



BEACON HILL BEACON

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to another exciting year at Beacon Hill School. I am so excited to be joining Beacon Hill as it's principal this year. I was born and raised here in Fort McMurray and have many memories of coming to Beacon Hill for various events when I was growing up. I have always loved the community and am grateful to be joining it this year.

I believe in providing students with meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their learning in ways that are authentic and empowering, and that building positive relationships among students, staff, and families is foundational to a safe and thriving school culture. I am eager to work alongside you to ensure Beacon Hill continues to be a place where every child feels valued, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.



As part of our collaborative approach to supporting students, I ask you to please review our Beacon Hill Handbook for Parents & Families found at: beaconhill.fmpsdschools.ca/about/school-handbook

I look forward to a fantastic year!
Abbi Easton

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular attendance is critical for school success. Both excused and unexcused absences negatively impact learning. If your child is going to be absent or late please contact the school at 780-743-8722 or via email at bh.absences@fmps.ab.ca



Reminders

- Morning Bells: 1st - 8:10 AM, 2nd - 8:15 AM
- Recess: 10:15-10:30 AM
- Kindergarten/ECDP AM Dismissal: 11:05 AM
- 2nd Recess/Lunch: 11:40 AM to 12:20 PM
- Kindergarten/ECDP PM Start: 12:00 PM
- Dismissal: 2:50 PM
- Please drop off lunches before 11:55 PM
- We are a PEANUT & TREE NUT SAFE school
- To review student academic progress & attendance go to Parent Portal [HERE](#)



BEHIND THE CLASSROOM DOOR

OUR EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

At Beacon Hill School we believe in open communication and shared understanding when it comes to your child's educational journey. We want to bridge the gap between classroom activities and your home, providing clear explanations of the educational philosophies, strategies, and assessments that guide our teaching. Consider this your go-to guide for deciphering the exciting world of education within our school.



This month, we want to highlight an resource from the Government of Alberta: The Learn Alberta Parent Page. This page offers insights into the Alberta K to 12 curriculum, helping you grasp what your child is learning and providing additional relevant information and resources to support their academic journey.



Explore this valuable tool at:

curriculum.learnalberta.ca/parents/en/home



SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENTS' PLUS

The Beacon Hill School Council is a great way to meet other parents and help shape the future of our school. We're holding our first meeting on September 16th at 6:00 PM and would love for you to be there.

The Parents' Plus group, a part of the School Council, is dedicated to raising funds that directly support our students and staff. Our big fundraiser for the year is our upcoming casino on October 4th and 5th and we are looking for volunteers. To learn more go to bit.ly/BHFundraising This is a great opportunity to get involved and make a big difference!



UPCOMING DATES

There are always lots of great things happening at Beacon Hill School, but here are some important dates to mark your calendars with:

SEP 01 - Labour Day (No School)

SEP 02 - Kindergarten & Gr. 1
Orientation Day

SEP 03 - First Day K-6

SEP 08 - First Day for ALL ECDP

SEP 12 - PLF #1 (Staff Only)

SEP 16 - Parent Council Meeting

SEP 17 - Picture Day

SEP 26 - PLF #2 (Staff Only)

SEP 30 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No School)

OCT 06 - Wear BH Swag/Colours

OCT 10 - PLF #3 (Staff Only)

OCT 13 - Thanksgiving (No School)

OCT 24 - Terry Fox Run

DATES YET TO BE DETERMINED

Welcome Back/50th Anniversary

To stay on top of all events check our school calendar at

beaconhill.fmpsdschools.ca/about/calendar



MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

We know how important mental health is to our students success. Every month we will provide resources/information to support students and families.

Check out the following websites to get some tips to support back to school mental health:

- www.albertahealthservices.ca
- kidsmindsmatter.com
- www.family.cmho.org
- kidshelpphone.ca
- www.anxietycanada.com



FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, INUIT

We would like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 8 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Dënësųłıñë and Métis.



We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We are dedicated to honouring the intent and spirit of Treaty 8.

