

FOUR WINDS PUBLIC SCHOOL

545 Grandin Drive, Morinville, AB T8R 2R3

Phone: 825-349-0021 Email: FWPS @sturgeon.ab.ca

www.fourwindsschool.ca

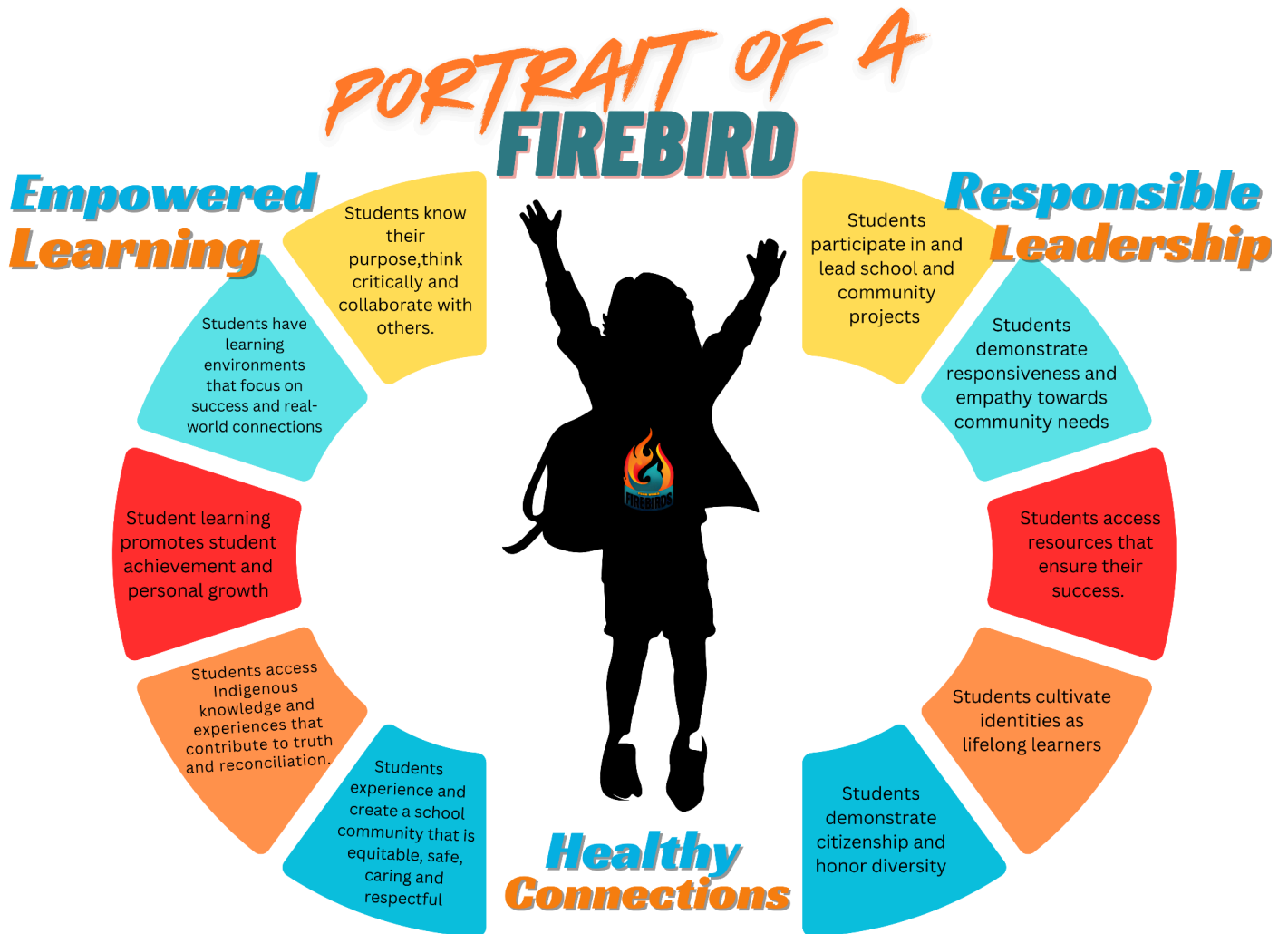


Principal: Gidget Bouchard (gidget.bouchard@sturgeon.ab.ca) VP: Savannah Bosch (savannah.bosch@sturgeon.ab.ca)

