

# EYE OF THE STORM

SEPTEMBER 2024



## Schuler School

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SchulerSchoolPRSD8/>

Twitter: [@SchulerPRSD8](https://twitter.com/SchulerPRSD8)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR



# September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 First Day of School FSLW	4	5	6 Hat's on for Mental Health (every Friday) Speech	7
Danny P 8	9	10 FSLW	11	12	13 Hat's on for MH Speech	14
15	16 Welcome Back BBQ @ 4-6 PM School Council AGM @ 6 PM	17 Kevin, Susana	18 Lola/Michaela FSLW	19 David R	20 Hat's on for MH Speech Girls VB Tourny Pep Rally	21 Boy's VB Tourny
Frank 22	23	24 FSLW	25	26	27 Hat's on for MH Speech Terry Fox Run @ 2 PM SCHOOL CASINO	28 SCHOOL CASINO
29	Hoyt 30					

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## Lyle's Lowdown

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

Welcome to a new school year! September marks the beginning of an exciting journey filled with learning, growth, and opportunities. As we start this new school year, I want to extend a warm welcome to our new students and families joining our school community, as well as a heartfelt welcome back to our returning students and staff.

The start of a new school year brings with it the promise of new opportunities, challenges, and adventures. It's a time to set new goals, explore new interests, and build on the successes of the past. Our dedicated staff has been working hard over the summer to prepare a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where every student can thrive and be successful.

Our goal is to nurture not only academic excellence but also the character and values that will prepare our students to be responsible, compassionate, and engaged citizens. Our teachers are committed to providing a supportive and challenging learning environment where every student can thrive. We encourage parents to stay involved, ask questions, and partner with us in supporting their child's education.

I am confident that with dedication, perseverance, and a positive mindset, this school year will be one of our best yet. Let's make the most of every moment and work together to make Schuler School a place where everyone feels valued and inspired to achieve their best.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our Schuler School community.

Warm regards,

Lyle Kennedy  
Principal

## Schuler School Calendar

**Sept. 3..... First Day for Students**

**Sept. 16.....Back to School BBQ @ 4-6 PM, School Council AGM @ 6 PM**

Sept. 20/21..... Pep Rally/Home VB Tourny (Girls Friday, Boys Saturday)

Sept. 27 ..... Terry Fox Run @ 2:00 PM

**Sept. 27/28..... SCHOOL CASINO**

Sept. 30..... **Truth & Reconciliation ~ NO SCHOOL/SI DAY**

October 1..... **SCHOOL FEES DUE**, Orange Shirt Day

October 9..... School Pictures (SC Photo)

October 10..... Turkey Trot @ 2:00 PM

**October 11..... PD Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

**October 14..... Thanksgiving Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

October 31..... Halloween Activities

**November 7/8..... SI Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

**November 11..... Remembrance Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

November 22..... Report Cards

November 28..... Parent Teacher Interviews (4:00 – 7:00 PM)

December ..... Christmas Activity (TBD)

December 20..... Early Dismissal @ 2:00 PM

**December 21 - January 5 ~ Christmas Holidays ~ NO SCHOOL**

January 6..... Back to School

**January 29..... SI Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

February 5..... Winter Walk Day

February 17 ~21 ..... **Family Day, Teacher's Convention ~ NO SCHOOL**

February 26..... Pink Shirt Day

March 14..... Report Cards

March 19..... Parent Teacher Interviews (4:00-7:00 PM)

March 21..... **SI Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

April 17..... Easter Activities

**April 18 - April 27 ~ Easter Vacation ~ NO SCHOOL**

May 9..... Muffins with Mom

May ..... Track & Field (TBD)

May ..... Track & Field (alternate day TBD)

May 16..... **SI Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

May 19..... **Victoria Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

June 5..... Grade 9 Farewell (tentative)

**June 6..... SI Day ~ NO SCHOOL**

June 10..... Last PreK & Kindergarten Day

June ??..... Donuts with Dad (TBD)

June 26..... Report Cards, Students Last Day - Early Dismissal @ 2:00 PM

June 27..... Staff Last Day

# Prairie Rose Public Schools Calendar



## Prairie Rose Public Schools 2024-2025

August 2024							September 2024							October 2024							November 2024						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024							January 2025							February 2025							March 2025						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
																			30	31							

