

WILDWOOD SCHOOL

2022-2023 Parent, Student, Staff Handbook



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING WILDWOOD SCHOOL

Welcome to Wildwood School! Parents, students and staff each perform their roles to the best of their abilities and to each other's benefit. We hope and anticipate that the time you spend here will be rewarding and enjoyable.

Wildwood School is a great place to learn and grow and we have a dedicated staff that is truly concerned about children. We provide an excellent academic program involving each child as an active participant, and we offer a wide variety of curricular and extracurricular activities that need your input and support.

Wildwood School is your school. We thank you in advance for the contributions your family will make to our learning community this school year and for more school years to come.

Stuart Graham

Principal

INTRODUCTION OF THE HANDBOOK

This handbook contains many of the policies, practices and customs of Wildwood School and *Grande Yellowhead Public School Division*. Students have gone through the handbook with school staff and are expected to be familiar with and respectful of its contents.

We provide this handbook as a handy reference for you and your family to quickly address any questions or concerns that you may have over the course of the school year. As a document, this handbook will always be under revision. Help us make and keep our handbook a valuable and up to date document. If there is something you feel is missing, out of date, or lacking in sufficient detail let us know, 780-325-3858.



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School Description

Wildwood School serves 100 students from Kindergarten through Grade 6 (plus the Wildwood Junior Kindergarten). We are proud of our rural status, comprising families from surrounding farms, acreages, and the hamlet of Wildwood itself. Our students, parents, community partners, Educational Assistants and teachers are a talented group having diverse talents, interests and backgrounds that, in their entirety, make for a dynamic learning community. Thank you for choosing Wildwood School.

As members of this dynamic learning community we will, in *thought, word* and *deed*:

- Inspire learning
- Strive for excellence
- Be considerate and respectful of others and of property
- Lead a healthy, active lifestyle
- Work together in cooperation and collaboration . . .

. . . As a demonstration that we are living and working in a school of choice, as part of a community of choice.

Song of the Wolf Pack

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

We're a Wolf Pack

And we've arrived.

6, 7, 8, 9, 10

The Wolf Packs howling

And we are singing again.

Our *Wolf Creed*'s how we live,

We have much to share,

We have much to give.

So listen up and howl along

'Cuz Wildwood's here

And Wildwood's strong.

(Students Howl)

By Wendy Walker



School Culture – Wildwood Wally

The original Wiarton Willie passed away during hibernation in the winter of 1998-99. The good burghers of Wiarton discovered this to their horror just before Groundhog Day and Willie's death made headlines around the world.



That morning Mr. Daniel Seitz, then teacher and principal of Wildwood School, scavenged for materials and created a very rudimentary version of what is now a school tradition, Wildwood Wally.

The current version of Wally was constructed by Mrs. B. Winfield and has been helping students make it through long Wildwood winters for eighteen years.

It's Wildwood Wally Time

It's Wildwood Wally time,
It's Wildwood Wally time.
All the kids and Wally too, say "Howdy Doo"
to you.

Let's give a rousing cheer . . .
'Cuz Wildwood Wally's here.

It's time to start the show.
Go Wally, Go!

It's Wildwood Wally time,
It's Wildwood Wally time.



To the tune of : It's Howdy Doody Time!



School Division



Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) stretches from Jasper National Park, east to Evansburg, south of Cadomin, and northwest beyond the Town of Grande Cache. The jurisdiction includes 17 schools, five Learning Connection centers, approximately 5,000 students, and 600 employees and contractors.

The diversity of the area served by Grande Yellowhead Public School Division creates challenges as the jurisdiction attempts to preserve the unique, valuable and attractive attributes of each community while creating the regional consistency required for the Division to operate smoothly and with fiscal responsibility.

Respecting the diversity of each community is integral to the success of students. Grande Yellowhead Public School Division believes that schools must work closely with parents and community members to ensure that the needs of all students are met. Furthermore, public schools are a vital component of the communities they serve, and therefore must reflect community values and the needs of local families. This respect is sought and achieved by Grande Yellowhead through:

- Close communication and interaction between schools and community leaders.
- Encouraging both parents and community members to support and become involved in their neighbourhood school through school councils, volunteer work, and regular visits.
- Reflecting the specific needs of communities in divisional plannings, such as transportation schedules and the Division calendar.

