

# DICKINSFIELD FLYER

September 2016 "Together We Fly Higher" "Ensemble Nous Volons Toujours Plus Haut"

Website: <http://dickinsfield.fmpsdschools.ca/> Facebook: École Dickinsfield School  
Twitter: @Dickinsfield App: École Dickinsfield School

## Principal's Message

Its Thanksgiving time and it's not just a time for eating! At Dickinsfield we had a special assembly to thank the firefighters, police, pharmacists, vets and bus drivers that got us through the fire and evacuation. These are people like Kayla Snooks, one of our bus drivers. On the day of the fire, eight out of nine bus drivers could not make it to the school! Kayla brought her single bus and loaded the 50 plus bus kids whose parents were unable to get to the school, and drove them north to safety. They are people like Dave Hill, the pharmacist, and Yvonne Stepanov, the vet who stayed in town to serve the community. They are people like all the firefighters and police who were first responders, staying in town while their families were evacuated. Some of them are École Dickinsfield parents as well, like firefighters Adam Bugden and Nathan Cseke, and the Quallies, both of whom are RCMP constables.

Thanksgiving is a special day: it provides a formal context to express gratitude for our blessings and to be thankful for the moments of grace and kindness that have enlightened our lives!

Thanksgiving Assembly



We are grateful for our first responders and community helpers



On another topic, I want to share how teachers are caring for your child's social-emotional well-being. On the first day of school teachers used a consistent script to debrief children in regard to their evacuation experience. We will also debrief regarding the social media hoax that happened recently. We will be having age- appropriate discussions in the classroom in regard to the recent incident when a local teenage girl posted something on social media that was a threat to high schools. The district has developed a script for teachers to follow so that in a developmentally appropriate way we provide a context about our hold and secure response so that kids feel safe.

Paul Smith.

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Leader in Me</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">"We grow leaders here!"</p> <p><b>HABIT 1: BE PROACTIVE</b></p> <p>To Be Proactive means to take responsibility for your choices and behaviors. Habit 1: Be Proactive says, "I am the leader of my own life. I am the leader of whether I'm happy or sad. I am the leader of how I react to other people or situations."</p> <p>Talk to your child about being the leader of taking care of himself/herself, taking care of his/her things, reacting or not reacting to other people's comments, and planning ahead.</p>
---	---

Suggested titles for young children that reinforce Habit 1:

- ***The Little Engine That Could*** by Watty Piper
- ***The Very Busy Spider*** by Eric Carle

Suggested titles for older children that reinforce Habit 1:

- ***Someday A Tree*** by Eve Bunting
- ***Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*** by Bruce Coville

Habit 1 on YouTube:

**Franklin in Charge**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1KmLrHrw\\_Y&list=PLBRpJ9\\_0GbVldQ6Q5J3OGRw1eE6PUP0e9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1KmLrHrw_Y&list=PLBRpJ9_0GbVldQ6Q5J3OGRw1eE6PUP0e9)

Expect your child to use words and phrases like choices, responsibility, "Be Proactive," and "stop and think" in his/her conversations. You can encourage your child by using some of this language at home!

Check out the "Parent's Place" at [www.TheLeaderInMe.org](http://www.TheLeaderInMe.org) for fun ways to bring the habits home

**Be Proactive I have a "Can Do" attitude.** I choose my actions, attitudes and moods. I don't blame others. I do the right thing without being asked, even when nobody's looking **Ask your child about their leader role in the school!** Some are classroom based and some are school wide leadership roles!!

## Counselling

The month of September has flown; I hope that you and your children are settling into the routines of school. I consider it my honor to work at this school with your children. I can tell you not a day goes by when I do not have something to quietly smile to myself about.

Can I please encourage you to reach and call me if you have any concerns regarding your children, or if you think that I can help in any way whatsoever You can reach me at 791 6990 ext. 4 or at [karina.webb@fm-psd.ab.ca](mailto:karina.webb@fm-psd.ab.ca).