April 2025							May 2025							June 2025						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30			26		

SI/PD Days No School	
Statutory Holidays	
Truth and Reconciliation No School / SI Day	
Wellness/Holiday No School	
Teachers' Convention	
First/Last Day of Classes	
Early Dismissal @ 2pm	
Semester 2 Begins	

Updated: May 29, 2024

## Personal Mobile Devices

# PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

MINISTERIAL ORDER (#14, 2024) STANDARDS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES AND SOCIAL MEDIA IN SCHOOLS

## PRPS Core Principles

### Connect

School structures and traditions ensure that every student, staff and community member is known, cared for and their contributions are celebrated.

### Create

Students and PRPS staff undertake tasks that require perseverance, craftsmanship, imagination and self-discipline to foster curiosity about the world.

### Communicate

Words have tremendous power and ours will be characterized by mutual respect, belonging and community building. Students and PRPS staff use communication skills to advocate for themselves, understand their communities and tackle the world's biggest challenges.

### Care

Students and PRPS staff know how to care for their physical and mental health and support the well-being of others, fostering a safe school environment.

### Contribute

Students and PRPS staff are strengthened by acts of consequential service to others, actively ensure all belong and celebrate their rural communities.

### Challenge

Students and PRPS staff develop an internal drive and desire to overcome obstacles and maximize performance through personal responsibility, resilience and initiative.

## Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Welcome back to the 2024/2025 school year. We are looking forward to working together to achieve, "more than we thought possible."

This spring, the Honourable Minister Nicolaidese issued a Ministerial Order called [Standards for the Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media in Schools](#). Prairie Rose Public Schools is committed to examining our thinking and practices to provide students with exceptional learning experiences and we have spent time researching the impact of excessive device use on student mental health, engagement and learning.

Our students deserve a distraction free environment in which they can nurture a sense of belonging and positive sense of self. New division wide procedures are being put in place to support implementation of this required legislation, starting September 3rd, 2024. We will be guided by our core values and use them to support navigating this change process.

We know that implementing these procedures will come with challenges, understanding that people have become reliant on their phones. We are committed to working through anticipated hurdles because benefits include increased learning focus, connections with peers, and wellbeing, which align with our core values.

Prior to January 1st, 2025 accompanying policies and procedures will be shared, along with additional information related to social media network restrictions. There will be opportunities to review your ideas and concerns about the procedures at school council meetings in the fall. Please discuss these upcoming changes and reach out to school or division leaders with questions or concerns.

As always we are excited to support our students in becoming their best selves and look forward to a year of "unleashing potential."

Reagan Weeks  
Superintendent

Lois Bedwell  
Board Chair



**PRPS**

**PS**

**MYPRPS.COM**

**The Use of Personal Mobile Devices in Canadian Schools (CTPP 2024)**

- "(Students) can't focus during exams because they're so used to scrolling through their phone," Kears said. "They're so used to having that constant stimulation that when it comes to focus, they really struggle."
- "There is no doubt that smartphone use has become pervasive in our society. In a 2018 Pew Research Center poll, 95 per cent of teens reported having access to a smartphone. Some 66 per cent have reported using the internet 'almost constantly.' A number that has doubled compared to the 2008-2009 survey, while another 46 per cent say they go online multiple times per day."
- "According to research by Canadian charity Nature Canada, kids in Grades 7-8 spend up to seven hours per day on screens. Additionally, research from Western University found that screen time is now only slightly below the shocking 13 hours per day that six-year-old to 10-year-old kids spent on screens during COVID lockdowns."
- "Kids who spend hours on their phones scrolling through social media are showing more aggression, depression and anxiety, say Canadian researchers."

# Prairie Rose Public Schools Personal Mobile Device Procedures

*We ignite minds by creating cultures of academic excellence, kindle hearts by prioritizing wellbeing, connection and service, and forge futures by cultivating curiosity, wonder and possibility.*

To support learning in Prairie Rose School Division we have developed the following procedures for the use of personal mobile devices. Please refer to the [Ministerial Order \(#14, 2024\)](#) for legislative information.

