



Busby School Handbook 2020 – 2021

PURPOSE STATEMENT

“Achieving Excellence – Child by Child – Day by Day - Together”

VISION STATEMENTS

At Busby School we will:

- **Create a positive environment.** Through teamwork, we will promote a safe, loving atmosphere that secures wellness for everyone.
- **Motivate learning.** Use innovative ways to promote and assess growth, learning and achievement among students and staff.
- **Cultivate parents and community involvement.** We will encourage two-way communication, cooperation, and active involvement with parents, staff and students and community members.
- **Include all learners.** We will foster inclusion through Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction in collaboration with parents, students and staff. At risk students will be identified and supported.
- **Develop organized, independent learners.** We will encourage students to be risk-takers, to do their best to become successful.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! It is a great pleasure to welcome you back to a new and exciting year at Busby School. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new students, staff and families, as well as our returning families. I hope that everyone had a restful holiday, that you had the opportunity to connect with family and friends and to recharge.

We are well aware that your most cherished possessions will be in our hands for the next 10 months. Because of this, we want you to know that we take our responsibility as educators and leaders very seriously. We will do everything in our power to make sure your child feels respected, safe, happy and successful at Busby School. With all of us working together – parents, teachers, staff and students- The magic of our small school culture can be magnified. We hope you are as excited as we are for a great year!

We greatly value communication here at Busby School and put a lot of effort into providing our families with current, meaningful and helpful information. Our "Wednesday envelopes" is where you will find our weekly newsletters, permission forms and any other pertinent information we want to share. Another great way to stay current on all things Busby School related is to check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/busbyschool> which is updated regularly. Feel free to also visit our school website at www.busbyschool.ca

Busby School takes great pride in creating an educational environment where students can learn in an inclusive, caring and creative way. Together our staff encourages students to engage in a lifelong love of learning. As we focus on student achievement we will provide a variety of academic and educational experiences that promote student growth and learning throughout the year. Through our professional development, teachers will regularly collaborate, analyze data, and plan instruction, to ensure student achievement is attained throughout each grade level. During the upcoming school year I encourage you to take an active role in your child's learning. Parent involvement plays an important and critical role in our school's and your child's success.

Here's to another great year!

Sincerely,
Angie Bachand
Principal

STAFFING INFORMATION

Phone: 780.349.2464 Fax: 780.349.2431

E-Mail Address (Principal: angie.bachand@pembinahills.ab.ca)

Website: www.busbyschool.ca www.pembinahills.ab.ca

ADMINISTRATION

Angie Bachand

Principal, Grade 2

SCHOOL OFFICE

Mrs. Shelley Johnston

Administrative Assistant

TEACHING STAFF

Mrs. Tanya Kaliel
Ms. Kathleen Jingling
Mrs. Tara Golby
Ms Erin Harder
Mrs. Janelle Laughy
Mr. Jim Schaffer

Kindergarten
Grade 1
Grade 2
Grade 3
Grade 4/5
Grade 6

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Aubrie Badduik	Program Assistant
Mrs. Kim Belanger	Program Assistant
Mrs. Blythe Kirchner	Program Assistant
Mrs. Carmen Meinczinger	Early Learning Teacher
Mrs. Jolene Meinczinger	Program Assistant /Early Learning
Mrs. Lindsay Lambert	Program Assistant
Mrs. Joann Fauque	BPREP Program Assistant

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE

Early Childhood Services	Family School Liaison
Speech/Language Pathologist	Behaviour Consultant
Indigenous Liaison Worker	



2020-2021 at a Glance

September

Tues. 1st	District Staff Day (no students)
Wed. 2nd	First Student Day - Grade- K 6
Mon. 7th	Labour Day - No School
Tue. 8th	First BPREP Day
Fri. 25th	Teacher Directed PD - No Students

October

Fri. 2nd	PD Day - No Students
Mon. 5th	Goal setting (evening)
Tues. 6th	Goal setting (evening)
Fri. 9th	Alternate Day – No School
Mon. 12th	Thanksgiving - No School
Fri. 23rd	Alternate Operational Day - No Students
Fri. 30th	Alternate Day - No Students

