



# Daysland Digest



Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Volume 2021-22, Issue 6

## Looking Ahead

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Staff Meeting (Early Dismissal @ 2:12pm) | <u>Dec.</u><br>2 |
| Sr. Boys B-Ball Icebreaker               | 3-4              |
| Sr. Girls B-Ball @ Bashaw                | 10-11            |
| Christmas Dinner                         | 16               |
| Christmas Break                          | 20-2             |

## PowerSchool Information Elementary Percentages

When viewing the Parent Portal on PowerSchool, elementary parents will notice that a percentage is given. This is different from years past when students and parents could only see the level of achievement (Exemplary, Proficient, Achieving, etc.) Our grading system has not changed. The accurate and most important evidence of your child's learning continues to be the levels of achievement. The reason you see a percentage is that PowerSchool is an American based program and we are unable to remove the percentages from the app and website. To be completely transparent, there is nothing mathematically or educationally accurate about the percentage and it cannot be used as a reliable indicator of your child's progress. The preference would be that the percentage is not visible but despite BRSD's requests, it cannot occur at this time. We apologize for any confusion that this might cause. Please refer to the levels of achievement and follow up with any questions about your child's progress with their teacher.

## Principal's Corner

We are in the home stretch until the Christmas holidays. It is a few short weeks away. Our elementary students are busy preparing for our concert. Our concert will be virtual once again this year. Please look for it to be posted on YouTube on December 17th, which is our last day of school before the Christmas holidays. PowerSchool is now up and running. If you have not yet logged into the parent portal, please do. It is rich with student information and is a great way to keep up with your child's progress. If you have any questions on how to access the portal, please contact the school. A friendly reminder that winter looks like it is here to stay. Please ensure that your child is prepared for the cold, whether they are on the playground or on the bus. Also, basketball season is now upon us. We will be communicating more information from the athletic department about our spectator policy to start the season. You will be able to enjoy the games from the comfort of your home. Our streaming equipment is up and running and we will be broadcasting all of our Junior and Senior High games.

**Thank you to everyone who supported our students in purchasing Little Caesar's Pizza! We appreciate you!!**

## 2021-2022 School Fees

School fees are now due. You can pay your fees on-line by visiting the school website. If you do not have access to on-line payments, the school does accept cash or cheque. For any questions or to arrange payment options, please contact the school office.

## Virtual School Council Meeting Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

**\*If you would like to be a part of the meeting, please email Kirby at [kirbyheather@mac.com](mailto:kirbyheather@mac.com)**

## Basketball 🏀 Update

Our Basketball seasons are underway for Jr. and Sr. High! Our Sr. Boys will be hosting the annual Ice Breaker Tournament next weekend - you can watch games live on our school youtube channel! (The school will be closed to spectators) Then, the Sr. Teams start league games on December 7 - Good Luck! Jr. High teams will begin practices this week, but won't start games until January.

## COVID Hazard Control Administrative Procedure

BRSD recently communicated that a new Administrative Procedure - 451 COVID Hazard Control is being implemented. This stipulates that all BRSD staff and contractors, as well as all visitors to School Buildings (including parents, coaches, trustees, outside user groups), must provide Proof of Partial Immunization by October 29, 2021, and Proof of Full Immunization no later than December 3, 2021 or negative Rapid COVID-19 Test dated 72 hours or less prior and Proof of a Negative PCR/Antigen Test. We are still open for visitors but if you do plan to visit the school by appointment, please be aware that you will have to show either of these two options prior to entering the building. A letter providing more information on how this impacts school sports will be sent home to athletes in the near future.

## Daysland School Council Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2021

**I. Call to order:**

Kirby Schmidt-Teigen called to order the regular meeting of the Daysland School Council at 7:05 pm.

**II. In attendance:**

|                        |                               |                  |                  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wes Wilson (Principal) | Jenni Thomas (Vice Principal) | Brenda McKay     | Laura Zwack      |
| Kirby Schmidt-Teigen   | April Terway                  | Teena Kasha      | Candice Guhle    |
| Alison Eshpeter        | Cristin Zimmer                | Adrian Ketchmark | Jeannie Hoermann |
| Wendy Weiss            | Heather Miller                |                  |                  |

**III. Review of Agenda:** no additions or deletions. Candice accepted the agenda, seconded by Laura. All in favour. Motion carried.

