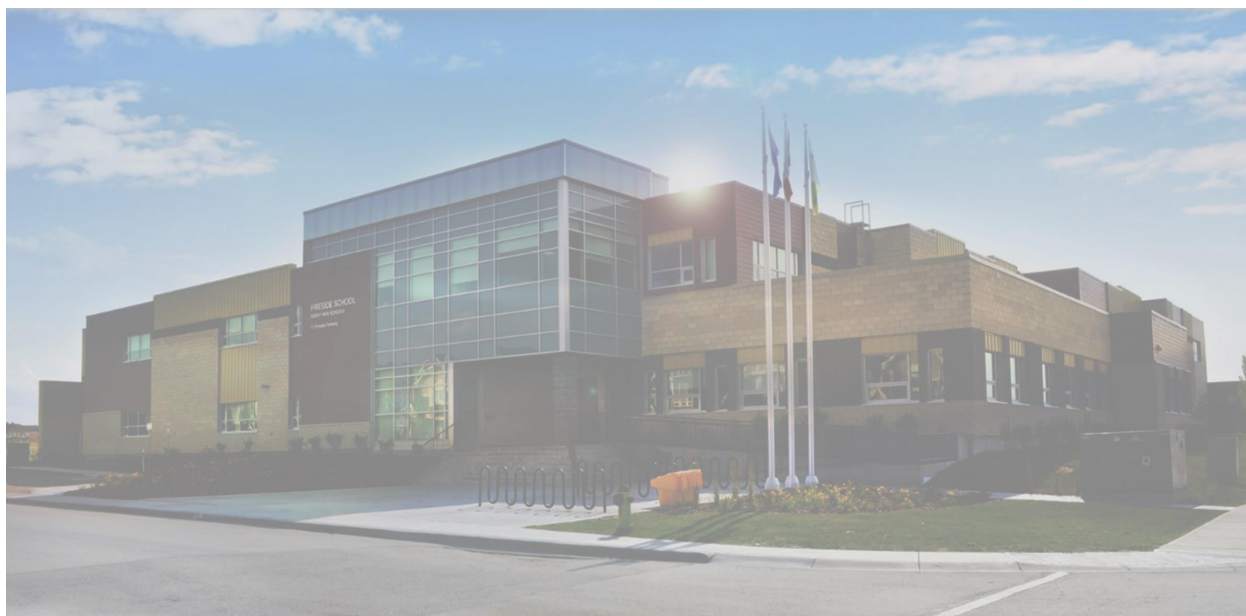


# ***FIRESIDE FOCUS***



## Fireside Focus – End of Year Edition

### **In this edition...**

Upcoming Dates

From the Admin Desk

Staff Changes for Next Year

Reminder: Yearbook Orders

NEW Photos!

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### *Upcoming Dates*

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### School Calendar

- Wednesday, August 27 – Classes & teachers "go live" in PowerSchool
- Friday, August 29 – Welcome Back Breakfast (details in next year's first edition of Fireside Focus)

- Tuesday, September 2 – First Day of School for Grades 1-8, last names A-K (L-Z stay home)
- Wednesday, September 3 – First Day of School for Grades 1-8, last names L-Z (A-K stay home)
- Thursday, September 4 – All students attend

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*From the Admin Desk*

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Hello Fireside Friends and Families,

The time has come! We're always both moved and a little surprised at this time of year: if you were out at the bus lane when the kids were leaving, you will have seen more than a few tears from kids saying goodbye to friends and teachers for the summer. (There may have even been a tear or two from staff.) Some of our grade 8s in particular were "in their feels" with this being their last day at Fireside as students. We heard more than a few "we'll come visit you!"s as they made their way out the door.

Monday marked our farewell celebration with the 8s. It was lovely to see them all dressed up in their finery. This was the class to be the first to go from grades 1 to 8 all at Fireside, which opened in 2017. Wow did that time ever fly by! The teacher address at their ceremony was delivered by teachers who book-ended their time here – Mrs. Soroka (from this year) & Mrs. Lawrence (going all the way back to grade 1).



The year closed on an absolutely wonderful note with our 2nd annual End-of-Year Carnival, with even more games and activities than last year. The kids had a blast, and it wouldn't have been

even remotely possible without the energy and efforts of all the volunteers who ran games and helped to organize. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Lastly, we'd also like to thank our most important partners in education: you the parents. We work hard with your kids over the 180 instructional days we get with them each year to move each and every student forward in their learning. Your part in that learning is fundamental as well. Whether it's home reading, helping with homework, gathering project materials, communicating, motivating, cheerleading, volunteering, or a thousand other things, your involvement in the school and with your child's learning is vital and SO appreciated. Thank you for another fantastic year!

We'd like to wish all of you a wonderful summer and some very relaxing vacation time if you're able to take it. We'll definitely enjoy some ourselves but will be excited to meet our new classes in the fall.

**See you at the pancake breakfast in August!!**

Dave Banderk (Principal)

Kirsty Reade (Assistant Principal, K-4)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, 5-8)

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### *End of Year Reminders*

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A few reminders to close out the year:

Report cards are now available and can be accessed through the PowerSchool parent portal. If you are leaving the Division you need to download your child's report card by **July 11th** as you will lose access to PowerSchool on that date.

Students will be officially assigned to classes in late August. You'll be able to log into PowerSchool to find out who their teacher will be on August 27th.