The consistency required for the efficient and effective management of the Division is achieved through close interaction between school-based administration, Division administration, and the Board of Trustees. Through a collaborative decision-making model, these leaders contribute to creating and achieving shared goals for the Division, ensuring that all Grande Yellowhead schools and staff are moving in the same direction, and working for the best needs of students. The Board approved three priorities in 2018, ensuring that the entire Division is moving towards a shared vision of excellence:

- Student learning
- Teaching and leadership excellence
- Community engagement

Each year the Division evaluates the work of all schools and departments towards reaching these goals and develops plans to ensure that these objectives continue to be achieved and improved upon. As a result, all three areas continue to demonstrate considerable, consistent improvement, giving the Division and its stakeholders something to celebrate!

For more information concerning Grande Yellowhead Public School Division please see our website at www.gypsd.ca.



Divisional Staff

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Carolyn Lewis | Superintendent of Schools |
| Constantine Kastrinos | Chief Deputy Superintendent, Learning, Leadership Services & Human Resources |
| Carra Aschenmeier | Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services |
| Kelly Harding | Assistant Superintendent, Board Relations, Communications & Transportation |
| Christine Van Neck | Director of Transportation Services |

Trustee for Evansburg area

Melody Bobilek

Wildwood School



Our Vision

To be the school of choice committed to student excellence in a community of choice.

Our Mission

We will inspire our students to learn and achieve excellence.

For more information concerning Wildwood School please explore our website at <https://wildwoodschool.gypsd.ca/>



School Staff

Postal Address

Wildwood School
Box 210
Wildwood, AB T0E
2M0

Wildwood School
Website
www.wildwoodschool.ca

Street Address

5311-47st
Wildwood, AB

Grande Yellowhead
Public School Division
www.gypsd.ca

Office:

Principal

Mr. Stuart Graham
stuagrah@gypsd.ca

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Shirley Vankosky
shirvank@gypsd.ca

Support Staff

Mrs. Sharon Fehr

Mrs. Erin Hicks

Ms. Donna Smith

Family School Liaison Counsellor

Tara Burdock
taraburd@gypsd.ca

Classrooms:

Junior Kindergarten & Kindergarten

Mrs. Jonie Gerspacher
jonigers@gypsd.ca

Grade 1

Ms. Julie Douglas
julidoug@gypsd.ca

Mrs. Deanna Lang
deanlang@gypsd.ca

Grade 2

Miss Sammie Weninger
sammweni@gypsd.ca

Mrs. Deanna Lang
deanlang@gypsd.ca

Grade 3/4

Mrs. Gayle Kowalchuk
gaylkowa@gypsd.ca

Mrs. Deanna Lang
deanlang@gypsd.ca

Grade 5/6

Ms. Lisl Gunderman
lislgund@gypsd.ca



School Council and Society

Wildwood School Parent Council

Purpose

A school council provides a means to facilitate cooperation among all the concerned participants in the local school. School Councils, through commitment and creativity, generate a strong community spirit which makes a school more than just a building. Commitment and creativity combine to create a learning environment where students experience the commitment of: fellow students, teachers and teaching assistants, school administration, and parents. This shared commitment makes the common goal a reality...better education.

Goals

The goals of the School Council, in keeping with the *Education Act* and the *School Councils Regulation*, are to:

- A. Represent the parent perspective by providing advice to and consulting with the principal and the board on matters relating to the School such as: the School philosophy, mission and vision, policies, improvement plans, programs and directions, and budget allocations to meet student needs;
- B. Develop special events which will foster participation and well-being of the school community;
- C. Develop a communication plan to share information with parents and the community and facilitate communications with all educational stakeholders;
- D. Consult with other school councils and provincial organizations;
- E. Advise school boards, Alberta Education or other provincial organizations on broader educational issues;
- F. Encourage a positive atmosphere where individual contributions are encouraged and valued;
- G. Stimulate continuous improvement in meaningful involvement by all members of the School Community;
- H. Facilitate collaboration among concerned participants of the School Community;
- I. Support an approach to education in which decisions are made collaboratively and, wherever possible, at the School and classroom level;
- J. Facilitate the achievement of a common vision for the School;
- K. Facilitate a formal performance evaluation of our School Council and communicate the results of this evaluation to the school board and the School Community;
- L. Support the School in its efforts to focus teachers' time and the School resources on the essential tasks of teaching and learning;
- M. Facilitate communication with educational stakeholders and the general community;
- N. Comply with the School Councils Regulation by providing the school board with an annual report that summarizes the School Council's activities for the previous school year, including a financial statement relating to money, if any, handled by the School Council, no later than September 30th.
- O. Adhere to School Council's Code of Ethics