November

Fri. 6th	Alternate Operational Day – No Students
Wed. 11th	Remembrance Day – No School
Fri. 20th	Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 27th	Alternate Day – No School

December

Fri. 4th	Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 11th	Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 18th	Alternate Day – No School
21st-31st	Christmas Break

January

Fri. 1st New Year Day - No School
Mon. 4th Classes Resume
Fri. 8th Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 15th Alternate Operational Day - No Students
Fri. 22nd Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 29th PD Day – No Students

February

4th & 5th Teachers' Convention – No School
Mon. 15th Family Day - No School
Fri. 26th Teacher Directed PD - No Students

March

Fri. 5th Alternate Day – No Students
Mon. 8th Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
Tues. 9th Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
Fri. 12th PD Day – No Students
Fri. 19th Alternate Operational Day – No Students
Fri. 26th Alternate Day - No School
29th – 31st Spring Break – No School

April

Fri. 2nd Good Friday – No School
Mon. 5th Easter Monday – No School
Fri. 16th Alternate Day - No School
Fri. 23rd PD Day – No School
Fri. 30th Alternate Operational Day - No Students

May

Fri. 7th Alternate Day - No School
Fri. 14th Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 21st Alternate Day – No School
Mon. 24th Victoria Day – No School

June

Fri. 4th Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 11th Alternate Day – No School
Fri. 18th Last Kindergarten Day
Thurs. 24th Last Student Day
Fri. 25th Alternate Day – No School



General Information

ABSENCES/ LATES

Regular attendance is a key component to student achievement. Students are expected to attend classes regularly. If your child will be absent or late for any reason (at home, medical, dental, holidays, etc) please contact the school office by 9:00 AM. The school Administrative Assistant may call your home if we have not heard from you. If a student is absent from class for an excessive number of days without a justifiable reason we are required to inform the Attendance Officer.

AGENDA BOOKS and HOMEWORK

The support and interest of parents have a large influence on a student's attitude towards homework. The agenda books are used by students in Kindergarten to Grade six, and are a link between home and school. **Parents are asked to read and sign the agendas daily. Homework assignments are recorded in the agenda daily.** It is the student's responsibility to complete all homework assignments. If you have questions or concerns about the assignments your child is bringing home, do not hesitate to contact his/her teacher(s).

APPROPRIATE DRESS

All students are expected to play outside during recess and noon breaks, unless it is *extremely* cold or wet. Students must be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions, including: boots, snow pants, mittens and hats in the winter. **Please label all items - even just writing the name or initials on a tag inside the garment helps us find the owner of lost items.**

Students need **inside** shoes and **outside** shoes **appropriate for physical activities**. Shoes worn in the gymnasium must be runners with **non-marking soles**.

All students must **dress appropriately** for school. Clothes with inappropriate sayings or graphics or that are too revealing are not acceptable. Students who are inappropriately dressed will be given suitable clothing to wear.

ASSEMBLIES

Regular school-wide assemblies are held in the gym with grade level performances along with a showcase, Remembrance Day ceremony, Christmas Concerts, a Volunteer Appreciation Tea & Art Show, and farewells. These are opportunities to celebrate individual strengths and student achievement in all areas. All students have the opportunity to share their talents as each classroom takes a turn at planning and presenting an assembly. It is also a time to present awards and share achievements with family and community members. Watch our newsletters for dates and times.

BUSSING INFORMATION

Students riding the bus need to be at their bus stop at least five minutes before their pickup time. After school drop off times may vary, depending on load and weather conditions as well as which students are riding the bus each day. Please ensure that there is someone home to meet the bus after school. All riders must have appropriate clothing for the season including boots, mittens, hats, and snowpants in the winter. **If your child will not be riding the bus that day please contact your bus driver and let them know and write a note in their agendas.** If you have bussing questions or concerns, please contact Transportation at 780-674-8509.

