

Welcome to ÉCOLE MOUNTVIEW SCHOOL

4331 - 34 Street
RED DEER, ALBERTA
T4N 0N9

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

Telephone 403-346-5765

E-mail mv@rdpsd.ab.ca

MV Website: <https://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/mountview>

Here you will find daily updates of our school information including access to the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

School Messenger SMS: Currently our school uses SchoolMessenger to communicate important information to our families. To improve our communications, we have implemented the option to send text messages. If you would like to [OPT IN](#) in for this service please text Y or YES to short code 724665.

Follow us on Social Media!

Twitter: @ecolemountview

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ecolemountview

Instagram: @ecolemountview



MV App: Free App available for both iPhone and Android - Scan this QR code to upload to your phone. This is a great way to enter your child's absence and get key information about our school.

<u>School Hours</u>	
Entry	8:15 am
Classes	8:28 am
Recess	9:58 to 10:12 am
Lunch	11:50 to 12:10 pm
Lunch Recess	12:10 to 12:40 pm
Entry	12:40 pm
Classes	12:50 pm
Dismissal	2:50 pm
<u>Kindergarten</u>	
⇒ AM classes	
Entry	8:15 am
Dismissal	11:00 am
<u>Pre-Kindergarten</u>	
Entry	8:15
Dismissal	11:00

Weekly News Messenger: Each Friday you will receive an email with information for the following week by viewing the Mountview Messenger. Be sure to keep your email and other contact information updated in our system by completing RSVP in PowerSchool.

Please note that the information contained in this handbook is accurate to the best of our knowledge. It is subject to the policies and procedures of the Board of Trustees and is also subject to change without prior notice. Readers are advised to consult with the school administration if they have questions regarding the contents of this handbook.

Table of Contents

Parents are Partners

- ❖ Attendance and Absences
- ❖ Communication - School/Home
 - Classroom Newsletter
 - Link Book/Agenda
 - Website
 - School Messenger/Twitter/Instagram/Facebook/MV App/Mountview Messenger
 - Reporting Student Progress
 - Parent/Student Communication During the Day
- ❖ Homework
- ❖ Illness/Accident During the School Day
- ❖ Lunch Supervision
- ❖ Milk Program
- ❖ School Council/Parents for Mountview
- ❖ Volunteers

A Safe and Caring School

- ❖ Yeti Code of Conduct
- ❖ Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
- ❖ Mountview Mottos
- ❖ Guidelines for Students
- ❖ Bicycles, Skateboards, In-line Skates, Heelies
- ❖ Contraband Items
- ❖ Extra-curricular Activities
- ❖ Fragrance Aware
- ❖ Nut Aware
- ❖ School Supplies
- ❖ Student Clothing/Footwear
- ❖ Student Drop-off (Parking)
- ❖ Student Leadership - AMA Patrols
- ❖ Supervision
- ❖ Technical Items

Programs

- ❖ Learning Commons/Makerspace
- ❖ Meeting Student Needs
- ❖ School-Age Program
- ❖ Central Alberta Refugee Effort (C. A. R. E.)

Student Services

- ❖ Medical Alert
- ❖ Community Liaison Worker
- ❖ Learning Services
- ❖ Literacy and Numeracy Interventions
- ❖ Alberta Health Services

Student Recognition

- ❖ Yeti Paws & Pizza with the Principal
- ❖ Yeti Leadership Certificates
- ❖ Yeti-Brag tags
- ❖ Birthdays

MESSAGE TO PARENTS FROM THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to Mountview Elementary School. We are excited to serve at this vibrant learning community! **Ecole Mountview is staffed by a group of caring and compassionate people who love children!**

Both Mrs. Bax, and I are pleased to have this opportunity to work together *with you and your family* to provide the best education for your children. Collaboration is one of our District Values for Learning and Life and we thank you in advance for all of your support.

As an administration team, this is our promise to the students, parents, and community of Mountview School:

We promise to:

- welcome parents to support the education of their child(ren).
- treat all people with dignity and respect.
- ensure a safe and caring school where all students can learn.
- listen to concerns and deal with them in a timely manner.
- encourage staff and students to achieve excellence.
- communicate successes and concerns.

We recognize that parents/guardians are the first and most important teachers in their child's life. We look forward to the relationships and partnerships that we will build together.

Our collaboration together, alongside respectful communication and trust are key to a successful school year! We look forward to our time with your children and being a part of their education.

Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or celebrations you would like to share. **We are available to answer any questions for clarification that you may have and invite you to contact your child's teacher first when you have questions for the classroom community.** Your voice is important and you can be a part of decision-making in your child's education this year. A great way to do this is to ensure that you become involved at the school level. Strive to attend parent-teacher conferences, celebrate special events with your child, attend our assemblies, and kindly, consider stopping in for one or two School Council meetings. The School Council would love to meet you if you are new to our school and they do understand how busy times are for families in terms of volunteer time. If you can help with one or two events each year, you can impact nearly 400 students at any given time. As they say, "Many Hands Make Light Work" and there are so many amazing opportunities each school year!

We are looking forward to a fantastic year of learning and growing together!

Yours in Education,

Ms. Kim Walker, Principal

Mrs. Camille Bax, Vice-Principal

DUAL-TRACK SCHOOL

Mountview is a dual-track school offering educational programs in English and in French Immersion. Our goal is to provide positive and enriching learning opportunities for students in each of the programs. At the same time, we strive to promote a strong sense of unity and a sense of belonging within our school. We are committed to the development of respect and tolerance for all diversity and specifically for the uniqueness of both English and French language and culture. We will all strive to build upon our own cultural proficiency at our school. We work closely with our students, their parents/guardians, our School Council and the community at large to provide a quality program in two languages.