School Programming and Curriculum

Importance of Recess

Recess periods are provided to allow students to gain physical exercise, to communicate and share experiences with other students and to learn to play and share with one another. It is an important part of a child's educational experience. Students are expected to go outside for recess whenever weather permits. Children who must remain indoors because of colds or who are recovering from an illness must bring a note stating the reason and suggested duration for staying indoors. If school authorities question the length of time a child is missing recess periods, a note from a doctor may be required. It is important children come dressed appropriately, for the weather and outdoor play.

Culture of Success

In any and all discipline actions we all must **Discipline with Dignity**. No student should be deprived of the right to learn. We are interested in teaching students how to behave as to ensure that quality learning can occur in our school.

Teaching Staff are expected to:

- Assist students in developing self-discipline and good study habits
- Establish specific classroom conduct guides and follow the Classroom Plan as described below. Staff may implement an individualized plan as long as the School Classroom Plan is worked in adequately
- Provide opportunities for each individual to succeed
- Provide opportunities for dialogue regarding problems and difficulties
- Consider individual circumstances when assigning extra work

Parents are expected to:

- Ensure students attend on a regular basis and notify the school should a child be absent
- Encourage self-discipline and responsible behaviour
- Cooperate with the school when intervention becomes necessary
- Keep the school informed of any circumstances that may affect student conduct
- Read all newsletters and be aware of school events
- Contact the teacher and the school if there is a concern
- Ensure students complete homework assignments and study regularly

Students are expected to:

- Arrive at school and attend class on time
- Attend class regularly and be prepared with the proper materials
- Abide by rules established to help maintain a positive learning environment at Wildwood School
- Use courteous and respectful language and behaviour in the hallways



- Master classroom studies to the best of their ability

We are ALL expected to

- show **Respect** for others
- be **Responsible** for our actions
- be **Ready to learn**
- be a good **Role model** to others

If expectations are not met:

The staff is committed to increasing communication not only between teachers and students but also between school and home. This may come in the form of encouraging phone calls, positive notes home and positive student led conferences.

Students will also know when they have chosen behaviour that is unacceptable. They will be made aware of an appropriate way to behave in the situation. Our goal is to help students see that they are responsible for their own behaviour and that they are in control of themselves. **The choice is always with the students.**

A key element of our discipline policy is the concept of *forgiveness*. Students who have made a genuine effort to correct their unacceptable behaviours will not be held to task for their past wrongs. Teachers will continue to ensure that positive behaviour is given recognition.

Response to Intervention (RTI)

Wildwood School & GYPSD

Parent Information

As parents we want our children to do well in school. We know that children need to be proficient in reading, communicating, mathematics, and have strong 'people skills' to flourish in 21st century jobs. Children learn from their parents and teachers that they are expected to master the curriculum and keep pace with their peers. Not surprisingly, when they don't meet these expectations, they become demoralized. Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-step approach to provide early, timely supports to struggling students rather than waiting for a child to fail before offering help.



Student Conduct Expectations

Join us in encouraging Positive Behaviours.

HOWLERS

Honesty

*Be a truthful and sincere **role model** for others.*

Ownership

*You are responsible for your **behaviours and attitude**. Dress appropriately.*

Wisdom

*You have the power to do what is true and right. **Think before you act!***

Loyalty

*Be faithful to your **commitments and obligations**. Be true to yourself and others.*

Excellence

*Put your **best effort forward**, strive for your highest level of accomplishment.*

Respectfulness

*Hold **yourself, others and property** in high regard.*

Safety

*Always **act in a safe manner** avoiding risk, injury or danger.*

HOWLERS is designed to create a climate of cooperation, respect, safety, and academic excellence, and is based on the following seven guiding principles.