VP: Christina Dafoe (christina.dafoe@sturgeon.ab.ca)

2024-2025

Grade 5-9 Student Handbook



Welcome to Four Winds!
Home of the Firebirds

Four Winds Public School offers English and French Immersion programming for students in grades 5 to 9. “Four” represents four seasons and four elements on the medicine wheel, and “Winds” represents four directions of the world. The school focuses on providing equitable education that promotes growth, innovation, and an inquiry-based approach to learning. Four Winds also offers STEAM, Performing Arts and Sport for Life programming. The school includes studios for dance and drama instruction, classroom pods for robotics and technology, and open collaboration spaces for our Career and Technology Foundation options. Several large indoor garage doors reinforce the open plan theme, intended to help foster expansive learning. Teachers and students are able to free flow, so they can use the open space as well as the classrooms. Designed to connect students with nature, additional features of the school include an outdoor classroom and a learning garden. These dynamic spaces create unique learning experiences to help our students CONNECT, IGNITE, AND RISE.

Some of these spaces are named to honour individuals who were lifelong advocates in education, including the Donna Hunter Learning Commons, the Thelma Chalifoux Learning Garden and the Audri Kowalyk Science Labs.

We look forward to another exciting year of learning,

Gidget Bouchard
Principal

Savanah Bosch
Vice-Principal

Christina Dafoe
Vice-Principal

Bell Schedule

NOTE: The school office is open from 7:45am - 3:15pm on school days and most operational days. Please note that there is no outside supervision until 8:10am. Students arriving early are asked to stay outside until the first bell at 8:15am. The front door will open at **8:15am and lock at 3:00pm**.

Daily Schedule Grade 5-9		
8:10am		Busses Arrive
8:15	8:30	Home Room (Attendance)
8:30	9:25	Block 1
9:27	10:27	Block 2
10:27	10:42	Recess
10:42	11:42	Block 3
11:42	12:02	Lunch Recess
12:02	12:22	Lunch Eating
12:22	12:42	DEAR
12:42	1:42	Block 4
1:44	2:44	Block 5
2:44	2:54	Dismissal/Busses Depart

FOUR WINDS PUBLIC SCHOOL

MISSION:

CONNECT ★ IGNITE ★ RISE
WE ARE FIREBIRDS

VISION:

**WHERE STUDENTS CONNECT TO CREATE
COMMUNITY, IGNITE THEIR PASSION TO
EXPLORE, AND RISE TO EXCELLENCE**

OUR VALUES

KINDNESS & COMPASSION

A culture of kindness and care for one another.

INCLUSION

A place you can be yourself.

RELATIONSHIPS

Building caring, respectful relationships creates a foundation for a community to thrive.

CONTRIBUTION

Fostering resilience, empathy, and respect through students being active members of our community.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

We walk gently on mother earth.

ENGAGEMENT

Exemplary teaching and learning happens here.
We are all mathematicians, scientists, authors, and artists.

The Nest & Early Bird Cafe

The Nest is an integrated, school-based wellness and mental health centre at Four Winds Public School. The team consists of the school counsellor, indigenous school counselor, behavioural support leads and nutrition coordinator. The goal of the Nest is to provide students with the support and strategies they will require to maintain their physical and mental well-being.

Website, Newsletter & Classroom Bulletin Boards

Our website is updated regularly and includes parent portal access and handbooks. Our site has our school [newsletter](#), calendars, current year supply list, a link to our School Council and much more school related information. Please check it out www.fourwindsschool.ca.