This handbook is designed to provide you with information about the policies and procedures of the school. Please feel free to call or visit should you wish for further information about Mountview.

PARENTS ARE PARTNERS



Attendance & Absences

Attendance is compulsory for all children at the elementary level. Regular and punctual attendance is a primary factor in school success and we expect children to be at school except when they are ill. We do encourage you to monitor your child's health and wellness each day, as it is hard to learn if one has a headache or the flu. If possible, medical and dental appointments should be scheduled during non-school hours. Please strive to ensure that your child attends school regularly and on time; attendance and consistency in-class lessons will be a very important part of your child's learning experience and success at elementary school. The days at elementary are the building blocks to further success in literacy, numeracy, and content areas.

*****When your child is going to be absent or late, we ask you to **notify the school by telephone at 403-346-5765** by leaving a message on our 24-hour voicemail, **or by filling out the absence using this [link](#)**. You may also let us know by sending an email to the teacher. For the safety of our students, the school office will attempt to contact you to let you know if your child has not arrived and if you haven't already notified us of an absence. This safety measure is important and can be time-consuming for office staff, so please be sure to notify us of absences.



Communication - School/Home

It is important that parents are well informed of events and activities that occur at the school. At Mountview, we strive to offer many options of communication to extend general school information to parents.



- **Classroom Newsletters**

Frequently individual teachers send home a classroom newsletter with information about what is being studied, events/activities within the classroom, requests for volunteers etc. These may be in electronic format or paper copy. If you have any questions about the classroom - please reach out to your child's teacher directly.



- **Link Books/Agendas**

Children will bring home daily link books/agendas (called various things in different grades) each evening to keep parents informed by recording daily homework, ongoing assignments, class activities, important class or school information, and messages from the teacher. Parents are asked to review and sign the link book each evening and children are requested to return it to school daily. This is a good communication tool between home and school; parents are invited to send messages or questions to the teacher through the link book/agenda. The first agenda is given to each student, and a replacement cost for another is \$5.00.



- **Mountview's Website - <https://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/mountview>**

Please take the time to have a look at our website. It contains a wide variety of information for parents and students. Included on the website are the school calendar, staff list, and information about our programs and French Immersion. The "About Us" page contains the Parent/Student Handbook as well as information on bell times, supply lists and the School Education Plan. In addition, the website highlights special events, upcoming activities, extracurricular opportunities, and student work. Another feature of our website is the "Community News link". Here you

can find information about sporting and cultural events taking place in Red Deer. Check back often as the site is updated regularly.



- **School Messenger**

Parents may choose to [opt in](#) to receive short texts as reminders from School Messenger for upcoming school deadlines/events.

- These messages will come from the office and not from individual classrooms. You cannot reply to these messages as they are meant for information purposes only. If you would like to sign up, please text the message: “Yes” or “Y” to **724665**. After you send the text, you will receive an automated confirmation message.

Please follow us on our social media! We will be celebrating the fantastic activities in classrooms and in our school! We view these platforms as celebrations, and, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact school administration directly.



- **Twitter**

Follow us on Twitter @ ecolemountview



- **Instagram**

Follow us on Instagram @ ecolemountview



- **Facebook:** Sign in to www.facebook.com/ecolemountview

While you're on your own Facebook page, you can easily stay connected with École Mountview



- **MV App:** Free App available for both iphones and androids. Scan this QR code to upload to your phone.



- **Weekly Mountview Messenger:** On Fridays, you will receive an email with an attachment advising what is happening at MV for the following week. If you have any questions, kindly call the office.

Reporting Student Progress & Report Cards

The school year is divided into four reporting periods:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. October | Parent Intake Conference and Teacher Oral Progress Report |
| 2. December | Written Report & Conference |
| 3. March | Written Report & Conference |
| 4. End of June | Written Report |

Students in Grades 1-5 receive a report card which you can access by logging into your Parent Portal in PowerSchool. Frequent informal communication between home and school is encouraged through phone calls, email, visits and the link book or agenda. Oral progress reports are provided by the teachers to parents of kindergarten children in October, December and March. A written report card is provided in June.



Parent/Student Communication During the Day



Students needing to call during the day may use classroom or office phones with permission. We do request that special arrangements for noon or after-school plans including play dates or pick-up details are made prior to leaving for school in the morning. This will prevent classroom learning time from being interrupted in order to deliver messages during the day. ***If students have personal cell phones, we ask that they remain off and out of sight during the school day; there are lots of phones here at school. We know from experience that teaching and learning is disrupted by cell phones in the classroom. Stay tuned for further information on personal devices, and social media at our school. This year, we will adhere to Alberta Government's Ministerial Order regarding the new restrictions on personal mobile devices.***

Homework

Homework *may* be assigned by teachers to help meet specific needs of learners, build responsibility, self-discipline and good study habits. While homework can create an opportunity for practice, it can also create questions at times. Does my child have enough? How can I effectively help my child?

