

February 1, 2011

Inside this Issue

- 1 Surveys
- 2 Speech Competition
- 2 Bus Drivers' Corner, Upcoming Events
- 2 AISI Corner, Basketball

Attachments:

Alberta Ed. Survey Summary
VCS Charter Review Survey

Valhalla Community School

Survey! Survey! Survey!

Lots of Information Sought

It never rains, but it pours! We've come to a point where several groups are seeking information from our school community.

Alberta Education is seeking feedback on the future of charter schools. The Valhalla Community School Foundation Board and administration strongly encourage you to participate in the process by completing a survey. A summary document has been prepared (and attached to this newsletter) to provide you with background information to assist you in completing the survey.

The complete Charter School Concept Paper and the online survey are posted on the

<http://education.alberta.ca/department/ipr/charterschools.aspx>

website. The survey will only be available to respond to until **Feb. 4, 2011**, so there is not much time to get your voice heard. If you have any questions or concerns relating to the survey you are asked to contact David Woloshyn, Acting Director, Zone 5 Services Branch, at 780-427-5382 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000) or by e-mail at david.woloshyn@gov.ab.ca

The second survey is only for parents of Valhalla Community School students. This is required by Alberta Education as part of the school's Charter Review process. The review committee needs to hear how you feel the school is doing in serving the needs of our students and



their families, and how well we are implementing the terms of our school charter. **This survey needs to be back in to the school by Feb.17:** the last day of school the week prior to the review committee's visit to VCS.

This survey is also being sent home with this newsletter. Please return it by **Feb. 17**, in the provided envelope. We will pass the surveys on to the review committee unopened. The committee will be in the school from Feb. 22-25.

There will be a prize given to each student who returns the survey from his/her family. And in addition, when students return their surveys their family's name will be entered in a draw for a new Sony E-Reader!

Also for the Charter Review, we need parents who are willing to be interviewed by the review committee during the week of Feb. 22-25. We need three groups of six parents each. If you're willing to take part please let the office know.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Finally, a short survey went home last week to parents of students who will be in grade 8/9 next year. We're seeking your input on next year's Grade 8/9 field trip. Please get this back to the school right away.

4H Speech Competitions Coming!

Students in 4H (grades 5-8) are now preparing for the 4H club's annual speech competition. The competition will be held on February 8, 2011.

Because of the large number of 4H members in our multi-club, preliminary competition will be held during school hours. Winners in each competition level will advance to a finals speak-off which will be held on the evening of February 8.

While students will be given some time in school to work on their written and impromptu speeches, they will need to spend some time at home working on them as well to achieve their best effort.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with organizing and judging the

speech competition.

If you are interested in helping out please let the office know.

Bus Driver's Corner

The drivers and transportation director would like to thank all the parents and school staff for your cooperation in regards to recent cancellations and early dismissal.

Please listen to your radio or check the Valhalla Community School website for bus cancellations. Radio stations that should be announcing our bus cancellations are CJXX-Big Country, Free FM, Q99, Shine FM and Sun FM.

Remember if you are viewing the school website to refresh your computer periodically so that the website can update on your computer.

We would also like to thank Peace Wapiti School Division (especially the transportation department) for their generous help with getting a spare bus ready for us to rent.

Basketball

Remember the home game here at VCS on Thursday, Feb.3.

Next Tuesday's practice will be moved

Upcoming Events

February 4, 2011
VCS

First Friday for Kindergarten
Kindergarten begins Friday classes!

February 8, 2011
7pm, VCS

VCS 4H Multi-Club Speech Competition

4H Speech Finals. Come support our students as they seek public speaking distinction!

February 22 - 25, 2011
VCS

Charter Review Committee at VCS

to Monday, Feb.7 to make room for the speech competitions on Feb.8.

There is a basketball game in Elsworth at 3pm on Feb.10, a home game against LaGlance on Feb.15, and a student vs parent game here at VCS on Feb.24.

Kindergarten Spirit!

The Kindergarten class is asking that all students join them in a "Funky Hair & PJ Day". Help demonstrate school spirit and come with pj's and a special "do" on Friday, Feb. 4.

AISI Corner:

Remember what AISI stands for? Alberta Initiative for School Improvement! All students are now enrolled in the Raz-kids online home-reading program. So as soon as they register with their teachers to get a password, anyone can go to the raz-kids.com website and start reading to earn points in their own account. They can use their points to decorate their rockets, or teachers may have their own ideas for their points! Contact Mrs. Mumert for more info.

Need Math Help??

Mrs. Flint will be available to offer students extra help with Math on Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch. This would be a great opportunity for some one-on-one instruction and help to get those corrections caught up and complete