</b>	<b>Malik</b>	<b>Wyatt</b>
<b>Carson</b>	<b>Saanui</b>	<b>Morgan</b>
<b>Troy</b>	<b>Emery</b>	<b>Emilie</b>
<b>Arabelle</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Joel</b>
<b>Kloie</b>	<b>Cameron</b>	<b>Savana</b>
<b>Crimsyn</b>	<b>Mia</b>	<b>Reid</b>
<b>Bennett</b>	<b>Joel</b>	<b>Maleah</b>
<b>Wakely</b>	<b>Emma</b>	<b>Kiana</b>
<b>Liam</b>	<b>Jax</b>	<b>Dalilah</b>
<b>Brogan</b>	<b>Leo</b>	<b>Gabe</b>
<b>Lynet</b>	<b>Paisley</b>	<b>Jayla</b>



# Supporting *ALL* Students

February 28, 2024 • Pink Shirt Day

*Your support goes a long way & is appreciated by so many!*

Together...We CAN Make a Difference!  
Show your support on Pink Shirt Day and EVERYDAY.  
Our students show us every day how much they care for one another.

## Bullying Awareness

As a part of our school-wide focus on kindness, Mr. Fullarton and Mrs. Ouelette will visit all Grade 5 classrooms to discuss the topic of bullying in February. In a series of lessons, the students learn to make responsible choices by:

- \* Changing their attitude towards the effects of bullying
- \* Changing their attitude towards children with differences
- \* Focusing on using a problem-solving approach that uses conflict resolution strategies
- \* Understanding the role of the bystander when bullying occurs

In class, we discuss how to avoid being a target for bullies. We will also review the HA, HA, SO strategies that were taught to classes in September.

**H**umour **A**void **H**elp **A**ssert Yourself **S**elf Talk **O**wn It

As a class, we concentrate on the role of the bystander or witness in bullying. We all need to speak up and care for each other. When we do, we make our world a better place for everyone.



**Bullying** is when someone deliberately tries to hurt someone else they think is weaker than they are. In many cases, bullying is repeated over and over and can cause a lot of pain that lasts a long time. It can even lead to things like depression, anxiety and low self-esteem.

Bullying happens in many ways, but some common forms of bullying are **verbal** (teasing, name-calling), **physical** (hitting, kicking, pushing, breaking someone's toys or favourite things) or **social** (leaving someone out, spreading rumours).

**Cyberbullying** is using social media or other technology like texting to threaten, embarrass or even damage a person's reputation.

**Bullying**, either on the internet or in person, can have long-term negative effects so it's important to let bullies know that what they are doing is wrong!



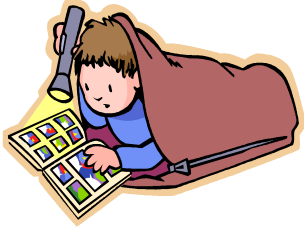
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# Program Highlights

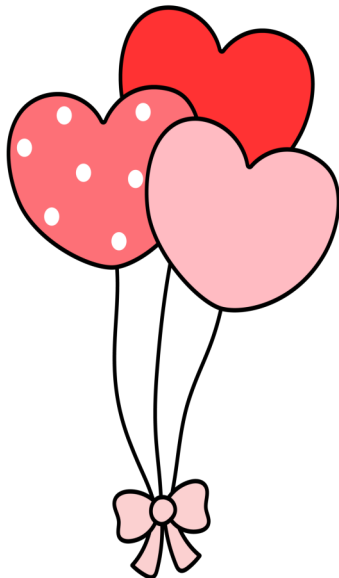
## Student Goal Setting and Growth Conferences

We are looking forward to having parents/guardians and students participate in the upcoming conferences the evenings of March 13 and March 14. Thank you for your participation in these very important conferences!


## Grade Six Outdoor School Dates



As a complement to the Phys. Ed program at ÉLUE, all grade six students have the opportunity to take part in our grade six Outdoor School experience. For two nights and three days, students will enjoy outdoor activities at Camp Evergreen located near Sundre, Alberta. Durocher, Ince and Richter's classes will attend June 3, 4, 5 and Mackay-Hawkins' and Rankin's classes will attend June 5, 6, 7. Activities include: horseback riding, wall climbing, orienteering, canoeing, nature studies, animal awareness, initiative tasks plus much more. Camp cost is \$205 per student. Outdoor School Fee has been applied to grade 6 students accounts on February 1 so parents have the opportunity to make payments over the next four months if they wish. Payment is not due in full until May 1. Students are encouraged to earn some of the money needed to attend camp by assisting their family with extra chores. We are currently considering a grade 6 fundraiser in April to help reduce camp costs. More information will be sent out in soon. Watch for it!




**SCHOOL BUS**



**Rider of the Month  
JANUARY**

Bente Buter	Grade 5	L19
Jayla Adcock	Grade 6	L19
Isabella Lee	Grade 6	L19

Sponsored by:  
**CITY OF  
LACOMBE**



## AFTER SCHOOL BASKETBALL CLUB

After School Basketball will begin on February 13th. Our focus for this program is on skill development and having some fun playing basketball. After School Basketball is for all interested grade 4, 5 and 6 students. The program runs **3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.** Students pick one day to come each week.



## SKATING

A number of our classes went skating in January on the Echo Energy ice surfaces at the Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex. The students had a great time. Donations of used skates, helmets, and elbow pads are always welcome to help replenish our supply that our students borrow from. If you have any donations, please feel free to drop off at the office or with Mr. Miller in the gym.