Karina Webb

BE PROACTIVE  
BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND  
PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST  
I THINK WIN-WIN  
SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND  
THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD  
SYNERGIZE  
SHARPEN THE SAW

How does your child use the 7 Habits in their daily lives? Do you have a story that you would like to share with our school community that shows how the 7 Habits and Leader in Me journey has had a positive impact on their lives? If you have a story you would like to share on our bulletin board outside the library, please send it to [diane.rizzuto@fmpsd.ab.ca](mailto:diane.rizzuto@fmpsd.ab.ca).

**Our School Mission Statement guides everything we do as a school.**

At École Dickinsfield School,  
We are a nurturing community of leaders  
who inspire lifelong learning, respect and responsibility  
for self, others, our environment, and our world.

#### **Déclaration de Mission**

À École Dickinsfield School,  
nous travaillons à instruire une communauté étudiante  
qui sera inspirée d'un désir d'apprendre et sera consciente  
de l'importance du respect & de la responsabilité envers soi, l'environnement et les autres.

#### **Motto**

Together we fly higher.

Ensemble nous volons toujours plus haut.

#### **Diversity**

We are a school with children and families of all different backgrounds and types. We want all our school members to show respect for themselves and others, and feel safe and cared for. So this year we are doing extra learning and celebrating of all the wonderful ways we are unique. We'll celebrate different holidays, countries of origin, faiths & beliefs, gender, languages, families, clothing and abilities/disabilities. We'll put up a bulletin board, have Diversity Leaders and take moments to celebrate all the wonderful ways we are different and the same.

#### **Do you know about the UN Charter of Rights for the Child?**

The guiding principles are:

1. Non-discrimination
2. Right to life, survival, & development
3. Best interests of children & youth
4. Respect the views of children & youth

Here is a [Child Friendly](#) version. It has been signed by 191 countries, including [Canada in 1991](#).

Grade 4-6 Dickinsfield students will be performing at the Benefit Concert October 15th at the Keyano Recital Theatre. Come support our singers and the Fort McMurray Food Bank!

The poster features a background of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red. At the top left is the logo for Fort McMurray Public Schools, which includes a stylized tree and the text "We Are Fort McMurray Public Schools Safe Resilient Strong". To the right of this is a green banner with the text "Presents a". Below this is the word "Benefit" in large, bold, brown letters, and "Concert" in large, bold, green letters. Underneath the title is the text "in support of the the" in brown, followed by the logo for the Fort McMurray Food Bank Association, which shows a hand holding a green apple. A green banner below the title contains the date "Saturday, October 15th". Another green banner below that contains the time "2:00-4:00 p.m." and the location "At the Keyano Recital Theatre". Below these banners is the text "Lots of great acts and a finale you won't forget!" in brown. At the bottom, in large brown letters, it says "Monetary and food donations will be collected for the Food Bank." A small watermark "PosterMyWall.com" is visible in the bottom left corner of the poster.

ECDP will be doing SCARE HUNGER this year the last two weeks of October 2016.

We are superheroes fighting hunger and collecting food for the food bank!



### Did you know?

- Stress can affect sleep. Physical activity helps to keep our stress levels down. Make sure your child is getting 60 minutes of physical activity each day.
- If you try to do the same thing every evening before bed it can help you to get settled and to fall asleep sooner.
- Some people like to read a book or take a bath before bed every night to help them relax. What is your bedtime routine?
- Did you know that 71% of all 8 to 18 year-olds have a TV, 50% have a video game player and 36% have a computer in their bedroom?
- Having media in the bedroom can have a strong effect on a child's sleep.



Dickinsfield Girls and Boys 5/6 Volleyball teams will be participating in the Westview Fun Day tournament on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.



### **Parent Association Update**

PAC has kicked off the year with a successful AGM and executive election. We are still looking to fill the positions of Volunteer Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, and Raffle & Fundraising Chairperson. If anyone would like more information on these roles, please email [dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com](mailto:dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com).

