



## Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Monday, Sept 6 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Labour Day - No School</b>
Tuesday, Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Student with Last Names: A to I (Grades 1 to 8)</b>
Tuesday, Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Kindergarten students see below for entry information</b>
Wednesday, Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Student with Last Names: J to Z (Grades 1 to 8)</b>
Wednesday, Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Kindergarten students see below for entry information</b>
Thursday, Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>All Students in School for the Remainder of the Year (Grades K to 8)</b>
Monday, Sept 12 <sup>th</sup>	-----	<b>Grade 7 and 8 Options Begin</b>

### Welcome Back

We are so excited to start the 2021/22 School Year at Fireside School. Over the next 10 months we will work together as a community to support our learners as they learn, grow, and take risks. The past year and half have tested all of us, and while there will certainly be challenges again this year, we will tackle them as a team. As you may have seen last week, Rocky View Schools has put out its [Return to School Operation Plan](#), which I encourage all of you to read. If changes are required as the year progresses, we will certainly inform you in a timely fashion.

Once again, we look forward to working together as team to support your children.

### Staffing Updates

The following individuals are the newest members of the Fireside Staff:

Mr. Jason Ness – Assistant Principal responsible for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students

Ms. Tara Sly - Assistant Principal responsible for Grade 4 to Grade 8 students

Mr. Shaun Perratt- Grade 2 teacher

Ms. Shelby MacKay – Grade 3/4 teacher

Ms. Jaimie Waugh – Grade 5/6 teacher

Mr. Alex Chung – Music teacher

Mrs. Denise Dancey – Grade 8 teacher (returning from RVSO)

Mr. Grayson Adams – Grade 8 teacher (returning from RVSO)

Ms. Karen McDonald (formerly Karen Hammer Grade 1)

### Teachers and Classes

Parents will be able to see who their child's homeroom teacher is by accessing PowerSchool after 4 pm on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. However, we are still working on timetables so class schedules may not be accurate yet. If you are experiencing difficulties accessing PowerSchool, please contact the Fireside School office. Your child's homeroom teacher will be sending out a welcome email with more specific details at some point in the next few days. If your email address has changed, please ensure you have updated your demographic confirmation form in School Engage or call the office for assistance.

### Daily Health Checklist Usage

RVS will continue to require all students, staff, and visitors to use the [Alberta Daily Health Checklist](#) (click on the link to view) prior to coming to school. Parents/Guardians play an essential role as they support actions in the home (such as keeping children/students home when sick and accessing testing if symptoms develop) that ultimately keep other children, students, and staff safe.

### Schedule for Staggered Entry (Grade 1 to 8)

Fireside will once again be doing a staggered entry for students in Grades 1 to 8. Staggered entry allows a more personalized experience as we start the new year. Below is the schedule for the Staggered Entry:

**Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>:** Students with the last name beginning with **A to I only**

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Students with the last name beginning with **J to Z only**

**Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>:** All students at school for the remainder of the year

### First Day (Grades 1 to 8)

On your assigned **staggered entry date**, please arrive at the school for 8:00 am. Students will go directly to the back fields, where they will find teachers holding signs with their names. Bus students will be met at the bus drop off and directed to the back fields. There will be staff on the field to help direct students.

### Kindergarten Staggered Entry Procedure

Your student's homeroom teacher will be contacting you through email regarding a 20-to-30-minute block of time on either Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> for a parent and the child to come in and see the school/classroom. This small block of time will allow our newest and youngest students to come into the building with a parent and see what it is like. Parents and students will enter through the front doors at their allotted time and will be met by their kindergarten teacher.

### Parents' Drop Off and Pick Up

Parents who come to either pick-up or drop off their children are asked to follow all traffic regulations. The best place to drop off students is on the west side of the school in the "Kiss and Go" or along Fireside Parkway.

Please note that a seventh bus is now required for Fireside School and as a result we have no more room in our bus lanes. To solve this issues, we will be using the roadway adjacent to the staff parking lot, this will result in the driveway leading into the parking lot being blocked for loading and unloading of students. We ask that families do not park in the staff parking lot as it causes a safety risk; in addition, you will now be blocked in until the bus leaves at the beginning and end of the day.

### Appointments

There may be times when you need to pick up your child during instructional times. Under the current RVS Return to School Operation Plan, parents will come into the building and sign their children out. We do ask that you also notify the student's homeroom teacher in advance to let them know that the child will be leaving.

### Items Drop Off

Forgotten lunches? Shoes? Homework? On occasion parents need to drop off items for their child during the school day. Like last year, we will have a cart at the front entrance where you can leave items that are clearly marked with the child's first and last name. We will ensure they are delivered to the child as soon as we are able to do so.

### 2021/2022 Fireside School Bell Times

<b>Grades 1 to 8</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>
7:50 to 8:05 – Student Arrival and Entry	<u>AM Classes</u>
8:05 to 9:30 – Instructional Time	7:50 to 8:05 –Student Arrival and Entry
9:30 to 10:10 – Recess/ Literacy Time	8:05 to 10:40 - Instructional Time
10:10 to 11:35 - Instructional Time	10:40 - Student Dismissal
11:35 to 12:15 – Lunch/Recess	<u>PM Classes</u>
12:15 to 2:20 - Instructional Time	11:40 - Student Arrival and Entry
2:20 - Student Dismissal	11:40 to 2:15 - Instructional Time
2:30 - Bus Departure	2:15 - Student Dismissal
	2:30 - Bus Departure

### Visitors and Volunteers

At Fireside School, we love our volunteers and are excited to welcome them back. Our plan is to take a cautious approach with volunteers as we follow the Rocky View Schools' School Operation Plan. Please keep an "eye out" in the next month for more information on how and where we can have our amazing volunteers supporting the learning of students.

### Lunch Breaks and Recess

Everyone can benefit from fresh air and unstructured play and, as a result, we will continue to support and encourage our students to get outside for 40 minutes of total time each day. Students will be provided with designated areas as a grade grouping, where they can enjoy outside time while being supervised by staff. There will initially need to be some flexibility in how this works because of the ongoing landscaping at the school until mid to late October.

Students staying at school will eat their lunch in their classrooms. In addition, as was the case last year, students are permitted to go home for lunch. If your child does choose to go home for lunch, please contact the homeroom teacher so that we have an accurate record of who is staying and who is leaving. **Students who are leaving must make the commitment to leave each day and may not pick and choose when to stay and when to go.**

Fireside School is a closed campus and as such students may not leave the premises unless we have confirmation that they are going home every day for lunch. Please note: lunch time has changed for this year and is now from 11:35 am to 12:15 pm.

### Allergy Awareness

Some members of our school community have been identified as having severe allergic reactions to the following scents, compounds and food products:

- Fragrance (perfume, cologne, creams, sprays, etc.)
- Products with the ingredient Parfum or Balsum of Peru
- Citrus (e.g. orange, lemon, lime, etc.)
- Vanilla (e.g. body lotion, cream, perfume, etc.)
- Nuts

When you come to Fireside School, please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, scented products, or eating items such as nuts. Thank you for your attention to and respect this health concern and for helping us to keep everyone safe from reactions this school year.

### Assigned Doors

Once again, this year we will have assigned entry and exit doors based upon proximity to the child's homeroom. You can find the assigned doors on the map below. There is a possibility for there to be minor changes through the year due to emerging issues. If a student arrives late, they must come in through the front doors and sign in so that we can ensure they are accounted for.