### Personal Mobile Device Definition

*"Personal mobile device" means any device that can communicate or access the internet, such as a cell phone, tablet, laptop or smart watch*

### Personal Mobile Device Procedure

1. During class time personal devices are powered down and in your bag, in your locker, or the space provided by your teacher and not on your person
2. Headphones and ear buds are not in use during instructional time
3. No personal devices can be used in washrooms or change rooms
4. Teachers will indicate if there are specific learning situations which support personal devices and/or ear buds or headphones
5. Schools may allow students in grades 7 through 12 to access their personal devices during breaks and/or lunch

### How can I access my child if I need to contact them?

*In the event of an emergency you can contact your child through the school office. Every classroom has a phone and the office can connect with the classroom so you can communicate with your child. They are also able to access their phones on break and at lunch for non-emergent messages. Not immediately replying to direct messages will be an adjustment for everyone.*

### What will happen if my child is struggling with the new guidelines?

*Staff members will reach out to parents/guardians to work collaboratively to help your child understand the new guidelines. School administration will support if they continue to struggle. Consequences will align with each schools practices for non-compliance and may result in a restriction on having a personal device at school.*

### Why are these procedures being implemented?

*Alberta Education undertook a survey between April 16th and May 3rd, 2024. Following this engagement process with Albertans, details of which can be found on the [Cellphone use in Schools, Alberta Education page](#), Ministerial Order (#14/2014) [Standards for the Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media in Schools](#) was established.*

### What if a student has a medical condition that is supported through the use of a personal mobile device?

*An example of a student using a personal mobile device to support a medical condition would be an app to monitor/measure blood sugar levels if diagnosed with diabetes. In such a circumstance exceptions to use will be made to procedures through connecting with the school principal to ensure the students needs are met in the school environment.*

## Technology Charges

Keyboard <b>repairs</b>	\$20.00
Monitor replacement (used) when available	\$30.00
Monitor replacement (New)	\$75.00
Used body parts, e.g. broken case or hinges (when available)	\$25.00
USB-C power adapters mean the <b>Chromebook</b> needs to be replaced. See below pricing	
Prorated on a 34-month life expectancy starting September of the year they were assigned. However many months were left times \$8.00	\$8:00
Power Adapters of all makes and styles. Used and new.	\$15.00

## Schuler School Staff



Principal ~ Mr. Lyle Kennedy  
 PreK/Kindergarten ~ Janay Hein  
 Grades 1/2 ~ Danika Farion  
 Grades 3/4 ~ Anne Maier (1/2 time) / Allison Jones  
 Grades 5/6 ~ Allison Jones  
 Grades 7/8/9 ~ Jeremy Molzan

EA's ~ Elise Bender, Paige McLean, Lisa Newby, Eva Rempel

Administrative Assistant/Librarian ~ Janice Herman

Custodian ~ Murray Assman

## FSLW ~ Family School Liaison Worker

Our Family School Liaison Worker (FSLW) Teresa Kleinknecht (Mrs. K) offers mental wellness support services, and acts as a resource to individuals and families who may be struggling at home or at school. The FSLW is available to strengthen the development of student's emotional, social, behavioral, educational, and other experiences. Counseling is provided on an individual and small group basis that focus on personal strengths, effective life and coping skills, safety, and connection to their schools and community. Referrals can be made by family members, school staff, students themselves, or peers. Email [teresakleinknecht@prrd8.ca](mailto:teresakleinknecht@prrd8.ca) or phone 403-594-2778 for more information or to register.

## Back to School BBQ



## Student Absences

### New This Year!

Prairie Rose sent out the following information to you the parents over the summer. We encourage you to try this new link as **our primary absence reporting**.