**IV. Approval of Minutes from last meeting:**

Minutes of the October 20th meeting were circulated prior to the meeting. Laura moved the minutes adopted as circulated. Cristin seconded. All in favour. Motion carried.

**V. Shout Outs:**

-to Mrs. Teigen for her weekly updates in grade 3, our school has top notch communication with parents

-A huge shoutout to the girl's Junior High volleyball coaches, Marit Schlaut, Cristin Zimmer and Raya Schlaut- for an amazing season, the girls were so fun to watch!

\*From Coach Cristin Zimmer: We had such a great year! All the parents should be so proud of the whole team, they represented themselves and their school so well with their behaviour on and off the court! They were the kindest, most encouraging and inclusive group, they made our job easier for sure!\*

**VI. Correspondence:** none

**VII. Reports:**

**a. Administrators**

**1. PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal is live today.**

-The App is more user friendly and has more information than the website.

**2. Report Cards are going home on Friday**

Format:

- Strengths/Areas of Growth/Next Steps
- Characteristics of Learning
- Report card template is very plain and generic but will be evolving

**3. Altview Presentation for Staff**

**4. Upcoming Dates**

- Quarter 2 begins: November 17th
- Ice Breaker basketball tournament: December 3rd-4th.
- Christmas Dinner: December - 16<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Break: Last day of class is December 17th and return January 3rd
- Christmas concert will be virtual again this year. Will be released on our school's Youtube channel on December 16th or 17th.

**5. Live Streaming Equipment has been delivered.**

Waiting on mounting - should be soon

**6. [Daysland School Improvement and Assurance Plan](#)**

- Emphasis put on literacy and celebration
- Literacy support
- Celebration of staff and students of the week

**7. Track update**

Meeting with Paul from Ohnesty Golf Course design on Friday, November 19th.

**b. Room Reps:**

**Kindergarten (Brenda):** Mrs. Tanton

We're beginning to learn some dances/songs for the Christmas concert. We're making good progress with our letters, we're over half way through the alphabet. We're working on patterns, sorting and number recognition to 10 in math. We're starting our Star Student project and our Mystery Can (Show & Tell variation) started last week so the kids are all really excited about that 😊 Lastly, I'm hoping that we can set up Santa's Workshop in the dramatic play center by the end of the month. The kids are rocking their daily classroom routines and they all seem to be very much "at home" in our classroom.

**Grade 1 (April):** Miss Pasychnyk

We have some exciting things happening in Grade 1! We have had two visits from the desk fairy now, leaving us special treats to students who have super neat desks! Students think we should send the fairy a thank-you note so it keeps coming back. We also had a TOP SECRET note left for us from our Secret Story Friend. They left behind a secret story book to help us crack the reading code with different secrets. Students are having a blast finding different secrets in our daily reading and writing tasks. Students are two stars away from filling their second reward jar and are looking forward to seeing what our next reward will be. Our learning journey continues as we tackle sentence writing, addition to 20 and a new community project in Social. The Gr.1's are soaking up each new learning outcome like sponges and have demonstrated great growth since the beginning of the year!

**Grade 2 (Kirby):** Mrs. Schlaut

Grade 2s have been working really hard to represent numbers to 100. We are learning new numeracy games to practice this skill using a deck of cards and a place value mat. We are working on comparing

numbers the numbers to determine which one is greater. In Language Arts, we are learning about syllables and how to decode new words using our phonemic knowledge. We are also learning how to write a paragraph. We will begin writing a paragraph about a special friend in our class. Students are looking forward to getting started on these. We have been learning about Remembrance Day and why it is important to take the time to be thankful and think about everyone who has made sacrifices for us. We will begin our Remembrance Day posters for the Legion contest this week. We are also taking a journey to Iqaluit. We are learning about the community and about the Inuit culture. We have taken a look at some artifacts that were made and used by people of the Inuit culture as well as learning what the land and climate is like there. We are just about finished our science unit on Liquids and will begin our new unit Magnets next week. In phys-ed, we just finished Mission Impossible and it was awesome! We will begin skipping this week.

