



FALCONS

Volume 2024/25-1

September 12, 2024

Principal: Mrs. M. Wilson

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. J. Vossen

Office Hours: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Phone: 250-695-6401 Fax: 250-695-6695

Francois Lake Elementary School

Principal’s Message

Dear Falcon Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year.

I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer full of moments of rest, togetherness, relaxation, and are energized for the new school year. I know that the summer was busy and enjoyable for my family and me, but as I put on my jacket for supervision, I feel summer is coming to an end, and I can now look forward to fall weather beginning.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our students, both returning and new, along with their families to Francois Lake Elementary School. It is with great anticipation and excitement that we start up this new school year together.

As most of you have probably heard, I would like to announce that I have changed positions this year and am now the new principal at FLES. I am looking forward to this new opportunity and can’t wait to see what the school year has in store for us.

This year, our school will continue to foster collaboration and communication within our school community. We believe in the power of teamwork, and the significance of a strong partnership between home and school. I encourage you to actively engage in your child’s education, maintain open lines of communication, and participate in school activities and events wherever possible.

School has gotten off to a great start this year, and as I visit the classrooms, I see students hard at work and play. Grade 3-7 students have already begun the District Numeracy Assessment this week, the kindergarten students the EYE (early years evaluation) assessment and the Grades 1-2 students have been reading steadily. It warms my heart to see everyone working so hard. I have high hopes for what our students will be learning and accomplishing this year.

Special events are on the horizon at our school. Please make sure you are looking at the calendar dates in the newsletters and checking the Francois PAC Facebook page for upcoming events. I am hoping to get a chance to visit with you at our school open house on September 18th from 5-6pm or running/walking around the track at our Terry Fox run on September 19th at 2:30pm. See you then.

Once again, welcome to the 2024-2025 school year.

Sincerely,

Marlee Wilson

Mark your Calendars!

- September
- 15

Community Terry Fox Run
- 17

9 AM School Photo Day
- 18

5-6 PM Open House
- 18

6 PM PAC Meeting
- 19

School Terry Fox Run
- 20

District Pro-D Day—No School
- 27

Orange Shirt Day
- 30

National Day of Reconciliation—No School
- October
- 4

School Classroom Fees Due
- 10

Informal Learning Updates go home
- 14

Thanksgiving—No School
- 23

11:53 Early Dismissal—PM Talk About Learning

FLES Gets Pictures Taken...

Tuesday, September 17, at 9 AM, school photos will take place! Send your beautiful little people to school all dressed up and ready for their super star moment!



FLES PAC...

On Wednesday, Sept. 18, between 5 and 6 PM, Francois Lake will be having our annual **Open House**, where you can meet the teachers and see your child’s classroom. Join us!

Our School Parent Advisory Committee (**PAC**) needs your help. Stay after the Open House for the first PAC meeting of the year at 6 PM.



Our Province has a New Student Personal Digital Device Directive

Please chat with your child about the new cell phone policy.

Student Personal Digital Devices:

The Board restricts the use of personal digital devices at school for the purpose of promoting online safety and focused learning environments.

For students in elementary schools, personal digital devices must be powered off and safely stored during the **entire school day, from the time the student arrives on school grounds until they leave school grounds.** This extends to instructional time, while off school property (e.g. field trip), etc.

Students in elementary schools may only use personal digital devices during the school day for instructional purposes and to promote digital literacy, and only with the permission and direct supervision of a teacher or other staff member.

For more detailed information regarding this new policy, please go to <https://www.sd91.bc.ca>, go to “Board”, select in drop down “Policies and Regulations”, click on link, clear yourself, and select on the sidebar, “Policy 604.1 for the Policy, and 604.1R for the regulation.

Francois Lake Elementary Bell Schedule	
8:55 AM	Warning Bell
9:00 AM	Classes Start
10:30 AM	Recess Start
10:45 AM	Classes Resume
12:15 PM	Lunch - Outside
12:40 PM	Lunch - Line Up
12:45 PM	Lunch - Eating
1:00 PM	Classes Resume
2:53 PM	End of Day
3:00 PM	First Bus Bell
3:50 PM	Late Bus Bell

Class Fees are Due Friday,
October 4, 2024

Each student needs to bring \$25 for their class fee this year.

PAC Posts...

Next PAC meeting Sep. 18 at 6:00 PM in the MPR. All parents are Welcome!

Board Biz...

SCHOOL DISTRICT 91
NECHAKO LAKES

School Board Meeting

Monday, September 16, 2024

6:00 pm

School Board Office
Vanderhoof, BC

Important Public Attendance Notice:

Members of the public are invited to attend Regular Meetings of the Board of Education.

Due to limited space and seating availability, please request your seat prior to noon on meeting day if you wish to attend in person.

Alternatively, members of the public may attend this meeting virtually through Microsoft Teams. To take advantage of this online attendance option, please visit www.sd91.bc.ca/meeting-information for the Teams link or you may request your electronic invitation prior to 4:00 pm on meeting day.

Contact:
Heather Silver
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
250-567-2284 ext. 9003
hsilver@sd91.bc.ca



Last Thursday, Sept. 5, FLES was given a gift of a FANTASTIC performance by the nationally recognized entertainment group, The Kerplunks!



Our students had a phenomenal time with them! It made for an awesome start to the school year!

Come join us for our annual
Terry Fox Run Thursday, Sept. 19 at
2:30 PM

NO MATTER THE DISTANCE.
NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES.
NO MATTER THE JOURNEY.
NO MATTER THE ODDS.
NO MATTER WHAT.