For classroom specific information regarding current outcomes, teacher contact information and upcoming class activities, please head to our classroom [bulletin boards](#).

AUGUST 2024

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SEPTEMBER 2024

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OCTOBER 2024

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NOVEMBER 2024

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DECEMBER 2024

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JANUARY 2025

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FEBRUARY 2025

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JUNE 2025

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JULY 2025

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2024-2025

**Final
March 22, 2023**

School Offices Open - NO CLASSES	August 19 - 23
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	August 26
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	August 27
Operational Non-Instructional (K-12) - No Classes	August 28
Classes Begin	August 29
Labour Day - No Classes	September 2
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	September 16
National Truth & Reconciliation Day - No Classes	September 30
Thanksgiving Day - No Classes	October 14
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	October 15
Remembrance Day - No Classes	November 11
In Lieu of Parent/Teacher Interviews - No Classes	November 12
Fall Break	November 13-15
Classes Resume	November 18
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	December 2
Christmas Break	Dec. 21 - Jan 5
Classes Resume	January 6
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	January 31
First Day of Classes - Semester Two	February 3
Teachers' Convention - No Classes	February 6 - 7
Family Day - No Classes	February 17
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	March 10
In Lieu of Parent/Teacher Interviews - No Classes	March 21
Spring Break	March 22 - 30
Classes Resume	March 31
Good Friday - No Classes	April 18
Easter Monday - No Classes	April 21
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	May 16
Victoria Day - No Classes	May 19
Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting	June 2
Last Day of Classes	June 27
Operational Non-Instructional (K-12) - No Classes	June 30
Summer Vacation Begins	July 1



Frank Robinson Education Centre
9820-104 Street
Morinville, AB T8R 1L8
Phone: (780) 939-4341

□	Operational Day - No Classes
△	Operational Day - Day In Lieu - No Classes
■	Non-Operational Day - No Classes
○	Division/School PD/Collaboration; Staff Meeting - No Classes

Four Winds Public School Student Conduct Policy

The Student Handbook has been created in accordance and compliance with the current Education Act (2019), Safe and Caring School policy (section 33 of the Education Act), the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (1982), and Sturgeon Public Schools Board Policies. Sturgeon Public School Board believes in the importance of, and is committed to, establishing, and maintaining a welcoming, inclusive, equitable, safe, and healthy environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. Four Winds Public School students shall be provided with a learning environment that is free from harassment, abuse and discrimination of any kind. They will be treated with fairness, dignity and respect by staff and other students. Students, while in school or participating in school sponsored activities, are expected to behave in an appropriate manner that does not interfere with the rights and privileges of other students. Both home and school must share the responsibility for acceptable student behavior. When a staff member calls or sends a note home it is very important that the parent's response is, "What can I do to help improve my child's behavior?" The school is a location where there is a joint effort to learn, relate and grow. Our quality of success in educating all the children is determined by parent support and student acceptance of his/her own responsibility.

The school conduct policy and expectations will be shared with students at the beginning of the school year and revisited throughout the year. Parents/Guardians will be directed to the school website.

Four Winds Public School students are expected to:

- Attend school regularly and punctually
- Show respect for fellow students, teachers and visitors
- Show respect for school and other individual's property
- Work to the best of their abilities
- Use respectful language
- Be accountable for their conduct
- Wear appropriate clothing respectful of the school setting and weather conditions
- Utilize technology appropriately for the school setting
- Be vape, tobacco, alcohol and drug free
- Positively contribute to the school and community

Student Responsibilities

- Follow the school rules and expectations
- Complete work to the best of their ability
- Follow direction in class and do assigned work
- Attend school and classes regularly and on time with appropriate materials
- Attempt to sort out peer problems in a polite manner
- Seek staff assistance if unable to solve own problems and/or to report bullying behaviour
- Demonstrate responsibility

Parent / Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians play a vital role in their child's education. No one has more influence in shaping attitudes and establishing the importance of school for children than parents/guardians. Here are a few suggestions for parents in order to help their child instill positive attitudes towards schoolwork and develop good work habits as the year progresses.