For September, staggered entry days for **Grades 1-8** will be as follows:

- September 2nd - Surnames A-K
- September 3rd - Surnames L-Z
- September 4th is the first day for ALL students to attend

**Kindergarten families**, in late August, you will be contacted by your child's teacher for their staggered entry dates and times.

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### *Staff Changes for Next Year*

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We'd like to take a moment to wish some departing staff members all the very best as they move on to new adventures in the coming school year:

- Michelle Cooledge (Grade 2, moving to the RVS Education Center to become a Divisional Learning Specialist)
- Courtney Johnson (Learning Assistant and looking forward to new opportunities in the fall)
- Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, moving to Cochrane High)
- Heather Nusl (Grade 2, taking a 1-year leave of absence)
- Denver Petterson (Music & Band, moving to Lacombe)
- Kaity Schaab (currently on maternity leave from Grade 1/2, moving to East Lake School in Chestermere)
- Stephanie Sinanan (Grade 1, traveling for a while and then returning to substitute teaching)
- Kimberly Slack (Grade 6 and looking forward to new opportunities in the fall)

Joining Fireside Next year, we'll be welcoming several new staff members:

- Breanna Baxter (Assistant Principal, from Glenbow Elementary)
- Rebecca Campbell (Grade 7 & 8, from Rancheview)
- Julita Gorczyca (Grade 1, from the substitute teacher pool)
- Amber Mrak (Grade 2, from Prairie Waters in Chestermere)
- Lindsay Wells (Grade 2, first year teacher who did her practicum with Mrs. Lawrence)

There will also be a few internal moves:

- Janet Cheverie from Grade 1 to a Learning Support Teacher position, supporting grades 5-8



- Leslie Hall from Literacy/Learning Support to Kindergarten/Literacy
- Sinéad Holzer from Learning Support Teacher to Grade 6
- Shaun Perratt from Kindergarten to Grade 1

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### *Reminder: Yearbook Orders*

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Yearbook ordering is now available. Orders need to be in by June 30th, 2025. Use the QR code in the photo, or use the [link](https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/) to complete your order.



*Fireside School YEARBOOK*

**ybpay.ca**

Order Deadline: <i>June 30th, 2025</i>	Price: <b>\$25.00</b>	Yearbook ID Code: <b>13485525</b>
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Don't miss out!  
Order your yearbook today!

 Scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/>  
To purchase your copy.

The bottom of the form features a collage of colorful yearbook covers. Visible titles include "THIS IS WHERE THE EARNING HAPPENS", "ADVENTURE AWAITS", "Our GRAND Adventure", "A year of smiles", "CURRENT", and "HANG WITH BEST". The Lifetouch logo is visible on several covers.

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### *Reminder: Register now for 2025/26 Bus Transportation*

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The deadline for early transportation registration is approaching. Families who register for transportation for the 2025/26 school year **before June 30** will receive a discount. Fees for transportation have increased for the 2025/26 school year and this discount can offset some of the cost for your family. Please visit the [Registration and Fee Payment webpage](#) for step-by-step registration instructions. Registration completed before June 30 will receive a discount of \$40 for each of the first two students in your family and \$20 off for each additional student. A minimum payment of 50 per cent is due at registration. Fee and waiver information is available on the [RVS website](#). Register as soon as possible to ensure your child is assigned to a bus route for the start of school in September. To guarantee service for the first day of school, your application must be received before Aug. 1. Students registered after this deadline will experience delays of two to three weeks before they can ride the bus.

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### *New Photos*

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*1 - Grade 7s at Heritage Park*



*2 - Carnival fun...look at all the smiles on the kids AND adults!!! Thank you everyone who made this day possible!!!*







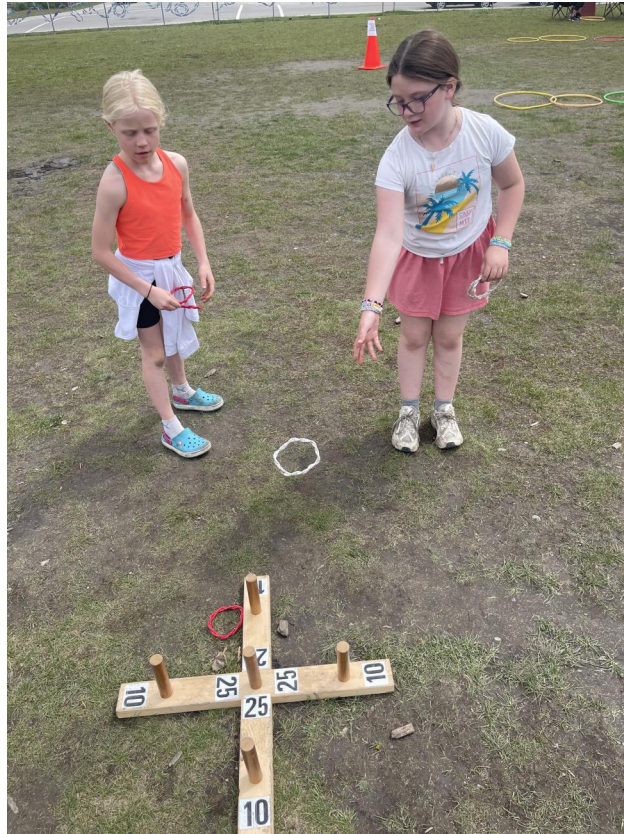




































































*3 - Grade 8 Farewell*

















4 - Members of our moving crew



*5 - Waving good-bye to the buses...we will miss you!*

### **Contact Us!**

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<http://fireside.rockyview.ab.ca>