

The Flyers Express

École Dickinsfield School

Together we fly higher.

Ensemble nous volons toujours plus haut.

<https://dickinsfield.fmpsdschools.ca/>



October 2020

School Hours

8:40 - Doors open for
Staggered entry for K-6
9:00 - Start

Staggered Recess &
Snack
10:25- 10:55

Staggered Recess &
Lunch
12:16 - 12:35
12:35 - 12:54

3:30 - 3:40:
Staggered Dismissal

ECDP/Kindergarten

AM ECDP Start: 9:05

AM ECDP & K End:
11:46

PM ECDP & K:
12:53 - 3:30



A reminder to parents/guardians: It is mandatory to wear a mask if you are entering the building for an appointment or to visit the office. Parents/guardians are also encouraged to wear masks when dropping off and picking up students.



Contact Info

780.791.6990

erin.keca@fmpsds.ab.ca

A note about lunches:

- Lunch Drop off table is at the front doors. Pen NOT provided - please label ahead of time with student first and last name, class, and teacher
- Please be sure to provide your child with a **water bottle** and any **utensils they will need for their lunch**

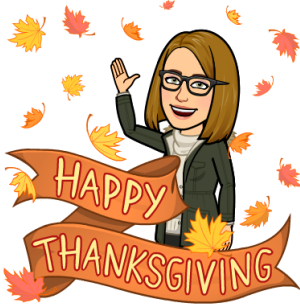
STUDENT ABSENCES/LATES

Please notify the office if your child is going to be late or absent by calling 780-791-6990 or emailing dfabsences@fmpsds.ab.ca with "absent" or "late" and your child's first and last name in the subject line. **Be sure to state the reason for the absence in the body of the email with a list of symptoms if sick.**

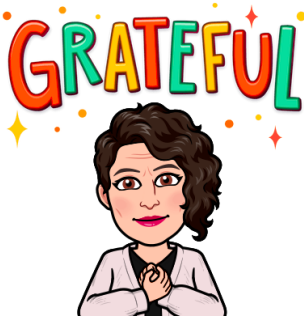


A Message From Administration

Happy Thanksgiving Ecole Dickinsfield Families!



Sorry for the delay in getting the October Newsletter to you, but we wanted to make sure we had the most up to date information for everyone. As you all know, we had some changes in our French Immersion classes this week. In the Province of Alberta, funding for schools is based on the total numbers of students enrolled. Whenever enrollment declines, divisions, and schools, must adjust staffing allocations accordingly. Some schools in our division, including us, have experienced varying degrees of decreased enrollment during these unprecedented times. Where numbers of registered students are lower than expected, staffing is adjusted to reflect this. Staff who have been affected by changes have been reassigned to other positions in the Division where there continues to be need.



Fort McMurray Public School Division's priorities continue to be excellence in instruction, high quality learning environments and student learning. Our staff is committed to "Doing What's Best for Kids", by providing students with educational experiences to meet their learning needs as they strive for educational excellence. The Division has also made a commitment to maintaining a high standard for healthy, clean school environments. Enhanced cleaning practices have been implemented with the addition of extra custodial staff who are available for the full school day cleaning frequent touch points and sanitizing. In addition, the Division has taken steps to adjust routines and practices, such as staggered schedules, hand sanitizing stations, installation of barriers and directional signage with student safety in mind.



Our teachers will be taking time to help their students settle in their classrooms, building safety and a sense of community, while continuing to address academics. Soon, we will be having virtual PTIs. This will likely take a Google Meet format. Parents who have google email accounts can use their personal accounts to sign up for the accounts and to access the Google Meet video conference link. For parents that do NOT have a personal Google account, you can use your child's FMPSD Google account. Please contact your child's teacher for this information closer to the time of PTIs. Report cards will be coming home for Term 1 on November 27th.

Finally, we would like to thank all of our families for your patience in these first weeks of school. We are all navigating new territory, and we appreciate our parents as partners in their child's learning.