1. Clear **expectations** for students.
2. Clear, consistent strategies for **teaching** appropriate behaviour.
3. Clear, consistent strategies for **encouraging** appropriate behaviour.
4. Clear, consistent consequences **discouraging inappropriate behaviour**.
5. **Support** system and individual behaviour programs for students with unique or exceptional needs.
6. Methods for **evaluating** and **revising** **HOWLERS**.
7. Philosophy and characteristics that are **communicated** to students and parents.



Wildwood Behaviour Expectations (Examples)

| We Value . . . | Classroom | Bathroom | Playground |
|--|--|---|--|
| Honesty <i>Be a truthful and sincere role model for others.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do your own work Only use others' items with permission Return items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be in the washroom only when you need to be Return promptly to class | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play fair, follow the rules of the game Share equipment Take turns |
| Ownership <i>You are responsible for your own behaviours and attitude.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your workspace clean Keep your work organized Take home and return items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave the bathroom clean and tidy Own the garbage of others if necessary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear appropriate clothing Line up quickly when bell or whistle sound Return and care for equipment |
| Wisdom <i>You have the power to do what is true and right. Think before you act!</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be rested, be ready to learn Eat healthy meals at home and at school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let an adult know of any problems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any injuries to supervising adults Report any damaged equipment Watch out for others around you |
| Loyalty <i>Be faithful to your commitments and obligations. Be true to yourself and others.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate, cooperate Do assigned classroom jobs Show support for others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage others to keep the washroom clean Get help for students who seem to need it | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen for bell or whistle Play safe Help and include others Share and cooperate |
| Excellence <i>Put your best effort forward, strive for your highest level of accomplishment.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give your best effort, take pride in your work Listen to and follow directions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick and courteous use of the bathroom facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a good sport Follow the rules Play for the fun of it |
| Respectfulness <i>Hold yourself, others and property with a high regard.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use good manners, and a polite tone of voice Welcome guest speakers and presenters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put garbage in the garbage can Give others their privacy Use school language and quiet voices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow instructions and requests of Supervisors Respect others ability levels Use school language |
| Safety <i>Always act in a safe manner to avoid risk, injury or danger.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself Use the work space and furniture appropriately Walk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash your hands thoroughly Keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself Walk to washroom | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your shoes on Use equipment properly Stay in the playground |

Discipline Procedures

Wildwood takes a common sense and reasonable approach towards discipline. A list of school rules, which apply to all students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6, is available at the school. Parents will be actively involved in the discipline process and will be contacted by either their child's teacher or the school administration if a problem arises. Parental contact is initiated when the behaviour in question is severe or continues to be a problem after the student has been given an opportunity to correct the behaviour in question. Consequences for inappropriate behaviour will be dependent on each individual incident. The general procedure for discipline, depending on the severity of the incident, is a conversation with the student first. However if the incident is more serious the consequences could involve detentions, letters of apology, suspension, etc. as well as contacting parents. If the behaviour continues after the initial conversation then parents will be contacted in order to help resolve the outstanding issues. Our goal is to provide a safe and caring learning environment for all the students of our school.

If you have any questions concerning these expectations or suggestions as to how we can improve them, please contact the school during regular school hours.



Busing and Bus Conduct

For any questions or concerns regarding busing, please contact Transportation.

Transportation Services

(780)-723-4471

transportation@gypsd.ca

Explore this link - [Bus Safety & Parent Information | Grande Yellowhead Public School Division](#)

Student Conduct & Rider Rules

Bus drivers are responsible for the conduct of students while they are being transported on the bus. Most behavioral problems can be handled effectively by employing low profile techniques that positively influence the rules of conduct on the bus. The following guidelines are meant to serve as the process for dealing with student behavioral problems:

1. Drivers should attempt to solve the problem by dealing directly with the student(s) involved in the incident.
2. Should verbal warnings fail, the driver may wish to try an alternate mode of discipline such as moving the student(s) to the front seat of the bus for a specific period of time. The driver must document all actions that have been taken beyond that of informal discussions.
3. Should the problem(s) persist the driver must contact the parent(s) to inform them of ongoing concerns on the bus.
4. If student behavior does not improve after contacting the parent, the driver must report further behavior problems to the school principal using the misconduct report.
5. School buses are an extension of the classroom and all policies and regulations regarding student conduct in the classroom apply to buses.
6. Only the Principal of the student's school has the authority to suspend bus riding privileges.