- See that your child comes to school prepared to do their best (this involves sufficient rest, nutritious food, appropriate dress and school supplies etc.).
- Ensure that your child attends school regularly and on time. Keep the office informed of any absences or late arrivals.

- Will either call, send a note or sign my child in or out of the school at the office if your child is late or leave during the school day prior to the end of the day to ensure your child's safety.
- Support your child's completion of school assignments (homework or in class) and help your child schedule a time to do homework, showing that it is an important priority and that you value its worth.
- Support the school staff in helping your child improve behavior by supporting the school's response to your child.
- Keep in touch with the classroom teacher to ensure that progress is occurring, both academically and behaviorally.
- Parents/guardians may request interviews to assist your child in changing problem behaviors.
- When children have persistent behavioral problems the parent(s)/guardian will seek appropriate assistance such as: medical assessment, Family Resource Centre, Family School Liaison workers, psychologist or other appropriate sources.
- Be encouraging and supportive and success for your child will be evident.

Staff Responsibilities

- Reinforce good behavior
- Assist students who seek help to solve problems (eg: conflict resolution)
- When problems occur, a warning is issued, the problem stated and suggestions given on how to improve if needed. Consequences may be assigned.
- Staff deals with minor misbehavior and reports to the homeroom teacher who records this misbehavior.
- The homeroom teacher contacts the parents for support in correcting misbehavior.
- Repeated misbehavior by individual students is referred to administration or counseling for support.
- Be encouraging and supportive.

Administrative Responsibilities

- Deal with repeated minor offences or major offences.
- Repeated offences may require parent meeting with Administration (Vice Principal or Principal) and if helpful, with the classroom teacher or other appropriate staff member.
- Consequences will be assigned which may be study time, reflection time, removal from the classroom, or community service at the school (eg: working in younger classrooms, snow removal, cleaning).
- Severe consequences may involve parental involvement, suspension (in school or out of school) and or expulsion. Upon return from a suspension a meeting may be held between the school staff and the student.
- If a student persists with behavior problems the administration may ask the parents to seek outside help or refer the student for special programming.

Minor offences may include but is not limited to;

- Breaking school rules and expectations
- Disrespectful language
- Inappropriate toys/items at school
- Disrespectful behavior
- Inappropriate dress
- Disrespectful/unsafe playground behavior

Major offences may include but is not limited to;

- Repeated minor offences
- Disrespect or defiance towards all staff. Abusive behaviour toward staff will not be tolerated.
- Use, distribution, possession or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs, vape, or tobacco on school property or at school events

- Willful damage of property, including graffiti and tampering with security/safety devices
- Stealing
- Bringing weapons to school or materials which could be used as such
- Intentional physical injury to any person
- Harassment and injurious behaviour – physical, verbal, sexual, face to face or online/cyber
- Consequences to be determined by child's history, age, and nature of offence
- Defiance of the cell phone and technology policy
- Criminal activity

Response to unacceptable behaviour engaged by the student

When a student engages in unacceptable behaviour that is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct, responses, interventions, and consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- Temporary assignment of a student to an alternate, supervised area within the school
- Temporary assignment of a student to an alternate learning location
- Short term removal of privileges
- Interventions such as positive behaviour supports, contracts, and counselling
- Restorative practices, where appropriate and agreed upon by impacted staff and students
- Replacement or restitution for loss of or damage to property
- Suspension or expulsion from bus transportation
- In-school or out-of-school suspension
- Referral to the Attendance Board
- Recommendation for expulsion

Violent and Threat Risk Assessment

Sturgeon Public School Division is committed to providing safe and caring learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. To this end, Sturgeon Public School Division has been invested for many years in the continued professional certification of administrative staff in Level 1 & Level 2 Violence and Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) training across the Division. VTRA helps schools respond quickly to incidents where students' behaviours pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm. In the communities we are privileged to serve, we have formalized community-based VTRA protocols with regional partners such as neighbouring school jurisdictions, the RCMP, Alberta Health Services and other community agencies. We encourage families to take the time to read through our [VTRA Brochure](#) and [VTRA Letter of Fair Notice](#) so you have a better understanding of the protocols we are trained in to ensure the safety of your children.