All the best,

DF Administrative Team

Erin Keca, Principal

Leannah Robertson, Vice Principal

Erin Andrews, Vice Principal



Begin with the end in mind at Ecole Dickinsfield

October

- 12th - Happy Thanksgiving (No School)
- 13th - Virtual DFFA (Dickinsfield Flyer Fundraising Association) Meeting @9:15am
- 14th - Virtual School Council Meeting @6:30pm
- 19th - 23rd - Spirit Week for the United Way (Details to follow)
- 28th & 29th - Virtual Parent Teacher interviews 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Details to come
- 30th - No School for students (ATA Institute Day)

November

- 9th - Picture Retake Day
- 11th - Remembrance Day (No School)
- 16th - Rock your Mocs Day
- 20th - PLF - no school for students
- 27th - Term 1 Report Cards go home

DFFA Dickinsfield Flyers Fundraising Association

Dickinsfield Flyers Fundraising Association - DFFA

(Formally PAC)

We are the fundraising body for our school! We meet virtually on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Introducing your DFFA Executive for the 2020-2021 school year

All executive were voted in at our September 22nd AGM

President: Kat Fraese

Vice President: Currently Vacant

Treasurer: Theresa Rogers

Secretary: Currently Vacant

Volunteer Director: Jacquie McFarlane

Casino Director: Cynthia Carr

Fundraising Director: Kara-Lyn Fediuk

Communications Director: Jessica Abraham

We are still looking to fill 2 of our board positions, Vice President and Secretary. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, join us at our next meeting.

If you would like to join us for our next DFFA meeting, **Tuesday October 13, 9:30 am**, please email us at dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com



Volunteers Needed for our upcoming Casino

October 25 & 26

Boomtown Casino

The Casino is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need your help!!!

This year the casino funds will be more important than ever due to our limited fundraising opportunities.

Casino funds are used to support our students in a variety of ways in the classroom, from stem materials, and science kits, to literacy centers supplies and so much more.

If you are available to volunteer for our upcoming casino please see the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4faaaa2fa57-casino1>

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to DFFA at dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com

School Council

Meeting

October 14th @6:30pm

Online using

Google Meet

Email

dickinsfieldschoolcouncil@gmail.com

[ail.com](#) for the meeting link.

School Council meets once per month with members of school administration (principal and vice-principals) to learn about and discuss issues relevant to the school, students and parents/guardians. Everyone with a child attending École Dickinsfield School is an automatic member of the School Council. Our meetings are a great opportunity to find out what is happening at the school and in the school district, as well as, interact and discuss with other parents/guardians and school staff.

October School Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:30pm

Online via Google Meet

Please email dickinsfieldschoolcouncil@gmail.com to receive the meeting login info.

It was great to see some new and some returning faces at our last School Council meeting!

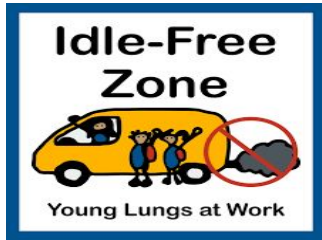
October's meeting will be similar to our last meeting, as we keep up-to-date with any changes happening within the school, as well as, changes to the COVID protocols at the school. Please email any questions you have for members of the administration team to School Council at dickinsfieldschoolcouncil@gmail.com



School Council Continued...

ahead of the meeting to ensure your concerns can be adequately addressed. Of course, you are also welcome to bring your questions to the meeting! Please remember that we focus on the entire school community at our meetings and that individual issues cannot be addressed during our meetings.

GREEN SCHOOL



Ecole Dickinsfield is Green!

We are one of the leading green schools in the city, and inspire others.

Idle Free Zone. Please turn off your vehicle near our school (or any time!) We want to create a safe breathing space for children, and help the environment. For more information, [check out our website](#).

Waste Free Lunches: We encourage every child to bring Waste Free Lunches every day. Waste Free Lunches include reusable containers, reusable beverage bottles, reusable utensils and naked food that come in its own wrapping, like bananas and apples. Please join in!

Garden: We are proud that we were the first school in our city to have a school garden, and have inspired many others. This year the garden was planted with flowers by our school & community to celebrate Mme Jodine Wells, who loved the garden and student leadership. Student Gardening Leaders help with planting and taking items out.

Worm & Outdoor Composting: We have 20,000 red wiggler worms in a composting area. They eat students' banana peels and apple cores, and the finished compost goes in the outdoor garden. That's about 800 litres of cores and peels each year! Student Wormologist leaders help out.

Recycling: We are lucky to have curbside pickup for paper, cardboard and plastic recyclables. Recycling Leaders help out. We have inspired FMPSPD, and now there is also paper and cardboard pick up at each building in our division.

Water Bottle Filling Stations: With the help of the DFF and other fundraising, we raised \$11,000 for 3 reusable bottle filling stations for the school. Reducing our carbon footprint! Now there are at least 2 bottle filling stations in each FMPSPD building.

Hot Lunch & Breakfast Club

Hot lunch is on hold for the time being until school administration and the DFFA can come up with a way that hot lunch can be provided safely and that follows AHS guidelines. Classes have been stocked with breakfast items so that students who have not eaten can eat in their classroom before school.