Parents can help children extend or enrich learning by:

- ❖ communicating closely with teachers
- ❖ giving support, encouragement, praise and assistance to their children's efforts
- ❖ setting aside a regular time for homework
- ❖ providing a quiet place for study
- ❖ identifying a regular routine to practice reading, and talking about what they read
- ❖ learning as much as possible about the school program
- ❖ making children accountable for completing assigned homework tasks

Daily reading is strongly encouraged to enhance reading skill(s), confidence, and the joy of reading! Please speak to your child's teacher regarding book accessibility and choosing a 'just right' fit. Remember to share your love of reading and spend time talking about your favorite books as a child - you are the strongest model for them, and you will inspire your child in just a short few minutes each day.

General Guidelines for the frequency and duration of homework:

Division 1 (Grades 1-3)

Teachers may choose to send home assignments to finish/at this level will primarily involve reading, writing, and talking with parents. An average of 6-10 minutes is suggested. Daily reading is strongly encouraged to enhance reading skill and confidence. Please speak to your child's teacher regarding book accessibility and choosing a 'just right' fit.

Division 2 (Grades 4 and 5)

Teachers may choose to send home assignments and this homework may include finishing assignments, studying, working on projects or regular reading. An average of 15-20 minutes is suggested.



Illness/Accident During School

The school staff will treat minor injuries and ailments, but cannot administer medication unless a special authorization form has been completed and co-signed by the doctor. In the event of sudden, more serious illness or injury, parents will be contacted. **Please ensure the school has the following current information at all times: address, home phone number, parent work numbers, alternate contact, Alberta Health Care number and allergies or other medical conditions.**

It is IMPERATIVE that an alternate phone number be made available in the event that the school office is unable to locate either parent. Should a child require immediate medical attention, the school will have the child taken to the hospital and parents will be notified as soon as possible.



Lunch Program

Students will be supervised during eating time and at recess by school staff. Please keep in mind that lunch is a social time, and if at the beginning of the year (primarily in the younger grades), your child is not quite finishing - this should improve over time.



Milk Program

The Milk Program that is provided at École Mountview School encourages children to develop the healthy habit of drinking milk every day. It is organized and run by a parent or staff volunteer and usually begins in October.

We offer both white and chocolate milk with the option for daily purchases or the opportunity to prepay with the purchase of a “milk punch card”. This card is used in place of money to alleviate the possibility of the student’s money becoming “lost” prior to the exchange at the lunch hour.

This program is not a fundraiser however, there may be times that money does accumulate throughout the year and it is designated to be spent on healthy activities for the students.



School Council / Parents For Mountview

The École Mountview School Council is an association of parents, teachers, the school administration and community representatives who work together to promote the well-being and effectiveness of the entire school community. All parents with children attending Mountview are invited to participate in the activities of the School Council. Meetings last 1 to 2 hours and provide an excellent opportunity to meet other parents, to stay informed and, most importantly, to provide input into school policies and procedures. Meeting dates will be in the weekly Mountview Messenger and posted on the website. The agenda is available online a few days prior on our website. Parents for Mountview, which runs parallel with the School Council, raises funds to support special projects in the school.

VOLUNTEER



Volunteers

We are pleased to have many parents join us as volunteers each year. If you would like to become more involved in our school program, please contact your child's teacher or the office. Parents are welcome to volunteer in the classroom, the office, the library, on field trips and on the School Council, assisting with a variety of school activities or preparing materials at home. Your support is appreciated by both students and staff.

Please be advised that it is the **policy of Red Deer Public Schools** that all volunteers in schools (including parents) need to provide the school with an [RCMP check](#) (Criminal Record Check or Vulnerable Sector Check) and complete a [Volunteer Application Form](#). We have more detailed information on our website. If you are considering volunteering, please contact us or go on our RDPSPD [website](#). If you present the school volunteer letter when obtaining the RCMP check, there is a \$10 fee; otherwise it is \$75.

“There can be no more powerful an argument in favour of parental involvement in their children’s schooling than the fact that it is strongly and positively associated with children’s achievement in school and attitude toward learning !!” Suzanne Ziegler

Volunteers will...

- contribute to the positive, productive atmosphere of the school.
- treat all children with dignity and respect.
- respect personal boundaries of children.
- treat each other and school staff with dignity and respect.
- maintain confidentiality about children, staff and occurrences at school.

How can you help?

- Listen to children read
- Conduct flashcard or other drills
- Provide individual help
- Set up or assist in learning centers
- Run photocopies
- Make or play instructional games
- Work with spelling or vocabulary words
- Prepare or assist with visual materials
- Make bulletin boards
- Gather resource materials
- Read with students
- Help on field trips
- Help with the School Council hot lunch, fundraisers, Etc.
- Shelve books in the library
- And many more...

A SAFE AND CARING SCHOOL



The Yeti Code of Conduct

This is a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment where students, staff and parents treat each other fairly and kindly.

We teach our students to be Yetis who are:

- Respectful
- Responsible
- Resilient

As an adult visiting our building, thank you for helping us to model these values.

School-Wide Positive Interventions and Supports at École Mountview

At École Mountview, we value educating the whole child and helping our students become well-rounded, caring, respectful, responsible, and resilient individuals who contribute to society in positive ways. With this in mind, we have a school-wide system of Positive Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The goal of PBIS is to establish learning environments that support the positive behavior of students through proactive instruction, routines, incentives, classroom management and intervention policies. PBIS involves the entire school population in promoting and rewarding positive behaviors. Through data analysis, planning takes place to help prevent negative or risky behaviors, in order to create a safe, supportive learning environment.

Behavior Expectations

We 'R' Yeti (the Mountview Mottos):

We are respectful.

We are responsible.

We are resilient.