The role of the school bus driver carries much responsibility as these are the individuals transporting your children to and from school each day. The primary role of any driver is to remain focused on safe operation of the school bus while maintaining distractions to a minimum. Whether there are 17 or 70 students on board the school bus, distractions will have an impact on the driver's ability to stay focused on the task at hand, driving! Please discuss the School Bus Rider rules with your children and explain that the rules are in place to keep them safe while riding.

School Bus Rider Rules

1. Students should be at the bus stop 3–5 minutes before scheduled pickup time and be appropriately dressed for weather conditions.
2. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting out of your seat or on/off of the bus. Students must not leave their seat while the bus is in motion.
3. Cross the road 3 metres in front of the bus. **Do not cross the road until the Bus Driver signals you to do so.**



4. Go directly to the seat assigned to you and sit facing forward with your feet in front of you.
5. Do not put arms, hands or head out the window. Place all garbage in the trash container. DO NOT throw garbage/objects out the window or on the floor.
6. Loud or noisy behaviour is prohibited as this is distracting to the driver.
7. Articles NOT permitted on the bus: Skis, Snowboards, Skateboards, Animals, Firearms, Explosives, Combustible materials or anything of a dangerous nature that might endanger the lives or safety of others. Check with the bus driver before taking sports equipment or band equipment on the bus.
8. Electronic audio equipment with adequate sound retention headphones may be used by passengers, at the discretion of the Bus Driver.
9. The aisle of the bus must be kept clear at all times. No article may block or extend into the aisle or emergency exits.
10. Permission from a caregiver/school is required before a passenger may be dropped off at another stop. Please inform the bus driver when you will not be on the bus.
11. Guest riders require written permission from a caregiver or the school. Arrangements should be made with the bus driver, prior to the guest riding.
12. The school bus driver is responsible for passenger safety. Follow the direction of the bus driver at all times.
13. Profanity, abusive language/behaviour or possession/use of drugs, tobacco or alcohol, on the school bus, will not be permitted. Incidents will be reported to the Principal immediately.
14. Any violation of the rules or damage to the bus will be reported to the Principal. The passenger or their guardian may be charged with the cost of repair for any damages.

Traffic Safety

You will need to be aware of the following items and issues to contribute to the safety of all as they come and go from Wildwood School:

- We have very young children who are hard to see and who also require examples of safety consciousness
- Children are unpredictable, give them room and choose a different way.
- Students walking away from the school need to make use of the crosswalk to cross the street to sidewalks that lead South, West and North
- Students need to be dressed appropriately for the weather to ride the bus or to walk to school.
- Children riding to school on bike, skateboard, scooter or other conveyance must meet Provincial requirements regarding licensing and helmets. The School Act places responsibility on the school for the student's safe travel to and from school.
- You are in a School Zone, 30 km per hour please
- You are not to park on the East and West sides of the road running parallel to the front of the school
- Parking in the loading zone could result in a ticket if you leave your vehicle
- Passing a bus with flashing red lights makes you eligible for a large ticket
- Stunting in a school zone comes with another large ticket.

Let's keep our children and each other safe.



Public Entry Procedures

Wildwood School welcomes your participation in school and education related activities as we work to maintain the security of our students and building.

In keeping with GYPSD safety regulations all people entering the school must sign in in the following manner:

- All classroom visits, volunteering or teacher meetings must be scheduled and by appointment only.
- If you are visiting your child's classroom or a classroom hosted event or volunteering, please locate the VISITOR'S binder in the office logging in your arrival and departure times.