The
LeaderinMe™
great happens here



The Leader in Me at École Dickinsfield

The first and most important habit is Be Proactive. As humans, we are able to self-reflect, and choose our responses.

Reactive people believe the world is happening to them. They say things like,

"There is no problem"

"Nothing can be done "

"It's your fault"

"I can't change. It's just who I am"

Proactive people realize they have responsibility, or respons-ability, which is the ability to choose how to respond to a situation. They say things like,

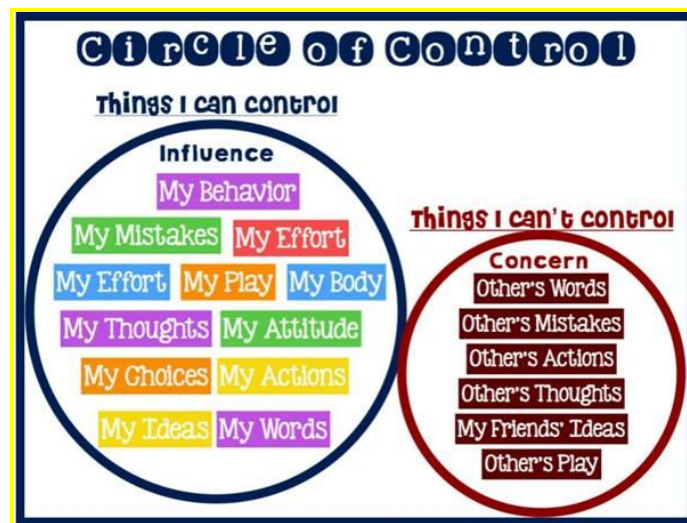
"I'll try looking at that a different way."

"I'm sure something can get figured out."

"How can I help?"

"I'm sorry I created that problem. I'll take care of that"

Proactive people focus on their area of Control in a situation, instead of just their area of Concern. [Check this out.](#)



Leader In Me At Home:

1. Use the word "proactive" in daily conversations with adults and kids.
2. Praise proactivity: being helpful, saying sorry, getting things done.
3. Build a chore schedule together.
4. Support your child's efforts to do more things by themselves. Back them up so they experience success. Eg, get them to make their own lunch (but check to see it's actually done)
5. Read your child's agenda with them each day to see their learning, and what support they and your teacher need.
6. Model proactive behaviour. Kids copy what they see.



APPLE NEWS

Calling all Dickinsfield Flyers! We need you to become a **HYGIENE SUPERHERO**! This year, we all need to chip in to keep our school healthy and safe, we can't just be hygiene heroes -- we need to become **HYGIENE SUPERHEROES**! So how do we all become SUPER you're wondering? Well, let's spell it out together!

S IS FOR SOAP OR SANITIZE YOUR HANDS. Properly washing your hands is a great way to help protect yourself and others from germs. Make sure you try to get every nook and cranny of your hands when you're washing them. Don't forget that you should be washing your hands for at least 20 seconds!

U IS FOR USE YOUR OWN ITEMS. Germs can live on surfaces like pencils, water bottles, and erasers! If we're trying to stop the spread of germs, let's make sure we only use our own items.

P IS FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING. Physical distancing means keeping a safe distance between yourself and the people around you. Do your best to have enough space that if you and the people around you were to stretch your arms out, you wouldn't be able to touch hands.

E IS FOR ELBOWS FOR COUGHING AND SNEEZING. When we cough or sneeze, we can spray droplets from our mouths that go into the air and can land on surfaces or other people. If we're sick and those droplets come into contact with others, we might get them sick too! Let's keep everyone safe by coughing and sneezing into our elbows.

R IS FOR RECOGNIZE SYMPTOMS. Our bodies have ways of letting us know that we're sick or getting sick. Some common ways our body warns us are fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, runny nose, and sore throat. If you think you might be sick, let someone in your family know!

We can't wait to see your **HYGIENE SUPERHERO** skills in action! Together, we can work to keep our school healthy and safe this year!



SPOOKISHLY HEALTHY CELEBRATIONS

This year, our new safety protocols restrict the sharing of food or other items between classmates. **There should not be any treats/snacks brought in to be shared amongst classmates, or any non-food items (toys, stickers, etc.) distributed during classroom celebrations this year.** Items sent in for sharing (food or otherwise) will be returned home with the student who brought them. You can however, send whatever you choose for your own child to consume in their personal lunch. Costumes will be permitted! Please remember division rules about costume masks (i.e.: costume masks are not permitted).



A MOMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH

All About Anxiety

Anxiety is worry or fear that is frequent and overwhelming. The feelings don't have to be caused by something specific.

Anxiety can present itself in many ways. Children may feel stressed or panicked. They may have difficulty focusing or sleeping, and they may also feel physical effects like a stomachache or a headache.