Details for November's meeting will be announced via our school Facebook page and app. As always, all parents are welcome to attend, and each attendee receives a ballot to be drawn for a **\$50 Visa gift card** in December!

### **Teachers' Fund Donations**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Welcome Back BBQ! We received over \$1200 in donations!

The Teachers' Fund is an amount PAC gives to teachers every year to purchase incidentals for their classrooms. This is separate from our 'Wish List,' in which teachers present PAC with special requests for materials and resources each term.

### **Volunteer Christmas Couch Raffle**

There are always opportunities to volunteer in the school, and as a token of our appreciation, any time you volunteer you can enter a ballot in our Volunteer Christmas Couch Raffle. For each concert night, we will draw a volunteer to receive VIP seating with their family!

### **Art Cards by Kids**

Students have been busy designing a template for their own special greeting card; these templates will be printed into a quality card sample which parents can expect to receive in the next week or so. Cards can be ordered in various quantities, and will be received in plenty of time for holiday sharing.

### **Boston Pizza Gives Back**

Remember to save your receipts from Boston Pizza; BP will donate 5% of the total sales for all receipts we collect until January. Receipts can be deposited in the box outside the library. Thank you!

## News Release: FMPSD Launches The Learning Bridge

Fort McMurray Public School District (FMPSD) is pleased to launch The Learning Bridge, a learning support/tutoring program exclusively for our students. Thanks to a generous donation of \$40,000 from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #165, registration is now open for the weekend initiative, which will run on Saturdays starting on October 15, 2016 through to November 5.

Nancy Ball, Teacher Capacity Leader, FMPSD is overseeing the program, which she says was a direct result of parent requests.

“During our community meetings this summer, parents expressed concerns about learning gaps due to the wildfires. Thanks to the Royal Canadian Legion, we are able to provide these sessions. It is great to see teachers who are supporting the program, because they want their students to be successful.”

Open to grades 1 to 12, the sessions will take place from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., at Dr. K.A.Clark School, École Dickinsfield, and Westwood Community High School. **Cost for all four sessions is \$20.**

Classes will be offered for Grades 1 - 3 in Literacy and Numeracy, Grades 4 - 6 Literacy and Numeracy, Grade 7 - 9 Math, Grade 7 - 9 English Language Arts, Grade 1 - 3 French Immersion, Grades 4 - 6 French Immersion, Math 10/20, Chemistry 20, Science 10, Biology 20, English 10/20, and Social 10/20.

Registration closes on Tuesday, October 11 at midnight. A minimum of 10 students must be registered as well as a certified staff member available for a class to run. Confirmation of enrollment will be sent once an instructor is in place and the minimum registration requirements have been met.

Visit [The Learning Bridge](http://tinyurl.com/TheLearningBridge) website for registration and additional details.

<http://tinyurl.com/TheLearningBridge>

For more information, please contact:

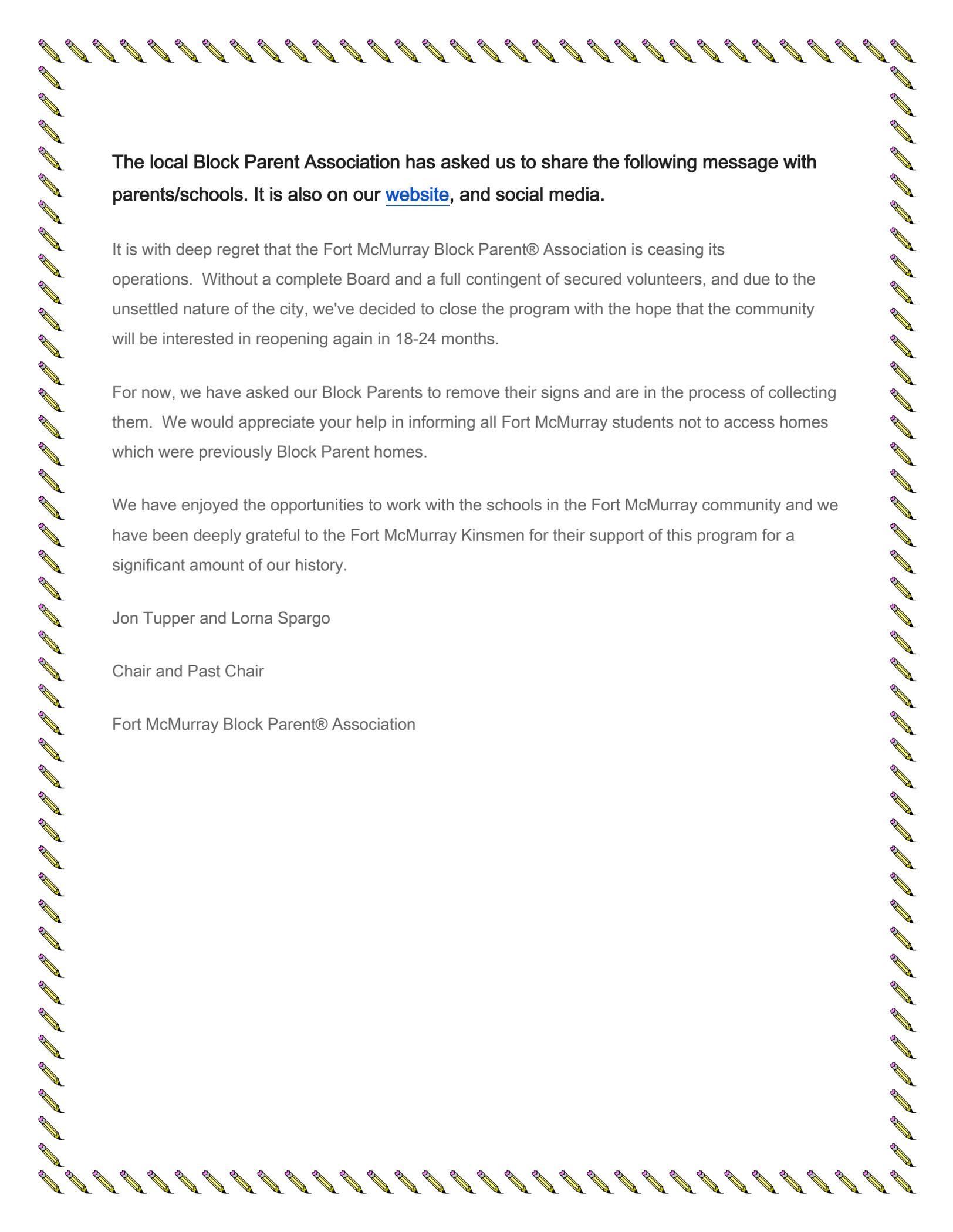
**Nancy Ball**

Teacher Capacity Leader

Fort McMurray Public School District

Telephone: 780-799-7927

[nancy.ball@fmpsd.ab.ca](mailto:nancy.ball@fmpsd.ab.ca)



**The local Block Parent Association has asked us to share the following message with parents/schools. It is also on our [website](#), and social media.**

It is with deep regret that the Fort McMurray Block Parent® Association is ceasing its operations. Without a complete Board and a full contingent of secured volunteers, and due to the unsettled nature of the city, we've decided to close the program with the hope that the community will be interested in reopening again in 18-24 months.

For now, we have asked our Block Parents to remove their signs and are in the process of collecting them. We would appreciate your help in informing all Fort McMurray students not to access homes which were previously Block Parent homes.

We have enjoyed the opportunities to work with the schools in the Fort McMurray community and we have been deeply grateful to the Fort McMurray Kinsmen for their support of this program for a significant amount of our history.

Jon Tupper and Lorna Spargo

Chair and Past Chair

Fort McMurray Block Parent® Association