

# BANDIT NEWS



Hays School Newsletter

September 2022

## HAYS SCHOOL

### MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

Hello everyone, I am so pleased to see so many new faces at our school. We are so happy to have 4 new families that have registered at our school. Please welcome the Elias, Journoud, Neufeld, and Blatz Families. Make sure you give them a warm welcome to all these new students with a smile and a hello.

Our gardens have grown very well over the summer as all the teachers and Mrs. Sandra Degroot have been turning on the sprinklers. I am so pleased we will be able to use the produce from our garden in our cooking classes and for the Snack Program. We have picked many zucchinis, tomatoes and potatoes.

Just a reminder to parents, when the buses are parked in front of the school you **can not** drive passed them on either side. You must go around by the fire station if you want to leave when the buses are parked. Do not drive past the buses.

We have many special days coming up, meet the teacher night, and parent council meeting. Please look in the newsletter for the details on these activities. We would love to have more parents on our parent council.

Have a great September everyone!

Tracey Nadeau  
Principal Hays School



Did you know... Counselling services are available for you child here at the school. Call (403) 725-3755 for more information.



Welcome back to  
School!

School on Friday  
Sept 2 & 9

NO School Sept  
22

Meet the Teacher  
Sept 15th @  
6:30pm

PAA AGM Sept 26  
@ 7pm

School Pictures  
October 24

Hays School

205 2nd avenue  
Hays, Alberta  
T0K 1B0

**PAA is having their  
AGM on Monday  
September 26th at  
7:00pm at the school.  
We highly encourage  
our parents to attend.**



**Our school will be participating in  
the Terry Fox run on Tuesday  
Sept. 27. Please send \$2 with your  
child**

*welcome*  
★ TO THE ★  
★ TEAM ★

***Meet the Teacher night &  
BBQ is on Thursday  
September 15th  
6:30pm — 8:30pm***

***Thankyou to CNLR for  
supplying the food!***

***September 30th is orange shirt  
day. We wear orange to honour  
the Indigenous children who  
were sent away to residential  
schools in Canada . Orange  
shirt day was started to educate  
people about residential  
schools and fight racism and  
bullying. We will be wearing  
orange on Thursday September  
29th since we do not have  
school on the 30th.***

**We have a couple new staff members!**

**We would like to welcome Adam Gibson as our new Grade 7/8/9  
Homeroom teacher. He comes to us from Lethbridge. Anne de Jong is  
our new assistant working one on one with a student. Congratulations to  
Lynn Rattai on the birth of her baby girl, Charlee Mackenzie on July 27.  
Also, welcome back to Monique Huvenaars, not only is she in charge of  
the Snack Program and Speech this year, she is also the Pre-K Teacher.  
We have a great team here at Hays School!**

Due to our numbers this year will not be entering a team in to the Horizon School Volleyball League. However, we will be having a practice team and trying to set up some Exhibition games. We will keep you posted!



Cross Country will be coming up the beginning of October.

All Jr. High students are required to attend. This is part of their Physical Education program and mark. If we are able to drive that would be greatly appreciated!

Theme of the Month:

**HYDRATION**

- ⇒ Each month we will introduce a new theme to challenge staff and students. Every week if they participate and reach the goals set they have the chance of being the weekly winner.
- ⇒ Each month staff members will nominate a student that deserves to be recognized for their hard work and citizenship. They will be awarded the Principals Award.

**SCHOOL SPIRIT**

**SEPT 12 - Crazy Hair Day**

**SEPT 29 - Orange Shirt Day**

We are very happy to have Pre-K again this year. We currently have 6 students registered!!



# September 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Happy Bday Ruthy Neufeld	2 <b>SCHOOL</b> 12:30PM DISMISSAL Happy Bday James Fehr	3
4	5 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	6	7 Pre-K Orientation	8	9 <b>SCHOOL</b> 12:30PM DISMISSAL	10	
11	12 CRAZY HAIR DAY	13	14	15 MEET THE STAFF NIGHT 6:30PM - 8:30PM	16 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	17	
18	19	20	21	22 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	24	
25	26 STAFF MEETING	27 TERRY FOX RUN 2:10PM	28 HOT LUNCH Happy Bday Caleb Hiebert	29 ORANGE SHIRT DAY	30 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>		