As educators, we develop and apply foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit for the benefit of all students.



PARKING LOT DOS & DON'TS

- DO** Use the sidewalks
- DO** Follow directions of staff supervisors
- DO** Drive no more than 12 KM/H
- DO** Give busses the right of way
- DO** Watch for pedestrians
- DO** Be courteous to other drivers
- DO** Be aware of your surroundings
- DO** Teach students parking lot safety and awareness
- DON'T** Park/stop in bus lanes or through traffic areas
- DON'T** Park in designated staff parking spots
- DON'T** Double-park or block traffic
- DON'T** Assume other drivers see you or students
- DON'T** Forget to be courteous



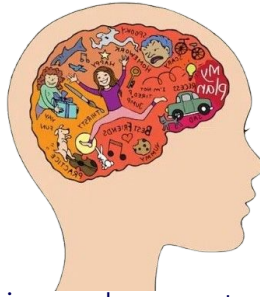
EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

Executive Functioning - What is it?

Executive function skills are controlled by the prefrontal cortex of the brain. Everyone has executive function strengths and weaknesses.

When executive function skills are weak, individuals can struggle with emotional regulation, relationships and school.

Executive function skills are learned. With practice and support, everyone can improve these skills. We are not born with these skills, they develop naturally through practice and mature in our mid-20s. Every month we will learn more about each Executive Function and how we can support students with their development.



12 Key Executive Functions

1. Response Inhibition
2. Working Memory
3. Emotional Control
4. Cognitive Flexibility
5. Sustained Attention
6. Task Initiation
7. Planning and Prioritizing
8. Organization
9. Time Management
10. Goal-Directed Persistence
11. Metacognition
12. Stress Tolerance

A LITTLE BIT OF FUN



Which one does not belong? How many different ways can you answer? Do this as a family and talk about your solutions together!

A couple of laughs for the month...

1. Why did the kid cross the playground?
2. Why did the M&M go to school?
3. What happened when the teacher tied all the kid's shoelaces together?

1. To get to the other slide. 2. Because it really wanted to be a smartie. 3. They had a big class trip.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

This month families in our community are celebrating...



National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

(Orange Shirt Day) - Recognition of the legacy of the Canadian Indian residential school system.

Enkutatash - A celebration of the New Year in Ethiopia and Eritrea.



Eid Milad un Nabi - Marks the birth anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad.

Rosh Hashanah - The Jewish New Year, marks a time for reflection and repentance.



ONE LAST THING...

Lunch Drop Off - We have a new process for dropping off lunches this year. When you enter the office there is a counter to your left where you can write your child's name on the bag and leave it for them to collect.



Also, a reminder that we are a nut safe school. Please refrain from sending food items that contain nuts.

Lastly, there are no microwaves in the classroom and we are unable to heat up student lunches. Hot lunch will startup soon. Stay tuned for details!

MEET THE TEAM



2025-2026 BEACON HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL STAFF

Principal: Abbi Easton

Learning Assistance Coach/First Nations,
Métis, Inuit Lead: Meagan Kwiatkowski

Counsellor/Phys. Ed. & Wellness:
Demara Pafford

ECDP/K: Natasha Petruk

Grade 1: Sarah Sinclair

Grade 1/2: Debbie Porter

Grade 2: Christine Littman

Grade 3: Colleen Zatorski

Grade 4: Bailey Yarkie

Grade 5: Kritika Khanna

Grade 6: Rebekka Pratch



Admin Assistant: Samantha Hepditch

Librarian/EA: Melanie Kowaluk

Educational Assistant: Melanie Kowaluk

Educational Assistant: Makayla Clark

Educational Assistant: Farah Naz

Educational Assistant: Erica Hodder

Educational Assistant: Amber Lavallee

Educational Assistant: Andrianne Dzura

Educational Assistant: Nighat Sana

Educational Assistant: Joshua Wacangan

Educational Assistant: Alyssa Musni

Custodian: Raol Lastimosa

Custodian: Dan Capote