School Standards

Cell Phones and other personal electronic devices

As per the Alberta government cell phone policy to minimize disruption in the classroom and Sturgeon Public Schools Administrative Policies regarding Responsible Use of Technology (AP 870), **Four Winds is a cell phone free school.** Students and parents will be asked to read and sign the Use of Personal Device Agreement. The following points are highlighted standards and are not the complete agreement.

- If any cell phone is brought to class, the student will be asked to take their phone to the office. Exceptions will be made for students who need their cell phone as a health monitor.
- Delivered phones will be **returned to parents** at the end of the day. A call will be made home requiring a parent/guardian to collect the student's phone.

- Students are able to use their phones prior to 8:15 am and after 2:44 pm. Students in Junior High who leave school grounds at lunch can have access to their phones once off school grounds.
- **The school will not be held responsible for any personal electronic communication devices if lost or damaged.**
- All students will have access to a locker. For the security of students' belongings, students must bring their own locks to keep their cellphones and other portable electronic devices in their locker. Should a student not have a lock for their locker, one will be provided to the student and the cost of the lock will be included in their school fees.

If it is necessary to reach your child during the day, please contact the front desk at 825-349-0021.

Appropriate Use of Technology

Students and parents will be asked to read and sign the Technology Agreement. The following points are highlighted standards and are not the complete agreement.

- The use of Chromebooks and laptops in school is encouraged for the intent of educational purposes only.
- Students will not access any social media or peer-to-peer communication while connected to the school's network.
- Students will not use a device connected to the school network with the intent to access web-hosting services that allow music or video downloads.
- Any use of Artificial Intelligence as a tool will be to support learning and will be used responsibly and ethically to maintain Academic Integrity.

Backpacks

- All students will have access to a locker. In order to minimize disruption in the classroom, all backpacks must be stored in the provided locker. Students are responsible for bringing their needed subject-based supplies to each class.
- Should a student not have a lock for their locker, one will be provided to the student and the cost of the lock will be included in their school fees.
- Exceptions will be made for students at parent request and approved by administration.

School Attire

Four Winds Public School strives to help students become productive citizens at school, high school and/or post-secondary schooling or the workforce. As a result, students are expected to dress appropriately for the school/work setting and weather conditions.

- Images and text are suitable for children and are respectful of others
- Clothing covers undergarments
- Clothing allows children to participate in cold, wet, windy, and warm weather
- Both indoor and outdoor shoes

All school staff are empowered to address situations of inappropriate dress. Students may be asked to modify their clothing if it is deemed to be inappropriate. The school hosts theme days and students are expected to still be considerate when choosing their clothing.

Suitable footwear should be worn according to weather conditions. All students are asked to remove outdoor footwear and place them in the racks provided. Indoor shoes are to be worn at all times while in the building. Non-marking running shoes are required in the gym.

Attendance

Success at school is increased through regular, punctual attendance. However, we realize that there may be times when appointments necessitate the student's absence during school times or when illness or unforeseen events occur. During

these times we ask that students either have a note explaining their absence(s) or that parents/guardians contact the school by telephone (825-349-0021) or email fwps@sturgeon.ab.ca. The school absentee phone check will be utilized if parents have not excused their child(ren). Parents are reminded that a sign-in/out register in the office must be completed when students arrive late or leave the school during regular school hours. Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds during instructional hours except with a parent or with parental consent or Jr. High students during lunch hour. For the safety of our students, pick up by others is allowed only if a parent/guardian contacts the school office. Also, if your child typically takes the bus home and they will be getting picked up, then contact the school office before 2:40 pm. This includes field trips and after school events. Teachers will stay in regular contact with families to communicate any attendance concerns. Chronic absenteeism is considered 10% or more absence. When students miss more than 20% of school, they are at risk for negative academic outcomes and we may contact the attendance board and problem solve with families. If needed a community conversation will be scheduled with all involved individuals or community organizations.

