



March 2021



Cobra Chronicles



March

4-5th- Teachers
Convention

11th- Parent Teacher
Interviews

17th- St. Patricks Day
22nd- PD Day

April

1-11th- Spring Break

12th- Back to School

23rd- Report Cards



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Hello

FROM PRINCIPAL FRASER



Spring is upon us! Students and staff alike are looking forward to the weather warming up and enjoying more opportunities to get outside for some fresh air! We are also reminded of how incredibly adaptive our students and teachers have been in this past year of the pandemic, and in response to some of the unique challenges we have faced in education. It hasn't always been easy, but our school community has made the best of this unprecedented year.

At FHS, we place great value on the voices and contributions of parents. We are brainstorming ways to have parents take a more active role in monthly activities like School Council and in our quarterly Parent Teacher Interviews. Here at Fairview High, we see parents as integral players in their children's education, and as such we want to open up as many opportunities as possible to have parents become part of what we do at the school! This year, at FHS, we have been offering Parent-Teacher Interviews online and it has proven to be a streamlined process and effective way to communicate with parents. School Council is another excellent opportunity for parents to have their voice heard and take an active role in what happens at FHS. These meetings have also been online this year, making them accessible to families from the comfort of their homes. The collaboration of parents in the council has a transformative power and we are looking for ways to get parents more involved. You can find a Google Form on our Facebook page asking for potential agenda items for our meeting on March 25th and hope this adds relevant topics to our discussion.

Spring break is coming up at the end of this month, and some reminders for students as we embark on these next couple of weeks is that respect and responsibility are central to everything we do at FHS. We expect respectful behaviors towards yourself, students, and staff. Responsibility is expected of students in their academics, the spaces they keep in the classroom, personal lockers/cupboards, and in their actions with others. By upholding these core values, we will ensure a safe and caring environment, which supports success for all.



Staff Highlight

Meet some of our
amazing FHS team!



Ms.

Morrow

**Social 8, 10, 20,30, CALM,
and Japanese**

Hello! I'm Cheryl-Rae (Cheryl) Morrow and this is my first year at FHS, but actually my fifth year with Peace River School Division. Previously I taught grades 7-12 at Menno-Simons in Cleardale. This year I am teaching Social 8, 10-2, 20-1, 30-1; CALM 20; and Second Language Japanese for the Grade 8's. I have been thoroughly enjoying the dynamic and diverse students that make up the FHS School Community. When I am not at school, I enjoy relaxing on the couch with my two cats, baking, and gardening. Eventually, I would love to find a little acreage in the area that I can expand my garden into and maybe even have a goat or two.



Ms.

Banach

**Science 9, 14, 20, 30,
and Social 8**



Hello! I'm Taryn Banach and this is my second year teaching at FHS, but my fifth year teaching with Peace River School Division. My favourite aspects of teaching include building relationships with the students. We have amazing kids at FHS and they make me laugh every single day. I love teaching Science and teaching about how the world works. Watching students make these discoveries and be inquisitive makes my heart happy! I also really enjoy collaborating with my wonderful colleagues to try new teaching methods and plan tasks to best meet the needs of our students. Some of the things that bring me the greatest joy include traveling, spending time with my family and friends, going on walks with my dog, and listening to music. If I could give my teenage self one piece of advice it would be to stop wishing to grow up so quickly. In the blink of an eye, it will happen and you will be wishing to be a kid again. Enjoy the moment that you are in! As soon as the pandemic is over, I hope to travel somewhere warm like Hawaii!



Mr.
Phelps

**Vice Principal, Science 10
and CTS**



Hello, my name is Darren Phelps and I have been with the division for fifteen years and teaching at Fairview High for seven of those. The things I enjoy most about teaching are the many positive student interactions I have each day as well as getting to know the students in the school. The role never stagnates and I am always learning new things and finding new ways to do them. Each day is different from the last which helps to keep me engaged in the work I am attempting to do. Working with like-minded people who are passionate about student learning as well as being part of a collaborative and supportive learning team is awesome.