## **HAYS PARENT ADVISORY ASSOCIATION**

### **DUTIES OF FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES**

**THE MISSION OF OUR HAYS PARENT ADVISORY ASSOCIATION IS TO FOSTER A POSITIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY THAT WILL ENSURE THE EDUCATION AND WELL BEING OF ALL OF OUR STUDENTS.**

#### **DUTIES OF A FAMILY REP. INCLUDE:**

1. Each Family Rep is responsible for providing 1 (one) Hot Lunch Meal during the school year.
2. Each family Rep is required to attend 1 (one) monthly meeting per school year.
3. Each Family Rep is responsible to provide or have someone from their group provide squares or goodies for special occasions held at the school during the school year such as Christmas Concert, Missoula Theatre play and year end BBQ. Family Reps are also required to help with set up, serving and clean up. The families of Hays School are divided evenly among the Family Reps. Each group should not exceed 6 (six) families.
4. Each Family Rep has the opportunity to have a vote on issues pertaining to school issues.

**THE AGM (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) FOR THE PAA WILL BE HELD BY SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> OF EVERY YEAR.**

**THE AGM (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) FOR THE PAA WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 AT 7:00PM IN THE SCHOOL JUNIOR HIGH MATH ROOM. ALL PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

Date: August 30, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Horizon School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members.

When students' behaviours pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Risk Threat Assessment (VTRA) Protocol helps Principals take steps to protect students' well-being. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to worrisome behaviours and/or threatening incidents such as: possession of a weapon or a replica weapon, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written or electronic (internet, text) threats to kill or injure oneself or others or other threats of violence, fire setting.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening behaviour. The purpose of the VTRA protocol is to support students and their families in addressing these worrisome behaviours. We believe that students demonstrating such behaviours require a team to support them. Principals may first bring together a School Threat Assessment Team, which ideally includes the Principal/Vice-Principal, a school-based clinician/jurisdictional lead, and police. If the situation is serious, the Principal may also consult with the Superintendent of Schools, and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This community team may include representatives of community agencies who work with us to keep our schools safer such as local police, children's mental health organizations or Human Services. Parents and guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the Stage I-VTRA process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

As always, student safety is our first priority. If you have any questions regarding Horizon School Division, Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol, please contact Angela Miller at 403-634-9767 or [angela.miller@horizon.ab.ca](mailto:angela.miller@horizon.ab.ca)

Sincerely,

Tracey Nadeau  
Hays School



ALBERTA  
EDUCATION

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*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Red Deer-North*

While some students participate in year-round schooling and have been in the classroom for a few weeks – the first day of school for many students and teachers is quickly approaching. I am pleased to welcome back all the students and teachers who are returning and give a warm welcome to those who will be joining us for the first time. I hope you had the chance to rest, relax and recharge over the summer and are ready for an exciting and productive school year.

I am truly thankful for everyone's collaborative efforts in providing a safe and healthy learning environment particularly over the last two years and look forward to a smooth return to in-person instruction. We remain committed to ensuring the health and safety of staff, and students. As we head into the school year, I encourage all students and staff to continue exercising regular personal hygiene and staying home when not feeling well. As I have said in the past it is important that individual family choices continue to be respected related to masking and vaccination. No student or staff member should be stigmatized for their choices.

While the last couple of years has taught us resilience and perseverance, we understand the impacts Covid-19 has had on our young learners' education and mental well-being. We are committed to ensuring our students feel connected and supported in their academic and mental-health needs. Alberta's Government is pleased to commit \$110 million over three years to improve mental health services, provide specialized assessments from qualified therapists and psychologists, and help students get their learning back on track after the pandemic. This is in addition to the over \$1.4 billion in Learning Supports Funding provided directly to school authorities each year. This funding envelope includes the Specialized Learning Supports (SLS) grant, the Nutrition grant, and Program Unit Funding (PUF), which support student mental health, specialized assessments and allow school authorities to provide supports to students and staff.

I sincerely appreciate all the teachers, support staff, school boards, administrators and parents who work tirelessly throughout the school year to prepare students for success and ensure they have the proper supports. Your efforts are both noticed and appreciated.

The school year ahead holds tremendous potential and opportunities for students and educators alike. I am proud of what we have accomplished, and what we continue to work towards – improving education and supporting young Albertans. I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and successful 2022-2023 school year!

Sincerely,

Adriana LaGrange  
Minister of Education