ILLNESS / MEDICATION

Please be sure the school has **an up-to-date medical history** of your child as well as **phone numbers for home and place of business** and an **emergency contact** number. If a child becomes ill or is injured while at school the parent (guardian) will be contacted. If the parent (guardian) or emergency contact can't be reached, the child will be advised to rest in the infirmary.

If a student must receive medication, prescribed by a medical practitioner, during the school day or during an extra co-curricular school-sponsored activity, and the parents are unable to be at school to administer the medication, only the principal or the principal's designee shall administer the medication in compliance with the regulations that follow:

If your child is required to take prescribed medication or over-the-counter medication, the 'Medication Form' must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian. This form is available at the school office. Medication must be brought to school by the parent, not the child. Parents should talk to the principal regarding inhalers for children with asthma. Please have a list of side effects attached to any medications. (At no additional charge and by your request, pills can be obtained from a pharmacist in two labeled containers).

LIBRARY

Students have scheduled library classes each week and are encouraged to take books home to read, or have read to them. If books are overdue, students will receive a written reminder. Students are responsible for replacing damaged or lost books. Parents are also encouraged to stop by the library and find reading material for school aged and preschool children.

LOST & FOUND

A "Lost & Found box" is placed in the foyer of the school. Many times during the year, the items are displayed in the front foyer. The unclaimed items are given away to social agencies at the end of each school year. Parents are always welcome to check these boxes for lost items. To facilitate identification of lost items, it is requested that **the parents mark runners, shoes, coats, snow pants, lunch kits, etc. with the names of students.**

NEWSLETTERS

A newsletter to parents is published each Wednesday to keep you informed as to what is happening at Busby School and in the community. Watch for your family's "Wednesday Envelope" sent home weekly with the youngest child in the family. Your envelope will contain memos, newsletters, calendars, permission slips, order forms for hot lunches, etc. Please use this envelope to return forms, money, notes, etc. to school. **PLEASE RETURN YOUR ENVELOPE for reuse the following week.**

NUTRITION

Eating to learn. Children are more prepared to learn if they have proper nutrition. Please ensure that the lunches students bring have healthy choices. Morning snacks as well as the noon lunch must be nutritious. There are microwaves in each classroom for student use.

PHOTO PROGRAM

A photo program takes place in the Fall and Spring. Individual pictures are available in selected packages at various prices. Further information is sent home prior to photo day outlining the various choices and prices. If you do not want to participate in the Spring photo program please write a note in you child's agenda letting us know.

REPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We encourage regular on-going communication between families and teachers regarding student achievement. Progress reports will be issued three times each school year in November, February and June. Parent / Student / Teacher Conferences are held in October and February. Please contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions or concerns at any time throughout the year.

SCHOOL CLOSURE due to Inclement Weather

The decision to close schools is made by Pembina Hills transportation department. School closures will be broadcast on CFOK as well as major Edmonton radio stations, Busby School Website, and the Pembina Hills Website. If school is unexpectedly closed early in the day, an attempt will be made to contact all parents by telephone.

SCHOOL COUNCIL/PARENT COUNCIL

Busby School is very fortunate to have **an active and supportive School Council** who work untiringly for our students and our school. We value the input and guidance they provide. We are very appreciative of the support provided by our School Council. If you have not attended a School Council meeting **you have a rewarding experience awaiting you. Meetings are held at 4:00 pm and babysitting is provided.**

Our School Council has:

- helped establish school policies
- worked Casinos so our students can concentrate on learning, not fundraising
- paid for the cost of the student agendas
- paid for field trips
- paid for computers
- paid for the cost of the grade five and six overnight field trip
- attended Lions Club meeting to request donation to help cover the cost of bussing for sports events and field trips
- provided special treats and snacks, including hot lunches

SCHOOL TELEPHONE

Students are not permitted to use the school telephone for private calls unless it is an **emergency** situation. Students are not called out of class for telephone calls unless it is an emergency. Parents are requested to leave messages for students **before 3:30 P.M.** to ensure that students receive information before they board their busses.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