In an effort to streamline the process for reporting student absences, we have created a new online form where parents can excuse their child's absence. A confirmation of the absence will be

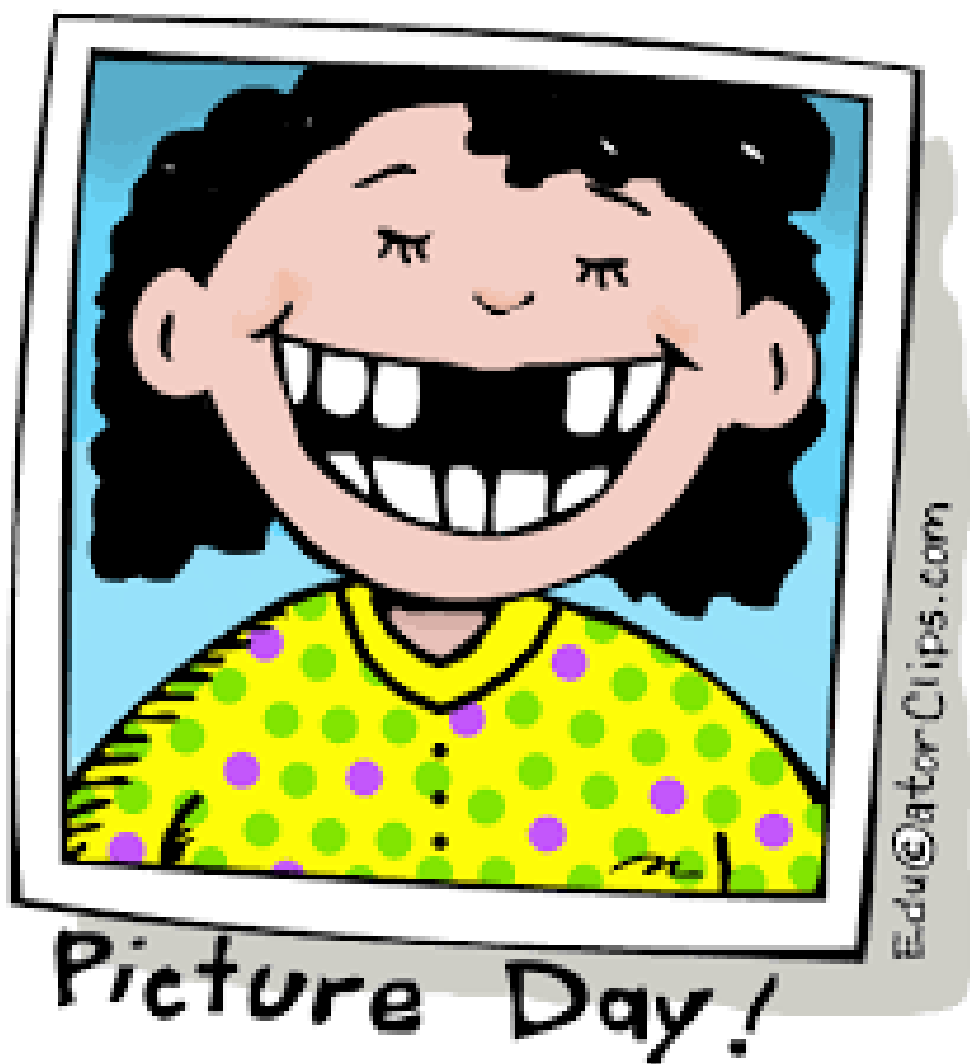
emailed to parents once the form is submitted.

There are **two ways** for parents to access the online reporting feature:

1. The school website under the Useful Links found at the top right corner waffle menu (the waffle menu is the nine dots - look for Report an Absence)
2. By adding the link to the home screen of a cell phone. Using the Safari browser on an Apple phone, or the Google browser on an Android, copy the following link ([https://prrdweb.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0JMwNlsmWPfUIUO](https://prrdweb.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0JMwNlsmWPfUIUO)). At the bottom of the phone screen there will be a box with an arrow pointing upward. Click on that option and scroll down until you see "Add to Home Screen". Click Add. A new icon will be added to your phone screen. To report an absence, click this button and complete the form.

## School Pictures

Pictures are by SC Photo in Medicine Hat.



## Sports Update

### Volleyball Update

We are excited to have both a girls and boys team competing in the Medicine Hat Junior Athletic Association this year. Mrs. Farion is coaching the boys volleyball and Miss. Hein and Mr. Kennedy will do the girls team. We have over 25 students interested in playing this year!



Our boys will have league games on Tuesdays and our girls Wednesdays. We will hopefully have our league schedule early next week to share.

We are hosting tournaments for both teams at Schuler on September 20th and 21st. Please plan on coming by to cheer on our girls team on Friday and the boys on Saturday!