These positive behavior expectations will be taught and reinforced through:

1. Proactive Instruction / Reinforcement of Expectations

Behavior is learned. Thus we provide lessons to teach behavioral expectations, as well as effective strategies students can use to achieve positive and safe behaviors. Children learn how to meet these behavior expectations in all settings encountered every day in school such as the classroom, library, gymnasium, hallway, bathroom, and playground. These expectations are displayed in an instructional

matrix, and are posted in the school. Expectations are taught using a range of strategies that include modeling, practice and role-playing. Videos, guest speakers, and social stories are incorporated into lessons to reinforce desired behavior.

When students are not following school expectations, staff will re-teach the desired behaviour by referring to the instructional matrix and using examples. When consequences for inappropriate behaviour are warranted, logical and fair consequences will be applied

Examples:

- if you make a mess, clean it up
- if you hurt someone, make it right with them through apology or other restorative means

2. Recognition of Positive Behaviors

Students' use of positive behavior is regularly recognized and promoted through the use of Yeti - tickets which are given to students "caught" being respectful, responsible, and/or resilient.

A monthly draw for pizza with the Principal is made from these slips as well as other prize draws throughout the month. As these are universal character traits which are important not only in school, you may also choose to reinforce them in your conversations with your child/children at home.

This year, our THEME is "**BE Kind Every Time**" - we will be recognizing students who are kind, caring, and helpful. In addition, this year we will launch "Netty Awards" whereby homeroom teachers will recognize positive behavior and growth in their students; stay tuned for more information!

If you have any questions about PBIS, please direct them to the Principal, Ms. Kim Walker.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

COOPERATION POLICY

Our goal is to ensure that every child can learn and play in a safe and supportive environment. The teachers and other staff work together to be consistent in enforcing the standards identified in our Cooperation Policy to make school an enjoyable and 'special' place for all children. Communication and support from home are essential. It is the responsibility of all students to be punctual, to strive to do their best work, to complete all assignments, and to behave in an acceptable manner. We encourage students to develop responsibility and self-discipline.

At recess, students are expected to:

- stay on the school grounds and play safely.
- play only in designated areas with students of similar age and size.
- notify the playground supervisor immediately if a problem arises.
- ask for the supervisor's permission to enter the school before the bell rings.

Behaviors that detract from our positive school climate are: rough play (hitting, kicking, fighting, spitting), throwing objects, vandalism, defiance of authority, disrespectful language or gestures, continual name-calling/put-downs, and continual disruptive behavior.

If serious problems occur, students may be given a "time in" or the school administration may become involved. If problems persist, further support may be assessed or the student may be given an in-school suspension. Parents will be notified and asked to become involved.

School Discipline Process:

Discipline at School: Discipline Defined: Discipline is one circumstance that unites parents and people who work with children. *We thank you in advance for being a partner in this process.* We all want to

help develop more respect and responsibility in young learners, as this helps with fewer disruptions at home and in the classroom; it can help with a reduction in aggressive or defiant behaviors.

Discipline is a learning process and not simply an event where consequences are applied. Discipline is about preparing children for all the choices they will be making and ensuring they are ready to handle them. At Mountview, our discipline components include daily routines: Daily procedures and routines are clearly established, practiced and practiced again, and again (the power of a redo!). Most of the little discipline issues that we see in schools are caused by the failure of students to follow the routines and procedures of the class, particularly during transitions.

The Re-Direct: When a child fails to give due regard to another person at MV, a teacher or supervisor re-directs the child to appropriate conduct; **this is a coaching opportunity.** This may include providing the child with strategies to avoid making the same mistake in the future. 95% of the time, the child complies and the issue is resolved.

Additional Interventions: Sometimes, children fail to comply and/or repeat the misbehavior within a short time frame. When this occurs, the teacher or supervisor will conference with the child (away from other children) until the child accepts responsibility and can clearly articulate a plan to avoid such misconduct in the future. The staff member may also put interventions in place such as increased supervision, a move within the classroom, limited activities on the playground, or additional check-in conferences. At this point, the interventions used will be recorded and filed with the child's homeroom teacher.

Continued Misbehavior: Continued misbehavior will result in the homeroom teacher and/or administration contacting parents and arranging a conference if necessary. **Administration may also decide to put additional interventions in place to help the child do the right thing and to protect the health, safety, and well-being of other children.** This may include suspension. In addition, previously recorded interventions will be reviewed by administration.

Conflicts between Students: When children have disagreements with each other, they will be asked to sit down together under the supervision of a staff member. The children must then work together to resolve the conflict in a restorative manner. We call this, "Making It Right."

School-Wide Discipline: Each staff member has the authority and responsibility to help children with the discipline process outlined above. As such, MV students are expected to respect all adults in our building alongside, visitors and guests.

Peer Conflict vs. Bullying: It is important for all of us to keep in mind the difference between peer conflict and bullying.

- Peer conflict is a normal part of growing up. It happens when there is a problem between two or more students. It is important for students to develop skills to deal with disagreements in order to be happy and successful in the world today. The staff at Mountview are very good at teaching students the tools they need to accomplish this.
- Bullying, on the other hand, occurs when persistent and targeted remarks or behavior create a power imbalance and seriously jeopardize a child's right to a safe and caring learning environment. In the event that the same individual or group repeatedly harasses a student, it is important for the student or the parent to report it to the classroom teacher immediately. Administration should be informed if the behavior continues in any way.

What to do if someone
is **BOTHERING** you?