My family occupies much of my time and I enjoy spending time with them. I have developed an interest in board games since the beginning of the pandemic and have accumulated a decent starter collection of games. I am an Oiler fan but have not been the best fan over the last couple of years. Still, go Oil go! My dream vacation would be to go back to Eastern Australia as it is a beautiful country. I wouldn't mind skipping the 20 or so-hour flight though to get there. Closer to home, I would like to spend some time in the mountains again as the fresh air soothes one's soul. Canmore is one of our favorite places to do this.

*Welcome
to the*

FHS SCHOOL COUNCIL ONLINE

Please tell us
what you
would like to
discuss at our
meeting and
create agenda
items. We
value your
contributions
**Please fill out
the attached
Google Form**

*please
join
us!*

**THURS
MARCH
25TH
7:00PM**

CONNECT VIA
GOOGLE MEET
(Link posted day of
on FHS Facebook
Page)



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US @ (780) 835-5421

**Would you like to know what's happening in
your child's school? Join us for our next
meeting to find out, and voice your opinion.
ALL parents are welcome to attend.**

Community Support!

Huge shoutout to the New To You Market for collaborating with FHS to provide for our students!! Recently, we asked Crossroads if there was a chance for us to purchase coupons for students to access clothing upgrades from the New to You shop. They graciously donated these coupons to our school and were happy to create this opportunity for students! We are so thankful for this and know it will help many in our school community!



**Students
enjoying
shop class
with Mr.
Verbicky!**





Spotlight on Health & Safety

Safety Message – Ice Safety

March is a time to look forward to warmer temperatures, melting snow, and longer days. The transition from winter to spring begins the transformation of frozen rivers, ponds, creeks, and dugouts to bodies of open water. Many of our PRSD schools are located close to water sources and during this time ice can become unstable and extremely dangerous. Please take a few minutes and talk to your children about ice safety and the dangers associated with being on rivers, ponds, creeks, and dugouts during this time of the year.

If you do fall through the ice your first danger is drowning, not the cold. You will have time to save yourself so don't panic or thrash about. Tread water or grab the ice to keep your head above water. Keep your hands and arms on the ice and kick your feet until you are in a horizontal position. Once you are horizontal keep kicking your feet and pull with your hands and arms and pull yourself out of the water. Once clear of the water continue to pull yourself away from the hole in the ice. You need to keep your weight spread so don't stand to move away from the hole. You can slide pull or roll away. Once clear of any danger you need to get to a place to warm up and remove any wet clothing.

For more information about knowing the dangers of ice please follow the attached link provided by the Canadian Red Cross. Click [here](#) for the link

David Smith, PRSD Safety and Wellness Coordinator

Did you know?

Ice thickness should be:
15 cm for walking or skating alone.
20 cm for skating parties or games.
25 cm for snowmobiles.

Tips for safe ice fishing

- Check the ice thickness
- Only fish during the daylight hours
- Fish with a friend
- Obey posted signs
- Carry rescue equipment

Superintendent's Message



Indigenous Education in Peace River School Division

It is essential that First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students see themselves and their cultures in the curriculum and school community, and that non-Indigenous students are taught the true history of Canada, including at times, the painful relationship between Canada and the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.

During the pandemic, schools have found creative ways to acknowledge residential school history on Orange Shirt Day, teach about the Métis during Métis week, and honor our local Indigenous veterans as a part of Remembrance Day activities. Grade one students have been learning some Cree, and plans are underway for a virtual Aboriginal Youth Career Workshop this spring and a pandemic-friendly way to acknowledge our Indigenous graduates with an Eagle Feather and the important teachings that accompany this high honor.

We have ensured professional development (PD) is available for staff on topics such as the legacy of residential schools' history and how to incorporate Indigenous perspectives in the classroom. Our First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Program Coordinator regularly meet with school staff to discuss how our Indigenous students are progressing academically and to explore further supports.

First Nations Métis and Inuit programs are supported by way of special funding from the Government of Alberta which is determined by self-declaration. For each student who declares to have Indigenous ancestry, schools receive an additional \$1178.00. Parents can declare their child's status on the school registration form that is completed every year.

Indigenous history is Canadian history and it is very important to us that all students learn about the important traditions, culture, and history of the first peoples of Canada. Thank you to our students, staff, families, Elders, community members, and organizations for your important contributions and support.

**Paul Bennett,
Superintendent of Schools
Peace River School Division**