**Grade 3 (Heather):** Mrs. Teigen

Things are going well in grade 3. We began a new unit in Science called "Testing Materials and Design". We are excited to make use of the Maker Space for this unit. In Social Studies we have begun talking about the Traditions and Celebrations of the 4 countries we are learning about. We will end this section just before Christmas presenting to the class a special tradition that each of us has in our own families. In ELA we are beginning a novel study called, "Freckle Juice." Mr. Pastachuk is taking over our art classes this quarter and we have already begun preparing for the virtual Christmas Concert with Mrs. Tanton!

**Grade 4/5 (Alison):** - Mr. Gratrix

The Grade 4-5 class had a nice wrap up to the previous term. In ELA we finished with some group guided reading and descriptive writing. Math has been busy, but both classes are almost finished with the units we have been working on. Grade 4 has been adding and subtracting 4 digit numbers and the Grade 5 class has been multiplying 2 digit numbers. In Social we have finished our unit on the physical regions of Canada, and will start looking at the history of Canada soon. The weather unit in Science is complete and we are moving to electricity now.

**Grade 6 (Wendy):** Mrs. McKay

In ELA, we have wrapped up our novel study on The Breadwinner and have been working on writing Remembrance Day poems to submit for the Legion contest.

In Math, we just wrote a unit exam on Understanding Number, and are starting our next unit on Fractions, Ratios, and Percents.

In Science, we've been researching different trees found in our area, and examining tree cookies to determine important events in a tree's life. We will soon be moving on to our next unit: Sky Science!

We will also be spending a lot of time on the Christmas concert. Everyone is very excited to brush up on our acting skills, as grade 6 gets the privilege of being the stars of the show!

**Grade 7 (Cristin):** Mrs. V. Zimmer

Moving into a new quarter today means a couple of minor changes for the class, but their core teachers don't change throughout the year. These students have been embracing the idea of respectful behaviour in the classroom so much that we are working out a rewards system together!

**Grade 8 (Adrian):**

Q2 has started today for the grade 8's. Our 4 core subjects are still going with only one teacher change, LA Mr. Pastachuk is now teaching us Narrative Perspectives. Math with Mrs. Zimmer is changing fractions into decimals. A new option class has started in Q2, Film Studies. This class appears well attended. In Phys. Ed. we have started our basketball unit.

**Grade 9 (Jeannie):** all is well

**Grade 10 (Candice):** new quarter has started, all is well

**Mrs. Kruchten** (Career Counselor): Continuing to meet one on one with 11s and 12s - will have met with all at least once by Christmas, whether they have career plans or just want support with transitioning to work. Will be setting up MyPass with Grade 10s over the next few weeks.

**Grade 11 (Pauline):** all is well

**Grade 12 (Teena):** all is well in Math 30 (Mrs. M. Zimmer), in Chem 20/30 (Mrs. Walker), they are continuing to explore the properties of solutions, acids and bases.

**VIII. Old Business: none**

**IX. New Business:**

**a) Kirby-** attended the Council of School Councils

- Chairs of all BRSD school councils to attend, or at least one person from each school council, important discussions and information to bring back to home councils;

-there was discussion about each School Council receiving \$500 for community involvement, may happen in the spring;

- as of October 12, BRSD had 86 cases of Covid in 15 schools, as per the note emailed from BRSD, proof of vaccination is required from all visitors entering the schools.

-approach our BRSD Trustee Dwight Dibben to attend a few School Council meetings per year

**b) Adrian-** had some questions about the Gaga Ball pits and leaving them out over the winter months. Wes replied that they would be kept outside over winter as the students will use them, they are made from treated wood and have been stained to withstand the weather.

**X. Adjournment:**

Kirby adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm

**Next meeting will be held virtually on January 19, 2022.**



# Daysland Fire Department Food Drive for The Flagstaff Food Bank. Saturday December 18th starting at 5:30pm at Providence Place



Battle River Railway & Friends of BRR, along with the Village of Forestburg & Forestburg Fire Department, present Light Up the Night train rides this holiday season.

Friday, November 26

Forestburg, AB

Free wiener roast & hot chocolate at the fire station starting at 5:00pm

Train rides depart from the train station at 6:30 and 7:00pm

Train admission is free, but there will be a cash donation box in support of the Flagstaff Food Bank (Battle River Railway will match all cash donations)

Proof of vaccination & masks are required to ride the train.