Junior High Lunch Open Campus

Junior High students have the option of leaving the school grounds for lunch. When students leave school property, we cannot provide supervision for them. Students going off-campus for lunch are still subject to Four Winds School Conduct as lunch falls within regular school hours. Students may leave for lunch and **must return on time for attendance** at the beginning of DEAR. Repeated late arrivals can result in the suspension of this option for a student. We expect our students to demonstrate respectful behaviour at all times whether at school or in the community. Your support, helping us maintain student safety at school, and in the community, is appreciated.

Absenteeism

If a student misses a class, it is their responsibility to do the following:

- Find out what work was missed
- Complete the missed work
- Hand in the missed work to be marked
- If a lab or an assignment is missed, it is the student's responsibility to make it up
- Missed tests or quizzes will be written on return to the class after an absence. Extenuating circumstances need to be communicated to the instructor

Emergency Procedures

Four Winds Public School follows the protocols and guidelines set out by Hour Zero. These will be practiced throughout the school year. It is a priority of FWPS to make sure our students are safe at all times. Some of the common language we will be using:

ALL CLEAR	Used to advise when incident is brought to a closure
ON-ALERT	Used with additional instruction to advise of a possible emergency
LOCK-DOWN	Used for the threat of violent incidents
HOLD AND SECURE	Used when security threat or criminal activity is outside and/or unrelated to school
SHELTER IN PLACE	Used to direct and control movement inside the school - no threat of violence
DROP-COVER-HOLD	Used during incidents related to potential structural damage or falling/flying debris, ie. severe weather

Use of Cameras in School

Sturgeon Public Schools believes that in order for Division property and individuals on Division property to be safe and secure, the use of video surveillance systems ("cameras") is necessary (AP -610).

Parent Portal (Powerschool)

The [parent portal](#) is where you are able to view your child's progress, attendance, pay school fees, fill out school forms, and confirm student registration (for returning students only). It also gives access to teacher emails. Each parent is able to have their own account if necessary.

Healthy Eating

As a school we try to promote healthy eating and an active lifestyle. We encourage parents and students to pack snacks and meals that are nutritious and will give them the energy they need to get through the day. If your child/family requires support with healthy eating, please contact the school counsellor.

- Students are encouraged to use refillable water bottles during class.
- We ask that students **do not bring energy drinks**.
- Microwaves are provided for lunchtime use for students. Microwaves should not be accessed outside of the set times for lunchtime eating.
- Meal eating is reserved for during lunch time and not during class time.

Hallway passes

In an effort to provide a safe learning environment at Four Winds, our school uses a Hallway Pass program during class times.

- Hall passes are provided for students who need to leave the classroom during instructional time.
- Hall passes are given on a one-to-one basis. Students are asked to write their name on the board when they are handed a pass. Students must return the pass after its use.
- Students must have the pass visible when walking through the halls to their destination.
- The first 10 minutes and last 10 minutes of class are reserved for instructional time and passes will not be handed out during those times.

Fire Ballots

Four Winds has implemented a positive reinforcement program that uses a series of colour-coded Fire Ballots. Each ballot represents a value that we uphold in our school community.

- F = Friendly (Red) - Being courteous, kind, and welcoming to others
- I = Integrity (Orange) - Doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do.
- R = Respect (Yellow) - Respect yourself, others, and the school.
- E = Excellence (Blue) - Working to your full potential.