And the last word goes to:

All the staff who have worked so hard to help get our school off to a smooth start, this year! Thank you Ms. Osmond, Mrs. Coulson, Ms. Babych, Ms. Pfammatter, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Hogarth, Mr. Hogarth, Mrs. Wilson, and Mrs. Vossen



Francois Lake Elementary School

Code of Conduct

The Purpose of our Code of Conduct is to provide a safe, caring and orderly environment. Our expectations are that students will maintain an attitude that is cooperative, courteous and respectful.

At Francois Lake Elementary School, we:

Take care of others – *be considerate of others' personal feelings and properties*

- a. Share ideas and solve problems together
- b. Plan with others
- c. Get along with others
- d. Use language to resolve conflicts
- e. Manage powerful emotions
- f. Wait for a turn

Take care of ourselves – *care about your learning and yourself, including safety*

- a. Take safe physical challenges
- b. Use a number of strategies to reach a goal
- c. Independently follow daily routines
- d. Be interested and curious
- e. Plan ahead
- f. Manage powerful emotions
- g. Struggle through the hard parts to learn something new
- h. Pay attention even when it's hard

Take care of this place – *care about your school and your environment*

- a. Manage your belongings
- b. Cleanup after yourself
- c. Put garbage/recycling where it belongs
- d. Protect school equipment
- e. Respect animals and plants

As stated in Canada's Human Right Code: discrimination, especially in terms of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age, is prohibited in our country, and in our school.

At Francois Lake School, personal digital devices must be powered off and safely stored during the entire school day, from the time the student arrives on school grounds until they leave school grounds. This extends to instructional time while off school property (e.g. field trips). Personal digital devices may only be used during the school day for instructional purposes and to promote digital literacy, and only with the permission and direct supervision of a teacher or other staff member.

Inappropriate behaviors can consist of, but are not limited to:

- Rudeness, swearing
- Fighting (or play fighting)
- Lack of respect for others, teasing
- Throwing objects (rocks, sticks, snowballs, playground woodchips, etc.)
- Defiant behavior, insolence, refusing to respond to reasonable requests from school staff members
- Running in the halls or classrooms
- Unauthorized leaving of the school grounds
- Littering
- Vaping

Consequences:

Consequences will be applied in a fair and consistent manner, respecting individual rights, responsibilities, age and maturity; and be restorative rather than punitive in nature.

*Consequences take into account the student's age, maturity, and special needs if any. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs

**All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation by any person against a student who has reported a breach of conduct.

Inappropriate behaviors may have the following consequences - (level of consequences to increase with repeat incidents):

- Review of expectations and a timeout
- Review of expectations, and/or loss of privileges
- Parents are informed
- Meeting with the parents
- Restorative service work
- Short-term (in school or at home) suspension up to 5 days
- Long-term suspension (over 5 days) or referral to district program
- Consultation with police and/or fire department
- Expulsion

Safe & Caring School Environments:

are free from acts of:

- Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and marginalization
 - Threat and intimidation
 - Violence in any form
 - Abuse in any form
 - Discrimination in any form including race, color, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, ancestry or national origin
 - Retribution against a person who has reported incidents
- or misuse of:
- Cyberspace/Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Computers – students are to be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable, confiscation of personal property) for misuse of technology if it negatively impacts on the school environment.

Forms of unacceptable conduct cited above are only some examples. It is not an all-inclusive list.

Do Not Tolerate the Presence of:

- Theft and vandalism
- Intoxicating and banned substances
- Weapons or replica (toy) weapons (including knives) and explosives
- Intruders or trespassers – all visitors to the school must first report to the office

Notification

As circumstances warrant, administrators have a responsibility to advise other parties following a behavior incident:

- Parent of student exhibiting major behaviors (in every instance)
- Parent of student on the receiving end (in every instance)
- Assistant Superintendent, Safe Schools team member and/or other District Staff
- Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (Police)

The Board of Education believes that the responsibility for student discipline in school is shared among students, staff and parents. Students have a responsibility to respect the rights and dignity of others and to become actively and productively involved in their own academic learning and social growth.

- Educators are responsible for establishing a positive school climate in which structure, support and encouragement assist students in developing a sense of self-discipline, responsibility and positive relationships.
- Parents are responsible for establishing a positive learning atmosphere in the home, knowing school policies and procedures, supporting the school in the enactment of these policies and procedures, and encouraging their children to understand and respect these policies and procedures.

DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS

Related Policy: 502.1 – Code of Conduct

Each student* in the district is required to adhere to the District Code of Conduct for Students and Codes of Conduct established at the school level.

It is expected that students will:

1. Respect the rights of others within the school community including peers, staff, parents and guests;
2. Work to the best of their abilities with the goal of continuous improvement;
3. Follow the directions of staff, recognizing the right to have decisions reviewed that affect them;
4. Respect the school's physical school facilities, equipment and the property of fellow students. Students (or their parents) may be held financially responsible for repairs or replacement of property willfully damaged;
5. Respect the diversity of our school community and the *BC Human Rights Code* which prohibits discrimination on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, gender identification/expression, sexual orientation or sexual orientation as perceived by others.
6. Conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner at all times;
7. Not threaten, harass, bully, intimidate or assault, in any way, any person within the school community. This includes cyber bullying;
8. Not be in possession of any object that, in the opinion of the Principal/ Vice Principal, is potentially dangerous. This includes any weapons, legal or illegal, including replicas/imitations.
9. Not be in possession or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or other prohibited items.
10. Not be in possession of or use tobacco, drugs or vape type products in school buildings, on school trips or on school property; and,
11. Adhere to the regulations of student conduct on school buses.
(See *Policy and Regulations 702.1 - Student Transportation to and from School*).

** Special considerations apply to students who are unable to comply with the Codes of Conduct due to having a disability/condition of an intellectual, physical, medical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.*