The Alberta School Act has clear expectations for student conduct and behaviour. Section 7 of the School Act states that "A student shall conduct himself so as to reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

- A.** Be diligent in pursuing their duties
- B.** Attend school regularly and punctually
- C.** Cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services
- D.** Comply with the rules of the school
- E.** Respect the rights of others

The expectations of the School Act are the foundation of Busby School's school-wide expectations and individual classroom expectations. Behaviour that may lead to consequences including, but not limited to, exclusion from class, school, or from a school-sponsored event, generally falls within the following:

1. Behaviour infringing on the learning rights of others
2. Behaviour exhibiting obvious disregard or disrespect for the school & the learning opportunities it provides
3. Bullying behaviour (physical or emotional)
4. Behaviour that contravenes legal statutes

Please refer to the Pembina Hills AP 50-09 Student Code of Conduct for further information.

STUDENT COUNCIL

In September, each classroom selects a member to be a part of the 'All Age Club'(AAC). This group of students represents their classrooms in planning special events to promote positive school spirit as well as providing leadership within the school.

VIRTUES

Each month we will discuss a different virtue and recognize students for demonstrating these at our class lead assemblies. Please check these out in our newsletters and calendars.

VOLUNTEERS

We encourage parent and community involvement in the school. Share your talents with students and staff by taking time throughout the year to volunteer in a classroom, in the school library, or the school office. We require volunteers to sign a volunteer agreement, and to obtain and provide a Criminal Record Check (RCMP) and Child Welfare Check (Alberta Human Services).

Volunteer's Code of Ethics

- **Respect the confidentiality** of the teacher and the children, and refrain from discussing them outside the school situation. If you have any questions or concerns, share them with the teacher.
- **Practice tolerance and understanding** towards the children and teachers with whom you come into contact. Be sensitive to the teaching role. Strive for acceptance of all the children.
- **Be dependable.** If you agree to undertake a task, follow it through by attending at the times and dates arranged.

How we Respond to Emergencies at School

Our first priority is the safety, security and well-being of our students and staff. Guided by our division's Emergency Response Plan, we have developed a plan which outlines our school's response to various emergencies.

What should parents do in an emergency?

1. Check the PHRD website

We will post information on the PHRD website www.phpschools.ca and on Twitter @PHRD_Schools. Phone the PHRD Regional Services Office at 780-674-8500.

2. Do not come to the school

You could put yourself in danger and get in the way of emergency personnel. In several instances, our exterior doors will be locked and you will not be able to get in to the building.

3. Do not call or e-mail the school

We need to keep our phone lines open to communicate with emergency services.

4. Do not call, text or e-mail your child's cell phone

Depending on the threat, contacting your child's cell phone could endanger your child.

What happens during specific emergencies?

As directed by local emergency personnel we will do the following:

1. If an incident or threat occurs inside or is directly related to our school, RCMP will instruct us to **Lockdown** our school which means we will lock all exterior doors. Staff and students will be directed to classrooms which will be locked. (e.g. dangerous intruder)

2. If an incident or threat occurs outside and is unrelated to our school, RCMP will instruct us to **Hold and Secure** which means we will lock all exterior doors. Students and staff may move freely in the school. (e.g. a bank near our school is robbed)

3. In some environmental or weather-related situations, authorities may direct us to **Shelter in Place**, which means we will keep students and staff in school until it is safe for them to leave. (e.g. chemical spill, blackouts, extreme weather conditions)

4. In some instances, we may have to **evacuate** the school. Students and staff will move to our primary evacuation site-The Busby Community Centre. Students will stay at the evacuation site until it is safe to return to school or they are released to a parent/guardian.

Note: If our primary evacuation site is compromised, we will move students to a secondary evacuation site. If this is the case, we will post this information on the PHRD website www.pembinahills.ab.ca and on Twitter @PHRD_Schools.

Before an emergency happens

1. Ensure the school has current Emergency Contact information for your child.
2. Talk to your child about the importance of following their teachers' instructions during an emergency.