Bicycles/Scooters/Skateboards/Rollerblades

The school assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged bicycles, scooters, skateboards or rollerblades. If students take their bicycle to school, they are to be placed in the bicycle racks and must be locked. For safety reasons bicycles, scooters, skateboards, and rollerblades are to be parked as soon as possible once students are on school grounds and not to be used until the end of the day. Everyone is asked to walk their bicycles etc. on school grounds due to pedestrian traffic during pick up and drop off times. Morinville bylaw states that anyone under the age of 18 must be wearing a helmet when operating a bicycle. No person shall operate a wheeled apparatus in a reckless manner on a sidewalk which in the opinion of a peace officer would be seen as causing a risk to other pedestrians (bicycle, skateboards, scooters, etc.).

Lost and Found/Personal Property

The school is not responsible for the personal property of students. We request that items of clothing be identified with the child's name. Lost articles are placed in the "lost and found" boxes throughout the school. Throughout the year, unclaimed items will be donated to a charity. Parents and families will be notified prior and be given an opportunity to claim any items.

Allergies

Parents whose child(ren) have severe allergies are asked to inform the office staff and homeroom teacher of any such allergies and the treatment required. Medical forms must be completed. The handling and storage of the Epi Pens will be addressed on a case by case basis depending on age of child. Please be advised that we are not a nut free school, however some individual classrooms may choose to be nut free. To be mindful of allergies, Four Winds is an aerosol-free school and we ask that students refrain from bringing perfume, cologne, and body mists to school.

Volunteers

Four Winds Public School values the many volunteers that help us with day to day activities and special events. Parents are encouraged to share their many skills and talents with us. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher or school administration for information on opportunities. We ask that volunteers provide the school with a current criminal record check yearly that includes the vulnerability section. A letter is available to take to the local RCMP station so they may waive the associated costs as it indicates you want to volunteer at the school.

Assessment Philosophy

Four Winds Public School believes that all students should have the opportunity to be successful. Assessment and evaluation should be consistent with a student's abilities and programs and therefore allows for individual flexibility in demonstrating knowledge and skills. Teachers will use a variety of summative and formative assessments to communicate student progress. These can be found on our website under "Our School-Documents". Parents can access their child's mark via Parent Portal. Please contact the school for log-on information 825-349-0021 or the website for more detailed information regarding our assessment policy.

Inclement Weather Policy

Students will not be required to go outside during school days where the wind-chill temperature is -25 Celsius and/or high wind chill conditions. If an inside recess is called, Jr. High students will not be allowed to sign out for lunch or Office staff reserve the right to not allow students to sign out due to inclement weather. Students are expected to dress appropriately and to go outside for recess breaks. Students may remain inside for scheduled activities, at the request of staff or have a note from their parent because of health reasons.

School board policy states that schools shall remain open even if bus service has been suspended due to weather conditions. Parents who bring their children to school on days when school bus services are suspended will be responsible for picking up their children at dismissal time. As well if weather conditions dictate, a bus contractor may bring students home early without prior notification. Parents should arrange a safe alternative for your child if this happens and there is not normally someone at home.

Announcements regarding suspension of transportation services are made on the Sturgeon Public School Transportation website at www.sturgeontransport.ca.

Communication Flow Chart

We believe the best way to resolve a concern is to deal with it at the most direct level. Please see our [divisional flow chart](#) for effective communication.

SCHOOL SERVICES

Counselling

Four Winds Public School has a school counselor and an Indigenous School Counselor who provides short term individual and group counseling.

Bussing

Students riding the bus to and from school or during school sponsored events are asked to follow some general guidelines. School buses are viewed as an extension of the school and school expectations apply to the bus too.

- Only students registered as passengers may ride on their assigned bus and will require a bus pass (provided by the transportation).
- Students may be denied permission to ride a bus if not properly clothed or not in possession of adequate clothing during cold weather
- Disruptive and/or destructive behavior is prohibited
- Larger items may not be allowed on the bus. Please refer to the Division website for more information as per the Traffic Safety Act. <http://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/Transportation.php>
- Other bus rules also apply as provided by drivers at the beginning of each school year

First Aid

First-aid is given to any child with an injury at school. If the injury is minor, first aid is administered and no contact made with the home. If the injury is of greater concern, the child's parents/guardians are contacted by telephone. It is very important that the school has emergency numbers plus necessary medical information. In severe cases, the school will contact an ambulance for assistance. Therefore, it is important to have an Alberta Health Care number for each child in attendance at our school.