For parents or community members volunteering, invited as guests, attending other events being hosted by Wildwood School or conducting school related business at the office, please ring the bell at the main door as Wildwood School doors will remain locked access at all times.

Student Arrival and Pickup

School Doors do not open until 8:25 a.m. daily.

Note: Lateness and absences will be reported and recorded on report cards.

In the event that your child will not be attending school on a particular day, please phone the office (780-325-3858) so the homeroom teacher can be informed and attendance records maintained.

Town Students

Students living in town are asked not to arrive before 8:20 a.m. unless participating in organized activities, requested by a teacher, or special circumstances arise.

Student Drop off and Pick up

Parents driving their child in the morning are asked not to drop off before 8:20 a.m.

Wildwood School welcomes your participation in school and education related activities as we work to maintain the security of our students and building.

To that end we ask that parents wishing to pick up their children at the end of the school day kindly wait in their vehicles or across the street on 54 Ave (Frog Alley) or in front of the Maintenance Shop. Your children will be sure to find you there.

Should you require your child to be notified regarding your picking them up, the office would be happy to do that for you (780-325-3858).



Should you be needing to locate your child at the last minute of the day please come into the office and an announcement for them will be made.

Bus Students

In the case of inclement weather, the bus driver (or selected representatives) will contact parents of the children on their route. The Grande Yellowhead Public School Division website, www.gypsd.ca as well as our own site, <http://wildwoodschool.ca/>, have BUS icons that will allow you to confirm whether your child's bus is running or late. Also downloading of the "Bus Status App" advises of bus notifications.

Student Absenteeism

Parents are requested to inform the school if their child will be absent on a particular day (780-325.-858).

Closed Campus

Wildwood School is a closed campus for students.

Wildwood School is comprised of Junior Kindergarten through Grade Six students for whom we have two primary goals:

- Accomplishment and mastery of student learning
- Ensuring a Safe and Caring learning environment

To this end, and to safeguard the learning and safety of the majority of our students, Wildwood School is officially a ***Closed School***. This means that children are expected to stay on school grounds throughout the day leaving only with their parents or guardians.



Hour Zero Emergency Management



program overview

Hour-Zero™ is an emergency preparedness program designed specifically for schools.

Hour-Zero™ features stakeholder presentations, risk hazard assessments, a detailed plan which includes specific processes for schools and district departments, training, testing, plan maintenance and an extensive library of templates to manage the crisis.

The Hour-Zero program is supported by a robust web application, which ensures districts have a plan that is easily maintained and kept current. The program provides for mapping, first responder collaboration, ICS integration, on-line training, report generation, drill and training development, and much more.

The Hour-Zero™ program works through all the phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery) to ensure your district has a complete emergency response program.

Hour-Zero™ works in unison with cooperating agencies to provide a standardized plan of action for each department and school, utilizing ICS, NIMS, industry best practices and government standards.

The Hour-Zero™ solution:

- Ensures individual school plans dovetail with and are supported by the district's overall plan; as well as promoting community collaboration by coordinating with cooperating emergency response agencies.
- Addresses the development, rollout, stakeholder presentations, training, testing and annual maintenance/updates needed to implement the plan throughout the school district.
- Was developed by experts with hands-on experience dealing with school crises.
- Employs the Incident Command System (ICS), in a way that is practical and functional for a school district.



- Includes 300+ communications templates to ensure accurate and timely information to all stakeholders under times of stress.
- Gives school and district staff the ability and confidence to deal with crisis situations.
- Acknowledges and respects the authority of each school and district administrator while providing a consistent response program throughout the district.
- Provides the COMPLETE emergency management solution for districts from assessments through to plan maintenance.

Student Health Information

Call Health Link “811”

Alberta’s free, 24/7 health information and advice line.

Health Link staff provide advice and navigation services via telephone free of charge as well as online health information to the public through MyHealth.Alberta.ca.

In a medical emergency, Albertans should continue to dial “911” or visit the nearest emergency department. Albertans can access non-emergency health information at <https://myhealth.alberta.ca>

This site was built by the Alberta Government and Alberta Health Services to give Albertans one place to go for **health information they can trust**. Healthcare experts across the province make sure the information is correct, up to date, and written for people who live in Alberta.