### CURLING - Indoor & On the Ice

Starting January 29th, students have the opportunity to enjoy the indoor curling program called Rocks & Rings. Indoor curling equipment was purchased by ÉJSM, ÉLUES, Lacombe Curling Club and Terrace Ridge. The sets are being shared between the schools. In addition to the indoor program, our grade six classes have been on the real ice sheets and have been throwing, sweeping, and calling shots at the rink. A big thank you to the Lacombe Curling Club for their support on and off the ice!





# Cilantro and Chive Ice Cream Sandwich Fundraiser



Right now at Cilantro and Chive \$1 from every Ice Cream Sandwich sold will be donated to École Lacombe Upper Elementary. On February 16, Cilantro and Chive will be serving ice cream sandwiches to students and staff that ordered on the Parent Portal and 100% of these proceeds will go towards the purchase of technology for our classrooms. Please login to the Parent Portal to order your ice cream sandwich today! Deadline to order is February 8th! We had a family ask if they could order extra ice cream sandwiches for students that don't get one so we have added an option where you can purchase additional ice cream sandwiches if you wish. Thank you so much to Cilantro and Chive for your extreme generosity and continued support of



## Partners in Attendance

Parents play an important role in the education of their children. Their involvement and encouragement can help a child excel.

Other family members and friends also play a key role in making sure students understand why they need to attend school to succeed.

A success in school starts with regular attendance from the early years right through high school completion. Did you know that even as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism makes it more difficult to learn?

Parents and schools can work together to find solutions that support children's success in learning.

Alberta Education provides resources to support parent involvement. For more information visit:

<http://education.alberta.ca/parents/role.aspx>

## Can't, won't or don't attend?

### Cannot

Sometimes students cannot attend school because of illness, injury, family problems, housing instability or involvement with the justice system.

### Will not

Sometimes students will not attend school to avoid bullying, unsafe conditions, harassment, embarrassment related to learning difficulties, physical challenges, new environment or even sanctions for being late.

### Do not

Sometimes students do not attend school because they may not be aware of the importance of going to school.

## What can you do?

- Make attendance a priority
- Be sure your child gets enough sleep
- Have a regular homework schedule
- Communicate with your child's teachers
- Encourage your child to participate in school clubs and after school activities



# Alberta Education Assurance Survey

## Information for parents and guardians

### About the survey

Every year, Alberta Education surveys students, their parents and all teachers on behalf of schools and school authorities to assess what is working well and where there is room for improvement. The survey asks students in grades 4, 7 and 10, and their parents, about their thoughts, feelings and experiences in school. The survey will be administered between January and March 2024. In some schools, all students in grades 4 and above and their parents will be surveyed.

Participants will be asked questions on a variety of topics, such as welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments; student learning engagement; and parental involvement. The survey does not ask for names and cannot be used to identify individual participants.



### Why is the survey needed?

Alberta's Assurance Framework requires school authorities across the province to report their performance according to a number of different measures that provide key information about how the education system is doing. A provincial survey allows all school authorities to be measured on the same things at the same time.

Participation in the survey is voluntary:

- All participants may opt out of taking the survey at any time with no repercussions and/or skip any questions they do not wish to answer.
- All responses are anonymous. The survey does not collect personally identifiable information and Random Access Codes will be used to group responses by survey type, school and authority.
- Only grouped data where there are more than six responses are reported.
- All data collected will be managed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- If you have any questions regarding the survey or your child's participation, please contact your child's school directly.



### How will I take the survey?

- Parents or guardians are issued a single-use Random Access Code mailed through Canada Post to complete the survey online.
- The code must be used to access the survey and helps Alberta Education group your response as being from a parent/guardian. It **is not** used to identify individuals.
- Monitor your Canada Post mailbox starting late-January 2024 for the survey invitation package from Alberta Education.
- Parents or guardians with more than one student in an eligible grade will receive a separate survey invitation package for each child.
- Paper copies of the survey can also be requested through your school principal once the survey opens.



### How will students take the survey?

- Students complete the survey at school.
- Before the survey begins, your child's teacher or school staff will explain to the students that the survey is not a test – there are no right or wrong answers. They will also explain that there are no repercussions for opting out of participating and that they may skip questions they do not wish to answer.
- Responses are submitted anonymously. Random Access Codes will be used to group responses by survey type, grade, school and school authority only.

Details about the assurance measures and how to obtain results are available online at [www.alberta.ca/alberta-education-assurance-survey](http://www.alberta.ca/alberta-education-assurance-survey)

If you have questions or concerns about the survey, please contact your school principal.

## 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 the eligible distance based on grade and will be accommodated 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 as well as the cross boundary application (cross boundary fees will apply).*

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

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING IS MAY 15, 2024**

***For more information please contact Wolf Creek Public Schools Transportation Services***

E-mail - [transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca) Phone - 403-785-0726

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.*

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# February 2024

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 SUBWAY Hot Lunch	9 Staff PD/ Collaboration DAY	10
11	12	13 BOSTON PIZZA Hot Lunch	14 	15	16 CILANTRO and CHIVE Ice Cream Sandwich	17
18	19 FAMILY DAY No School	20 EDO No School	21 Staff PD/ Collaboration DAY No School	22      23 Teacher's Convention No School		24
25	26	27 KFC Hot Lunch	28  QC BP's Lunch School Council Meeting 7:15	29		



# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Student Growth Conferences		Staff PD/ Collaboration Day	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			QC BP's Lunch			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	SPRING BREAK					
31						