## Student Fees

Your child will be coming home with an envelope for school fees soon. You will also get a notification email when they are set up in School Cash. These fees are due by Tuesday, October 1st.

I highly encourage all parents to the link below for SchoolCash Online to pay for their school fees as well as any upcoming expenses.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the fees, please call Lyle or Janice at the school.



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If you have any questions or concerns regarding the fees,



### Student Drop Off & Pick Up

We will be following the same protocol as the end of last year if you are picking up or dropping off your child during the school day. Our doors are locked so please **RING THE DOORBELL WHEN YOU ARRIVE.**



### Hot Lunches

We will continue to offer our hot lunches online only now as we did last year. **In order to access the hot lunch YOU MUST SIGN UP FOR SCHOOLCASH ONLINE.** I cannot set this up on my end for you, YOU must do it. Please select the link below to do this and select 'REGISTER'. After this is done you will receive emails each time something is available to be purchased. If you have questions or need help feel free to give me a call.

please call Lisa or Janice at the school.

## Housekeeping



We ask that you supply your child with the proper cutlery and condiments to eat their lunches. We do have cutlery on hand in the event you have forgotten, but prefer not to make it a habit.



### SchoolCashOnline.com: Welcome

Why Use SchoolCash Online? Convenient Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home Easy To Use Online shopping with various payment methods Safe Your child won't be carrying cash or checks to and from school Saves Time Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place

[prrdweb.schoolcashionline.com](http://prrdweb.schoolcashionline.com)

## Terry Fox Run ~ Friday, September 27th

The Annual Terry Fox School Run day is set for Friday, September 27th at **2:00 PM**.

All parents and community members are welcome & encouraged to join us outside the school at this time.

Pledge sheets will be coming home soon for students to raise funds. We highly encourage you to use the online pledging at <https://terryfoxschoolrun.org/>.

- select 'Give Today' in red in the top right corner
- select 'Donate to a School' from the drop down menu
- under 'School Name' type in **Schuler School**
- select 'Schuler School' then 'Donate'
- proceed to make your donation

Students can also get on board by setting up their own fundraising page under your school name using <https://terryfoxschoolrun.org/>

- select 'Menu' in the top right corner
- select 'students' from the drop down menu
- scroll down to 'Setting up your Student or Classroom Page' and follow the prompts

"anything  
is possible  
if you try."



## School Council AGM



### School Council AGM - September 16 @ 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held at the school.

All parents are encouraged to attend this meeting. It's your school, come be a part of it!

- Get school updates
- Share ideas to build our school community
- Have your voice heard
- Participate in decisions that impact student learning

We are also looking for a couple more volunteers for the Casino on September 27 and 28th. To sign up they can contact Elly Herrmann @ 403-928-1831.

# SCHULER SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM

MONDAY  
**16**  
SEPTEMBER

Connect with Other Parents  
and Learn How to Support our  
school! Get up to date  
information about the year to  
come!

- ✓ Meet other parents
- ✓ SNACKS!!!
- ✓ Discuss school information

We will be looking to fill executive  
positions, if interested in putting  
your name forward, please contact  
Jenn Beck 403-458-0361



**NOW HIRING**



## **Substitute School Bus Drivers**

- + Bus drivers to sub for the 39 PRPS operated bus routes across the school division.
- + Class 2 and S Endorsement required. PRPS will train at no cost to the driver and a wage will be paid as part of the training process.

*Visit [myprps.com/employment](https://myprps.com/employment) for more information.*

### **WHY IS THERE NO SCHOOL ON SEPTEMBER 30TH?**

The establishment of a national federal holiday to recognize and bring awareness to the impacts of residential schools on Indigenous youth was fulfilled in response to one of the 94 calls of action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2015.

On June 3, 2021, Bill C-5, An Act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act, and the Canada Labour Code (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation), received Royal Assent. It officially designates September 30th of each year as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

This marks a new public holiday under the Canada Labour Code

Please read the Prairie Rose message to parents regarding September 30th for more information:

<https://www.myprps.com/news/truth-and-reconciliation-day-sept-30-1631724329168>



**Janice Herman**

Janice is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