Medication

According to Administrative Practice (AP - Student - 915) Administering Medication and Medical Treatment to Students - the school cannot administer medication unless the following procedures are followed:

Students with Medical conditions: The parents shall: Inform the Principal of their child's need for medication or medical treatment by school staff during school hours or extra- curricular activities, and provide signed permission forms to have designated staff administer medication and/or carry out other medical procedures. Students are not to have prescribed medication in their lunch kits.

Useful Links

Please note the following websites which will be of interest to you as parents:

- Our school's website: <http://www.fourwindsschool.ca/>
- FWPS Parent Portal: <https://pschool.sturgeon.ab.ca/public>. Please use assigned Individual ID and passwords.
- Our Four Winds Weekly Memo can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/edu.sturgeon.ab.ca/firebirdweekly/home>
- The Alberta Education website: <https://archive.education.alberta.ca/parents.aspx> this will give you access to curriculum handbooks or summaries for each grade level, information on resources and homework help.
- Learn Alberta is the homework help area sponsored by Alberta Education. It can be accessed at <http://www.learnalberta.ca>. At this website you may sign in either as a guest, or you may use the following User ID: LA57 Password: 2149

SCHOOL Programs and ACTIVITIES

School Fees

There are fees for options, Field Trips, Academies and Extra Curricular activities. Fees will be applied and can be paid through the parent portal (PowerSchool). Families who experience financial difficulties are expected to make arrangements with the school Principal for alternative payment plans.

French Immersion

French Immersion is a highly successful approach to second-language learning. It is an effective way for your child to become fluent in a second language while achieving all of the objectives of the regular school program. It is designed specifically for children whose first language is not French. It is open to all children of the appropriate age. We use a gentle approach to develop the child's language, and there is no expectation that parents understand or speak French at home. Learning another language can help your child to: improve listening skills, increase cognitive abilities, create a more flexible thinker, enhance communications skills in their first language, improve overall school performance, and gain many other proven benefits!

STEAM, Performing Arts, and Sports For Life

A detailed description and cost can be found on our website at www.fourwindsschool.ca.

K & E Grade 8 & 9 (Knowledge & Employability)

Knowledge and Employability courses work to challenge each student, but also reflect an emphasis on a combination of things such as basic concepts, work habits, study skills, time management, and organization skills. The Knowledge and Employability classroom includes a smaller class size where there is more one-on-one interaction. The class allows students to work at their learning pace.

School Council and the Parent Fundraising Association

Parents are encouraged to join our School Council and/or Parent Fundraising Association. The School Council works with school administration and staff as a team to support education at Four Winds Public School. The Parent Fundraising Association works at raising funds to enhance student experiences at the school and support school initiatives. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at the school.

Intramurals

Intramurals may be offered to the students, usually during lunch hours. Students who might be reluctant to join school teams are encouraged to participate. The games vary from year to year. The focus is on mass participation with the emphasis placed on increasing our heart-rate and having fun.

Field Trips

Students will be involved in field trips during the course of the year. Parents will be notified as to the nature, time and cost of the trip. All field trips for students in grades 5-9 will be paid on a trip by trip basis. The field trip fees can be paid online through the parent portal, cheque or cash. Any off site field trips will require a field trip form to be signed by a parent/guardian.

Extra-Curricular: Clubs and Athletics

Extra-curricular activities and athletics are offered to the students of Four Winds Public School allowing them to compete against other schools. Students are challenged to increase their level of skill. Students experience the concepts of team play, fair play, and intrinsic values associated with doing their best in individual events. These activities may include:

Archery, Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Track and Field, Wrestling and Golf. An additional fee may be required to partake in these activities. A complete list of activities can be [found here](#).