Use Your WITS!

www.witsprogram.ca

UVIC



This year, Mountview will be launching the *WITS Program*, a district-wide **Anti-Bullying Program/initiative** whereby students are taught the strategy ‘WITS’ Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out, and Seek Help. It is very similar to our existing, STOP, WALK, THINK, TALK strategy that we have used in problem-solving. The WITS program will be utilized across the district in Elementary Schools this year, in school-wide HEALTH Lessons; hosting links to incredible storybooks and lessons. The lessons will be followed up in the classroom with optional activities for teachers to host with their classes with literature, and coaching opportunities. We look forward to implementing these lessons across Grades 1-5 at Mountview this year. If you have any questions or are curious about the WITS program, please contact our Vice-Principal, Mrs. Camille Bax this year.

Bicycles, Skateboards, In-Line Skates, and “Heelies”

If a student rides a bicycle to school, he/she needs to have a lock to secure the bicycle in the bike racks. A bicycle helmet is mandatory. Upon arrival at school, students will dismount from their bicycles, walk them across the crosswalks, and walk them directly to the racks. Students may not return to the rack area until it is time to go home for lunch, or to go home after school.

Similarly, if children are using skateboards, scooters or “heelies” to travel to school, they are asked to walk these across the street and while on school property. Children may carry these to their classrooms for storage during the day provided there is adequate space in the classroom. Children **MUST** remove in-line skates at the school door and carry them to their classrooms for storage.

As we do not have a proper paved area that is big enough for students to ride on with their scooters, skateboards or rollerblades on school property, all wheeled items will not be allowed to be used during recesses.

Helmets should be worn for all “wheeled” transportation.

Contraband Items/Prohibited Articles

Students are not to bring articles to school that may pose a safety risk to others or that may offend others. Such articles include, but are not limited to, real or toy weapons, bullets, drugs, matches or lighters, and prejudicial or racial materials. School staff will take away any article that they deem to be unsafe or inappropriate. Consequences of bringing prohibited articles to school may include suspension and expulsion, depending on the danger to others.

Contraband items such as, but not limited to the following, are not permitted at school: matches, lighters, tobacco products, laser pointers, weavers or weapons (knives, martial arts equipment, toy guns or any other “guns”), drug or alcohol paraphernalia, incendiary devices (e.g. firecrackers) or any other potentially dangerous or socially unacceptable items.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Mountview staff strongly believes in the value of outdoor exercise and unstructured playtime for students, and during the year, some extracurricular activities and clubs may be planned. These learning

opportunities vary according to the interests of students or the expertise of staff. They normally run from November to March. Some opportunities may be choir, cross-country skiing, basketball, running club, skating, gardening and intramurals.

Fragrance Aware

We have a few students and staff members who are sensitive to strong fragrances (perfume, air fresheners). We are trying, as a school, to become more “fragrance aware”. Our staff is being asked to reduce or refrain from the use of strong fragrances, and as much as possible, we extend the same request to parents for themselves and their children.

Nut Aware

Due to severe student allergies, parents are asked to refrain from sending nuts, peanut butter, and other products containing nuts to school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance in this safety matter.

School Supplies

The school provides scribbles for students. The list of other school supplies needed by your child is posted on our website. The entire list can be ordered through SchoolStart, or parents are welcome to purchase the items on the list on their own.

Student Clothing & Footwear



Shoes - In order to maintain the cleanliness of the school, we ask that students have one pair of shoes strictly for indoor use. Runners are quite suitable and can also be used for physical literacy classes in the gym. For hygiene and safety reasons, we ask that children wear running shoes at all times in the building. In the event of an emergency evacuation, children will not have time to stop and put on shoes.

Gym Clothing - Children are expected to wear runners with non-marking soles for physical education.
- Grade 4 & 5 children are encouraged to change into shorts and a different shirt for PE.



Outdoor Clothing - Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for playing outdoors at recess and noon. Children are expected to go outside at recess breaks except in cases of extreme weather (below -20°C or pouring rain). Warm clothing is needed in the winter and rain gear is needed in spring and fall.

Please ensure that your child's names or initials are placed on personal items/clothing to ensure that, if lost, the correct owner can be found. **Students and parents are encouraged to make periodic checks of the *Lost and Found*.** Unclaimed items will be forwarded regularly to a charity. This occurs typically at Christmas Break, Spring Break and at the end of June.

Dress Code - At Mountview, we expect that students will dress in a manner that respects the learning environment. Clothing that is offensive to others or which contains words, slogans, or pictures not in keeping with positive values for children at school is not permitted. Children will be asked to change, cover up or put the shirt on inside out if the shirt is deemed unacceptable. As a general rule, we ask that parents assist in keeping school a place of work/learning by not sending children to school in clothing that is skimpy or revealing (ex. bathing suits, midriff shirts, spaghetti straps, or very short shorts/skirts etc.). We ask that students please refrain from wearing makeup at school.

The administration of the school will have the final say in determining the appropriateness of the clothing.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Parking is extremely limited around our school and there is a tremendous amount of vehicular traffic. While most parents are very courteous and drive slowly, the sheer volume of traffic raises concerns for the safety of our children.

There is only one street (**34 St.**) immediately adjacent to the school grounds. Obviously, not all parents who are dropping off or picking up students can park (or even find a place to stop) immediately in front of the school.

