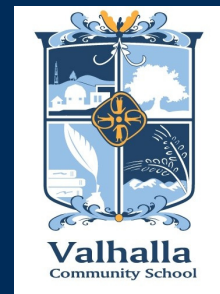


VALHALLA COMMUNITY SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025



Happy New Year!

January has arrived, and with it lots of snow! While we're definitely enjoying our true northern winter, we're also hoping for a little extra sunshine in the weeks ahead. Despite the chilly weather, our students continue to bring great energy to the school each day. Excitement is building around our House Teams as we count down to the reward field trip on January 29th for the winning team. Way to go to all students for their teamwork, school spirit, and positive contributions—keep it up!

Key Dates To Remember

- Jan 5- Early Dismissal 2:30pm
- Jan 8- Ice Melt Orders DUE
- Jan 9- CSW No School
- Jan 12- 16- Ice Melt Pick Up
- Jan 16- Hockey Day & Hot Lunch
- Jan 19- Board Meeting @ 6:30pm
- Jan 23- Pj & Stuffie Day & Hot Lunch
- Jan 27- Parent Council Meeting 1:00pm
- Jan 30- PD Day- No School

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our silent auction and who donated to our Angel tree!! We are very grateful!

FACT:

Attendance is the
#1 predictor of dropout
& graduation rates



Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 1 - Student Growth & Achievement

We are so proud of our students who received awards for their Remembrance Day Posters and Poems!! (Missing Kenley as she was away. She received 1st place for her poster!)



Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 2 - Excellent Teachers & Leaders



The Consortium

Alberta Professional Learning Consortium

Valhalla Community School is steadfastly committed to its second priority of fostering excellent teachers and leaders, and this dedication is clearly demonstrated through its structured professional development initiatives. On the first Monday of every month, students benefit from an early dismissal to allow teachers to participate in a focused one-hour session with the Alberta Professional Learning Consortium. During these sessions, teachers collaboratively engage in the process of new curriculum implementation, exchanging insights and strategies to enhance instructional effectiveness. This targeted professional development not only enriches teachers' instructional practices but also empowers them with the tools and knowledge to lead their classrooms with innovation and confidence, ultimately benefiting the students and the broader school community.

Priority # 3- Charter Goals

We are thrilled to share how our junior high students are embodying the core goals of our charter through various leadership initiatives. One exciting development is their active role in morning announcements, allowing them to hone their public speaking skills and take charge of daily communication within the school.

In addition, our students have embarked on student-led research meetings, a platform where their innovative ideas and collaborative spirit truly shine. This initiative not only fosters critical thinking but also empowers them to take ownership of their learning.

Furthermore, in partnership with the Beaverlodge Blades hockey team, our students engage in volunteering opportunities by assisting with ticket sales and security at home games. These experiences not only enhance their leadership skills but also strengthen their connection with the community. We are immensely proud of our students for stepping up and making a positive impact both within our school and beyond.

Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 3- Charter Goals

Our students truly shone during our Christmas concert, The Christmas Chronicles! Their hard work, confidence, and festive spirit made for a wonderful performance that brought the holiday season to life. A huge shout-out to Miss Pilgrim for her dedication and creativity as our amazing director—this production would not have been possible without her countless hours of work and passion. We would also like to sincerely thank our Parent Council for providing snacks for our students and for organizing a successful silent auction. It was a fantastic evening and a celebration to remember! 🎄 ✨



UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Community Powwow Practice & Youth Groups in Hythe!

Join at the Hythe Community Centre for fun, connection, and movement this season.

Powow Practive- Select Tuesdays 5-7PM

Youth Groups (Ages 10-15)- Select Tuesdays 3:30-5:30PM

Open to All!

Register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-sHn1KVw-Vz5QfMvjFxFxWoo4a3PCoqqYlqxbzPNlot7jmNNQ/viewform>

Questions? Email: teenhealthyr@gmail.com



Ages 10-15

Free to GPFC members

Youth Groups

Held select Tuesdays at Hythe Community Centre
3:30-5:30 PM

Separate groups for young women
& young men

Dates for each group in registration



About

- * Open to Indigenous & non-Indigenous
- * 2SLGBTQ+ Welcome 
- * Snacks provided

Contact

Monique 
Teenhealthyr@gmail.com

Scan QR code register



Drop-in

Community Powwow Practice

held in the gym at Hythe Community Centre

Select Tuesdays 5-7pm

Nov 25 . Dec 19 Jan 20. Feb 17. March 17.
April 21. May 26



Open to everyone of all ages, abilities & backgrounds. Children 12 and under must have supervision of someone 16+

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

TEEN SKILL *For Teens Ages 13 - 18*

MASK PAINTING

Exploring Emotions Through Art

Presented by: Gryphon & Phoenix Youth Program

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

4PM-6PM

NUVISTA ENERGY CENTER

FREE!



Everyone has emotions—just like everyone has thoughts. And while we're often taught to label some feelings as "bad" or "too much," emotions aren't the enemy. They're your body's built-in alarm system, letting you know when something matters, when something hurts, when something needs attention.

In this teen mask-painting session, we'll explore the feelings we show to the world... and the ones we keep tucked away. Using a mask as our canvas, teens will create two sides: the "outside face" people usually see, and the "inside face" that holds what's often hidden. It's creative, hands-on, and a low-pressure way to reflect, express, and start conversations—without having to find the perfect words.

Perfect for teens, and reassuring for parents: this is about understanding emotions, not judging them!

Pizza dinner & refreshments included!

Pre-Register by January 12th by calling
780-354-4057 or email
rstockman@beaverlodge.ca



Resource Centre
FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

School Contact List

VCS Administration:

Superintendent: Loriann Stienwand
lstienwand@valhallacommunityschool.ca

Prinicpal: Harmon Lee hlee@valhallacommunityschool.ca

Admin:

Jacqui Peters j.peters@valhallacommunityschool.ca

VCS Staff:

Victoria Lewis vlewis@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Elizabeth Randall erandall@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Samantha Pilgrim spilgrim@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Richard Smith rsmith@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Gina Shepelwik gshepelwik@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Megan Hudson mhudson@valhallacommunityschool.ca

VCS Transportation Staff:

Transportation Lead:

Shellie Tofteland -- shellie@valhallacommunityschool.ca
780-832-7600

Drivers:

Floyd Hiltz 780-814-3994
Teresa Boucher 780-814-4827
Ken Death 877-509-1356 (school text service)
Spare: Merv Cassity 780-831-8468
Angela Sipe 780-380-9862