MyHealth.Alberta.ca is home to valuable, easy-to-understand health information and tools made for Albertans, including information about:

- health conditions
- healthy living
- medications
- tests and treatments

There are also:

- educational videos
- symptom checkers
- emergency phone numbers
- a health care locator (e.g., a family doctor near you)

Please use these sources if you are having difficulty deciding whether to keep your child home from school.



Student Medication Policy

The primary responsibility for administering medication to students is the parent(s)/guardian(s). Arrangements can be made for administering medication. If a child has a chronic medical condition, parents must complete **Form 316-01** in order for the school to administer the medication. Should a child require pain relief for an occasional headache, etc. the parent will be called for permission to administer.

[MEDICAL CARE APPLICATION AND RELEASE FORM](#)

[ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT FORM](#)

Illness or Injury

A child's illness or injury that requires them to be moved out of the classroom will result in the parent or guardian being phoned by the school office to pick up the child. If we are unable to contact the parent or guardian after three attempts, the student's emergency contact will be notified and requested to pick up the child.

School Calendar

The current school year calendar is available on the website.

[GYPSED Calendar](#)

In addition a year calendar is sent home with all students. This calendar will also be available on the school webpage as well.

School Messenger will also keep you updated weekly by phone and e-mail.



Bell Schedule

Bell: 8:25-8:40 am Entrance and Class Preparation

Block 1

Block 2

Bell : 10:00-10:15 am Morning Break / Recess

Block 3

Block 4

Bell: 11:35-11:50 am Lunch

Bell: 11:50-12:20 pm Noon Break / Recess

Block 5

Block 6

Bell: 1:40-1:55 pm Afternoon Break / Recess

Block 7

Block 8

Bell: 3:25 pm Students dismissed



Inclement Weather

Buses

The Director of Transportation Services (or designate) will begin to check weather, road condition and temperature in Grande Cache, Hinton, Lobstick, and Edson areas at 5:00 am.

If inclement weather conditions are in effect, the Director of Transportation Services may suspend bus service in areas affected.

The Director of Transportation Services will source temperature, road and weather information from various sources such as Environment Canada and The Weather Network.

Drivers in each area assigned to the driver fan out, will contact the Director of Transportation Services with area temperatures and road reports, when inclement weather conditions are in effect.

All school bus route cancellations and delays in excess of 10 minutes are posted at www.gypsd.ca
Please check the status of your bus

<https://www.gypsd.ca/departments-services/transportation/bus-status>

Indoor Recess

If the temperature is below -20, we normally have an in-door recess. If wind chill is a factor we take that into consideration.

If it is raining outside we normally have an indoor recess.

Please be sure your child has adequate clothing for the weather and is prepared for changing weather conditions.

If a student arrives at school dressed inadequately, the Teacher shall inform the Principal and call the parent.

Staff members on supervision in conjunction with the Principal, shall determine if weather conditions are such that children may remain in school.

Field Trips

The *majority* of monies required to provide students with curriculum related field trips is funded with a user-pay approach and philosophy. Some fundraising may take place in the school to both reduce user costs and ensure that all students will be able to attend.



Assessment Philosophy

1. Assessment serves three purposes: assessment FOR, AS, and OF learning.

- Assessment FOR learning is the ongoing analysis of the student's learning and is designed to give teachers information to plan, modify, and differentiate teaching
- Assessment AS learning engages students to become independent and lifelong learners. Teachers teach students to self-assess, peer-assess, and use descriptive feedback
- Assessment OF learning is the measurement and documentation of achievement for the purpose of reporting. Assessment must be balanced - including oral, performance, and written tasks and be flexible in order to improve learning for all learners

2. Assessment is an integral part of effective planning, learning and teaching.

- Assessment goals are consistent with Provincial standards and direction
- Assessment must allow for ongoing student and teacher reflection that guides learning and teaching

3. Assessment is an ongoing, continuous process.

- Assessment includes the use of peer-assessment and self-assessment
- Assessment involves reflection
- Assessment provides specific and descriptive feedback
- Instruction is adjusted as a result of assessment information

4. Assessment involves clear communication of goals, expectations and criteria.

- Communication occurs between teachers, students, and parents
- Communication summarizes what students know, can do and understand
- Feedback must be timely, dynamic, frequent, and meaningful.