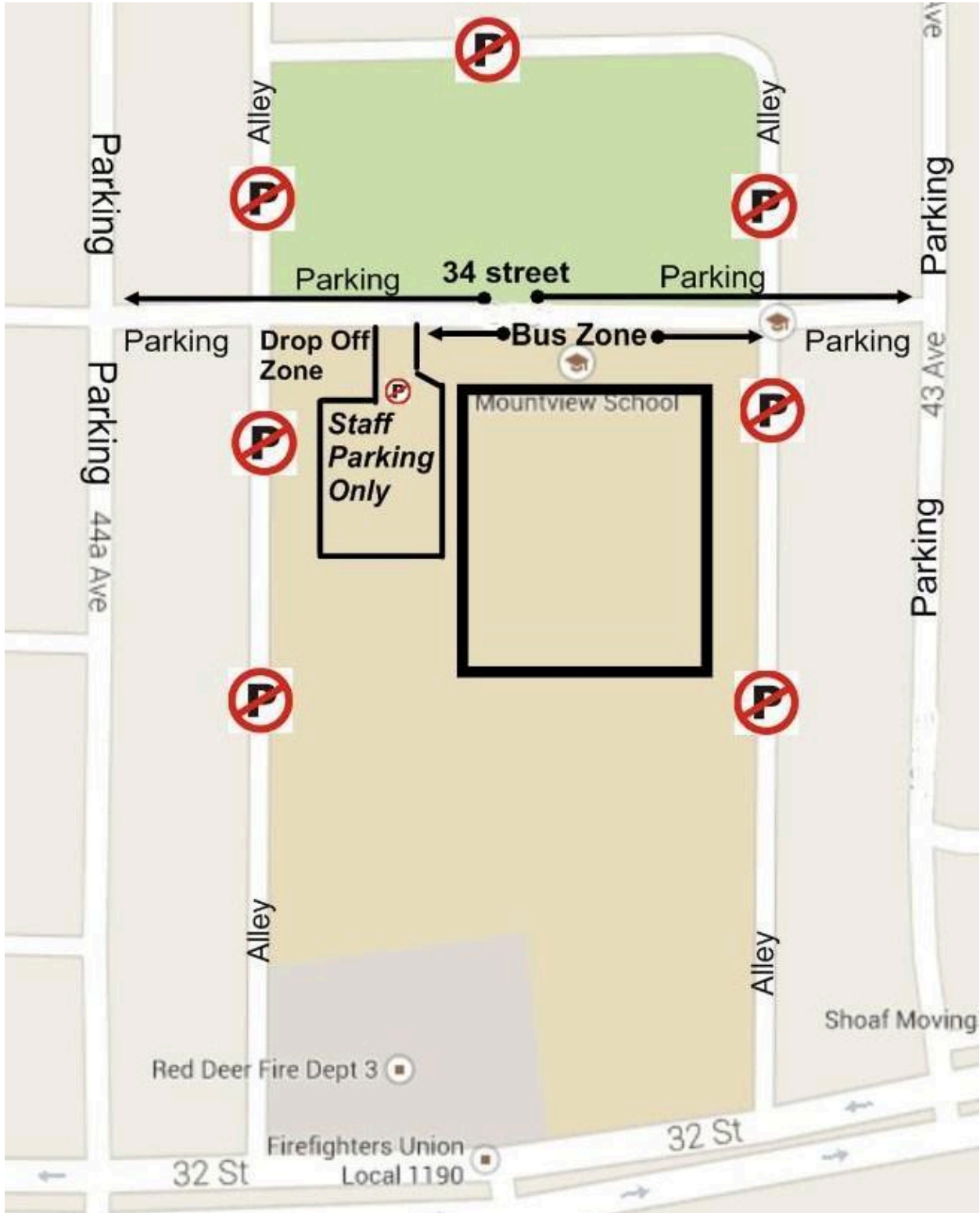
Therefore, if you have an older child, you are kindly asked to establish a standard drop off and pick up place on one of the close side streets. Older children can (when familiar with a route) walk a half a block to school in the morning or to meet their rides after school.

Even if you have a younger child, parking a two or three minute walk away can be a great time to talk to and connect with your child as you walk together!

Your cooperation is requested for the safety of all children:

- ❖ Please **DO NOT** stop in the middle of the street and ask your child to walk out onto the road to get into the car. This creates traffic jams and teaches children extremely unsafe habits!
- ❖ Please note that it is not allowed (by City of Red Deer bylaw) to park (even if you stay in your vehicle) or stop (even just to pick up/drop off the kids) on the school field or in the lanes adjacent to the field. Parents continue to receive tickets from the RCMP and/or City Bylaw officers when this occurs. However, we have been informed by the RCMP that parents may stop briefly in the alleyways north of 34 street east and west of the field. The driver must stay in the vehicle and the lane must not be blocked. There is no parking in those alleys or on the field and vehicles may be ticketed or towed.
- ❖ **DO NOT enter the staff parking lot to pick up/drop off children.** That area has a high volume of children and is full of staff vehicles and parents are kindly requested to **NOT** enter the parking lot during pick up and drop off times.
- ❖ Please use the “**drop off and pick up zone**” for just that. It is expected that cars will stop only for the time it takes for children to actually exit or enter the vehicle then will pull away allowing others to pull in.

With the cooperation and attention of all, we can make children's safety the primary consideration!
It is our priority!



Student Leadership

All students participate in our Leadership program. Younger children have leadership opportunities primarily in their homeroom classroom. Grade four and five students have school-wide opportunities to develop leadership skills and contribute to our school community. The skills that are practiced in our school community are the skills that are valued in the workplace as an adult. In any given year leadership opportunities can be: Recyclers, Library Assistants, Announcers, Noon Office Assistants, AMA School Safety Patrols, Intramural Team and Assembly Setup Crew.