Tips for parents:

- Talk to your child about how they are feeling. Help your child develop ways to cope with their anxious feelings like deep breathing, exercising, and using positive self talk.
- Manage your own anxieties. Different life circumstances can leave us all feeling anxious. Our kids can pick up on this, so it is important to keep your conversations age-appropriate and reassuring.

What to say:

- "I am here for you."
- "Let's work through this together. How can I help you?"
- "I know this is hard."
- "You are safe. I am here."
- "What is your worrying telling you?"

What not to say:

- "Stop worrying."
- "Get over it."
- "This isn't a big deal."
- "I don't understand what you're so worried about."
- "It's fine."

Ideas for children:

- Start a gratitude journal. Gratitude is a great way to combat anxiety.
- Practice deep breathing.
- Write or draw pictures about how you feel during this time.
- Remember that how you are feeling is okay!
- Find activities that help you feel calm like reading, drawing, exercising, or connecting with friends and family.

Together we fly higher.
Ensemble nous volons toujours plus haut.
<https://dickinsfield.fmpsdschools.ca/>



Shop now and support Dickinsfield Flyers Fundraising Association

www.oliverslabels.com/Dickinsfield

20% of your purchase will support our fundraising efforts! (excluding gift cards)

PEAK Hockey



Fort McMurray Public School Division is pleased to offer the PEAK Athletic Academy - a passion-based learning model that allows students athletes to combine their passion for sports within an academic setting. The "peak" is the focus on students striving to be at the top of their athletic, academic, and leadership potential.

PEAK hockey is offered at École Dickinsfield School for grades 3-6. Join Coaches Tom Keca and Bob Niven to learn the skills needed to enjoy and excel at hockey! For more information or to register, please contact:

Mrs. Krista Butz - krista.butz@fmpsds.ab.ca

Program Assistant/Secretary PEAK Athletic Academy

Parent Contact Information



This year, more than any other, it is EXTREMELY important that we have the most up to date demographic and medical information for all our students. We are asking that parents remember to contact the school only if there is a change in parent phone numbers, emergency contacts (adding or removing them or updating their phone numbers) and any new medical information since this current year's registration forms were completed.

To update any of the above information, please email Mrs. Kitty Roberts:
kitty.roberts@fmpsds.ab.ca



New AHS COVID-19 guidance for Parents of Children Attending School or Daycare - [Core Symptoms](#)

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents of Children Attending School and/or Childcare

Your child has one or more of these COVID-19 symptoms: Fever • Cough (new cough or worsening chronic cough) • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (new or worsening) • Runny nose • Sore throat

Note: Chronic symptoms that can be explained by a pre-existing medical condition (e.g. allergies) would be considered part of the child's baseline health status. As long as these symptoms do not change, the child can continue to attend school/childcare. A child should have one negative COVID-19 test to establish this baseline.



Guidance

Your child is legally required to **isolate**

A COVID-19 test is recommended

Testing

Decide if your child will be tested for COVID-19

Yes

No, or before you have your child's test result

Do:

Book a COVID-19 test for your child

• Online: ahs.ca/covid

• By phone: Call Health Link at 811

⌚ Try to book a test that is within 24 hours of your child's symptoms starting

Do:

Go to the COVID-19 test with your child

Test Result

Do:

Get your child's COVID-19 test result

⌚ It may take 1 to 3 days to get your child's test result

• All individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by a member of the AHS Public Health team for follow-up and case management

• For more information about getting your child's COVID-19 test result, go to ahs.ca/results



Positive Test Result



Negative Test Result

Next Steps

Have you been told by AHS that your child is a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19?

Yes

No

What to do

Your child is legally required to stay home and **isolate** for 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until they are gone, whichever is longer.

Household members should stay home for 14 days.

What to do

Your child is legally required to stay home and **isolate** for 14 days from their last exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Household members are not required to isolate as long as they are asymptomatic.

What to do

Your child is no longer legally required to isolate, but should stay home from school, childcare and other public spaces until they feel better.

Have you been told by AHS that your child is a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19?

Yes

No

What to do

Your child is legally required to stay home and **isolate** for 14 days from their last exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

If your child has symptoms after these 14 days have passed, they should stay home from school, childcare and other public places until they feel better.

Household members are not required to isolate as long as they are asymptomatic

What to do

Your child is legally required to stay home and **isolate** for 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until they are gone, whichever is longer.

Household members are not required to isolate as long as they are asymptomatic.



New AHS COVID-19 guidance for Parents of Children Attending School or Daycare - [All symptoms](#)