5. Assessment involves students to encourage their success and growth.

- Assessment uses goal and criteria setting
- Students are able to describe their learning progress
- Students can plan the next steps they need to take to improve their learning

6. Assessment respects, reflects, and identifies the varied developmental needs of all learners.

- Assessment establishes a baseline of prior knowledge
- Assessment addresses the developmental characteristics of the students and considers their learning styles and intelligences
- Assessment considers the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual characteristics of the students
- Assessment considers the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students
- Assessment recognizes the need for accommodations, adaptations, and modifications
- Assessment feedback is constructive and the focus must be on the learning rather than the learner

7. Assessment practices must be based on current research into best practices and allow for teacher innovation.

- The most effective assessment/grading practices provide accurate, specific and timely feedback designed to improve student performance
- Effective assessment practices require ongoing professional development on the part of the teacher
- Assessment literate teachers require knowledge and skills to assess for learning
- Assessment is a critical part of teachers' reflection and ongoing refinement of practice
- Action research can have a significant impact on teacher assessment practices and innovation



8. Assessment must be fair and equitable.

- Assessment is differentiated and therefore provides students with sufficient opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, skills, attitudes, or behaviours
- Effective assessment ensures the use of grading practices that accurately represent student performance
- Effective assessment is designed and developed in ways that ensure reliability and validity and minimize distortion and bias

Student Led Conference

Student Led Conferences spotlight the most important person in the process, the student. The parent's involvement as their child's primary educator is improved when all parties recognize that it is the student who has the most power to improve their learning. The Student Led Conference brings students to the point where they ask themselves, their parents, their peers, and their teachers, "How can I make my work better?"

Student Led Conferences put the student in charge, holding them responsible and accountable as they present their work to their parents. Student Led Conferences transfer the responsibility for producing and maintaining quality work to the student who is then given the opportunity to publicly present, explain and take ownership of their work or lack of work.

Fees

SCHOOL FEES— **Field Trip fees will be collected prior to each event that takes place.**

Divisional Fees:

Instructional Materials Fees - These have been eliminated by the provincial government.

School Fees:

Clubs

- Archery — NASP: Cost TBD

Field Trips

- Exact costs will depend on the specifics of the trip. Costs will be in the range of \$20-\$100.

Materials

- Lock Purchase: \$10



Parent Volunteers and Visitors

We want to welcome you to visit our school and wish to make your visit meaningful. In order to help ensure this, we ask that you call ahead and make arrangements to visit because there are times when the class may be on a field trip, involved in a practice for a music program, taking a test, or a substitute may be teaching.

We encourage you to visit school any time after the first two weeks of school and before the last four weeks of school. We recommend that parents of kindergarten children wait three weeks before visiting. Parents are discouraged from bringing preschool youngsters to school for classroom events.

Students who attend other schools or other school districts may not attend ours when they are on vacation. We do not have the authority to assume responsibility for them.

If you as a parent wish to discuss something with the teacher, please make an appointment to do so after school. These visits should be kept to half an hour.

If you wish to volunteer at Wildwood School, please ask for a Volunteer Package at the office.

Dress Code

Students are expected to dress for a *workplace* environment. We expect to see them dressed in a clean, neat, appropriate manner. Appropriate clothing will cover all undergarments and midriff. Sleeveless tops covering the majority of the shoulder are acceptable. Clothing with offensive words, slogans or pictures are considered inappropriate. Clothing displaying slogans or pictures of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, sexual, racial or violent overtones will not be permitted.

Dressing according to the weather is encouraged. Except for inappropriate weather conditions, students should expect to go outside for recess's (Grades JK to 6). Students neglecting to wear footwear inside could find it extremely cold or wet in the event of a fire or fire drill that requires students to quickly leave the building. All students must wear running shoes for their Daily Physical Activity classes.

Cell Phone and Electronic Devices

No Student Cell phones are permitted in Wildwood School classrooms or on the school playground.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found container is in the Gymnasium. Clothes not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to charity.