AMA School Safety Patrols

The School Safety Patrol Team is sponsored by the Alberta Motor Association and is under the direction of the school administration. Members of the school patrol assist students in crossing at the crosswalk in front of the school. Patrollers are scheduled before school, morning recess and at dismissal. Serving on the school patrol team is an honor and privilege. Being a patrol member demands a commitment of responsibility, punctuality and trustworthiness. This team is created at Mountview after training takes place near the end of September/early October.

Supervision



Playground

School staff will supervise the playground prior to the school start beginning at 8:00am, at recess and during the lunch break. Please send your child to school only during scheduled supervision times. Problems can occur when children arrive too early and are left unsupervised on the playground. Children are expected to remain on the school grounds/boundaries throughout the day.

Outdoor morning and lunch recess

Students are expected to go outside for fresh air and exercise at recess. Being active is connected to the latest brain research and it helps increase the ability to focus and participate during class time. Administrators decide on a daily basis if it is too wet or too cold to be outdoors. In general, if the temperature falls below -20°C or if it is raining heavily, children will remain indoors. Even if the weather is somewhat inclement, the short time outside does not hurt the students if they are properly dressed. We ask that you make sure students have the required clothing and footwear to allow them to enjoy their time outside.

At Mountview we also offer our “Polar Yeti” club. With parent permission, students have the option to go outside until the temperature drops below -30°C. This is an alternate option to staying inside during indoor recess. Students who decide to go out are supervised by adults and **MUST** be wearing weather appropriate clothing. A form will be provided to students/parents in September if you are interested in granting permission. The child (who has a complete permission form) may choose to take part in the outside time and or choose to remain inside to play recess games/activities with their friends in the classroom - we will honour their voice/decision throughout the year.

As a general rule, we believe that if children are well enough to come to school, they are expected to have an outdoor break with their classmates. Children who are too ill to go outside are often too ill to be at school. They do not learn well and provide a possible source of infection for other children. We encourage these students to stay home as they will probably recuperate faster.

If a student has a condition requiring that he/she remains indoors during recess, or cannot participate in Physical Education class, a note from home is required. Please contact your child’s teacher directly.



Technology Items

We believe children need the opportunity to play and socialize at recess time rather than sitting alone playing a tech game. We also know from experience that teaching and learning are disrupted when these games appear in the classroom. Children (and parents) can be very upset if these expensive items are lost, broken or stolen. In addition, photos taken by digital cameras or camera phones can, and too often do, unfortunately, end up somewhere on the internet. As a result, we ask for your understanding and cooperation.

- ❖ If parents allow "tech" items to be brought to school, the school cannot be responsible if they are lost, stolen or broken.
- ❖ Cell phones must stay in the child's backpack throughout the day with the sound off if they are brought to school. If the child needs to phone a parent, the office or classroom phone can be used.
- ❖ Tech items must stay in backpacks throughout the day unless permitted by the teacher for a specific purpose. A staff member may confiscate an item if it is causing a disruption. The item will be returned at the end of the day.

On occasion, a teacher may request/allow specific tech items to be brought to school for a learning activity (i.e. digital cameras for a photo essay). Once again, we will ask children to keep these tech items stored away except during the specific learning activity.

NEW! Alberta Government Ministerial Order Information (Letter Sent via email on September 4th, 2024)

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year! As we prepare for our daily instruction at school, we are following up on district communications about the [Alberta Government Ministerial Order](#) regarding the [new restrictions](#) on personal mobile devices and social media use in our school.

Our focus at Mountview will be on excellence in teaching and learning. We are committed to creating safe and caring learning environments and minimizing distractions in the classroom; we focus on student success and engagement in lessons across the school.

Each year at school, teachers teach students the importance of digital citizenship and this year, we will be adhering to new Administrative Procedures that align with the ministerial order. Our student handbook will be updated in terms of technology and personal devices brought to school this month.

As we begin school, ***École Mountview Elementary School asks that all students leave their cell phones either in their backpacks for the school day, or at home.*** In light of this new ministerial order, we are required to monitor and remove devices that are not district-owned. At the elementary level, we will follow the following progression:

- When/if the phone is out of the backpack, the teacher will confiscate the phone, store it in a secure location, inform you, and return the phone to the child at the end of the day.
- In the event of a second instance, the phone is taken to the office for the day, parents are notified, and the phone will be returned at the end of the day.
- In the event of a third instance, school administration will confiscate the phone, store it in the office and parents will be asked to pick up the phone in the office.
- Finally, the fourth consequence will lead to Admin Procedure 355, Suspension and Expulsion Procedures.

- In the event that your child has a specific medical app required (such as for diabetes), this exception will be placed in the individual child's medical plan and individual support plan by the learning support team at Mountview. Please ensure you speak to your child's teacher regarding this matter as soon as possible.

School-wide, social media streams will be limited at the school and at district levels; teachers will have access to these through district-owned devices.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Your ongoing support this year is important as we work in partnership to create the best possible learning environment for your children.

PROGRAMS

Learning Commons/Makerspace

The Mountview Learning Commons and Makerspace function as an integral part of the total educational program in English and in French. Students are encouraged to use the library (learning commons) through regular book exchanges for recreational and informational reading. Each classroom will have the opportunity to visit the learning commons for book exchange with a teacher. Mountview has a wide variety of literature resources and genres available for our students. Books that are borrowed should be returned within one week. Damaged books must be returned to the librarian for repair. Full or partial payment will be expected for lost or damaged books.

Makerspace - Makerspace is an incredible addition to our programs at Mountview. Students will be able to utilize a dedicated space with a variety of STEAM options and opportunities. We look forward to building upon this space at Mountview each year.

Meeting Student Needs

At Mountview, there are a number of ways that students are provided assistance in their learning:

- ❖ Within the regular classroom, the teacher develops a learning profile for each child and then, when possible, provides choice, guidance, and differentiation within the learning activities to meet the needs and preferences of the children as learners. A great example of this is our Science of Reading structures where the teacher is able to target reading instruction with a small group and teach students reading strategies at their reading developmental level.
- ❖ In some cases, there are Educational Assistants who work within a classroom. They provide support for groups of learners.
- ❖ 100% of our school staff work to build safe, predictable, and welcoming classroom routines and relationships with students.
- ❖ In some classes, an extra teacher can be assigned for part of the day. For instance, a teacher works within the classroom or takes individuals or small groups out of the room for targeted assistance in literacy or numeracy. Conversely, the regular homeroom teacher works with small groups, while the other teacher works with the rest of the class.
- ❖ We are grateful to welcome a Learning Assistance Teacher at Mountview who will work to support student referrals, in-class academic accommodations, and class differentiation. Our Learning Assistance Teacher is Mrs. Nathalie Lavigne-Sikora and she has incredible experience and knowledge with inclusive strategies, instructional strategies, and targeted supports. She will be working with teachers collaboratively when students require an individualized support plan and or academic support through assistive technology or supplementary programming.
- ❖ We continue to host a Student Support Space which is organized by our Student Support Room

(SSR) Teacher, Mrs. Lajuenesse. This space is available for all students at Mountview and Mrs. Lajuenesse works to support students with individual needs whether for building upon social/emotional awareness or self-regulation strategies. She also works with school staff on co-regulation strategies, resets for students needing a break or additional support, and student safety plans/behavior support plans.



School-Age Program

The After School Program is run by **Red Deer Child Care Society** and is licensed to provide before and after school care for 42 children. Hours of operation are 6:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and 2:50 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. An afternoon Kindercare program is also available which provides afternoon care for students who attend the morning class. The staff of Red Deer Child Care escorts these children to and from Kindergarten. Fees are assessed on an income basis. Anyone requiring information regarding the program can call **403-347-7973**.

Central Alberta Refugee Effort (C.A.R.E.) works with immigrant and refugee students and their families within Red Deer Public Schools. C.A.R.E. offers various services, activities and support to our English as a Second Language families and dual language learners.

STUDENT SERVICES

Medical Alert: Please make the school aware of any severe medical problems such as allergies that your student has. This information will be placed on file and the school staff shall be informed.

***MOUNTVIEW** is a NUT AWARE school.

Family School Liason Counsellor (FSLC, formally our CLW): Assists families through counseling and connecting them to community agencies. Parents with questions regarding the liaison program, or those wanting to have the liaison work with their child, may contact the school. We are incredibly grateful to welcome Ms. Vicki Scott at Mountview in this role and she is thrilled to meet you and your family.

Learning Services: Coordinators from our District Learning Services Department work collaboratively to present education sessions to our students. We have a First Nations, Metis, Inuit key contact teacher who will provide our school with multiple opportunities to support and learn about Truth and Reconciliation.

Literacy and Numeracy Interventions: RDPSD is committed to identifying student learning profiles. Elementary School is an important experience in the development of reading and writing skills, along with early numeracy. This year, we were required by Alberta Education to host additional literacy and numeracy assessments for grades 1-3. If/when your child is identified as needing additional support you will be contacted this year by our intervention teachers.

Alberta Health Services: Some of the services, which are provided: health education, preventive dental care and hygiene, assistance in controlling communicable diseases through immunization.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Yeti-Paws & Pizza with the Principal: The PBIS (Positive Behavior Supports) program encourages and rewards positive student skills and attitudes. Each month one student from each class will be recognized and able to participate with a small group of students to take part in a PIZZA LUNCH with the Principal.

Yeti-Kindness Certificates: At the discretion of classroom teachers, students may be selected to receive a Yeti-Leadership Certificate. This special recognition will include a visit to the office, a certificate, and a “good news” phone call home.

Netty Recommend Reading Tags: Students can put forward a ‘Reading Recommendation’ to recognize and recommend a GREAT BOOK! Reading Tags are presented throughout the year at our assemblies.

3R Award: Any staff member can put forward a nomination for the 3R Award at Mountview. This award highlights the 3R’s - *Respectful, Responsible, and Resilient*. Staff put forward a nomination with a paragraph describing how the student nominated is demonstrating the 3Rs. This award is presented at the monthly assembly.

Birthdays: Student birthdays are acknowledged daily by having their name announced over the intercom and through the presentation of birthday popcorn on their birthday month.

NEW! Netty Awards - We welcome a PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions Support) Model at Mountview whereby we examine ‘what good learning’ looks like by recognizing expectations on an instructional matrix. We recognize students that are working toward using the 3R’s Respectfulness, Responsibility, and Resilience. This year, the PBIS committee of staff members have created an additional recognition program called, NETTY AWARDS, whereby homeroom teachers will recognize students in their classrooms for a variety of reasons, and connected to our RDPSSD Values for Learning and Life! We want to recognize and celebrate the GREATNESS in all students at Mountview this year!

