


Vista Heights School

 2411 Vermillion St. NE, Calgary, AB T2E 6J3
<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b239>

 t | 403-777-6000 f | 403-777-6002 | vistaheights@cbe.ab.ca
September 2017

School Council

Please mark Tuesday, September 19 on your calendar. **All parents are welcome!**

One of the most significant ways parents and community members can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students is through school councils. By connecting students, schools and communities, school councils help nurture and inspire our students to achieve their full potential.

Meetings start at 6:30 pm.

Principal's Message

On behalf of all of the staff at Vista Heights School, it is my pleasure to welcome you to a new and exciting school year. For those of you whose children have attended our school in the past, we are so glad to have you returning. And for those of you whose children are just entering Vista Heights, we are pleased to have you as a part of our school community.

Let me also take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Michelle Harvey, and I am honored to once again be serving as your principal. Although I have had the pleasure of meeting with many of you last school year, I look forward to meeting and seeing each of you very soon.

I know from meeting with teachers, parents, community members, that Vista Heights is a school committed to excellence. Academic success, character development, personal development, citizenship, commitment to safety, and a sense of belonging and community are high priorities at Vista Heights. Please be assured of my commitment to honoring your accomplishments and my hope of contributing to even greater success in the future.

In the spirit of building community, let me invite each of you to the Student Learning Conferences and 'Meet the Teacher' being held September 21 and 22 at the school. Details regarding booking a time slot with your child's teacher will be coming home soon.

Please visit our school website at <http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b239/> to review our newsletter, classroom blogs and School Handbook. These will provide you with important information regarding upcoming events, classroom updates, and parent and community activities.

All staff who are at Vista Heights School are looking forward to meeting you. Each staff member brings specific expertise and experiences to Vista Heights School and makes us a stronger team.

Again, I want to welcome all of you to what we hope will be your best school year yet. Please do not hesitate to stop by the office or to give us a call if we can assist you in any way. Best wishes to you and your family, and together, we will "believe and achieve".

Respectfully yours,
Michelle Harvey

Character Corner
September Virtue: Friendliness

This month's virtue is friendliness. Friendliness is being a friend through good times and bad. You are kind to people, show care and concern and a genuine interest in others. You share your belongings, your time and yourself. Friendliness is lived at Vista Heights School through our inquiry, our learning and our interactions with one another. At Vista Heights School, it is our intent to:

- Design personalized learning opportunities for all students.
- Design learning environments that reflect good teaching and learning practice.
- Devote time and resources to develop learning profiles and plans so that students learn in deeper and more meaningful ways and students will achieve success with their learning.
- Develop relationships based on respectful treatment of all people.
- Discover that which is truly unique and wonderful about each individual.
- Direct our energies toward community and the common good.
- Determine ways in which each learner can meet with success.

"One thing everyone in the world wants and needs is friendliness." William E. Holler





Message from the Board of Trustees

September brings new faces to our schools, eager to start the year. Whether this is your first year with the CBE or your child's last "Back-to-School" season, September is an exciting time. As this Board completes our term and our city looks forward to a municipal election in October, it is a wonderful time to reflect on what we have achieved and to plan for a vibrant future.

As an elected Board of Trustees, we have had the privilege of meeting with many parents, families, community members and partners over the past four years. We value your voice, and we would like to thank each one of you for contributing to the success of our students and the CBE.

Message from the Chief Superintendent

Every new school year is an exciting opportunity to set new goals and discover more about our children as learners.

This is a great time of year to talk to your child about their goals for the school year. Think about how you can support your child, and talk to your child's teachers about how you can work together.

I encourage you to also consider your own goals and dreams – do you want to get more involved in your child's classroom? Take a leadership role on School Council? Learn a skill or build confidence in an area of interest? Education is a lifelong journey, and it is our intention to spark a passion for learning in our students that will last a lifetime.

I look forward to growing and learning together as we work to make our students' goals and dreams a reality.

David Stevenson
Chief Superintendent of Schools

Get involved

We welcome the support of volunteers! Some activities or field trips would not be possible without the active participation of our volunteers.

All adult volunteers require a valid security clearance - no exceptions. Your school office has information about how to begin the security clearance process.

Community Engagement Opportunities

We are committed to engaging stakeholders - students, staff, parents and community members - on decisions that affect them. Last year, feedback and input gathered from stakeholders helped inform a number of decisions on projects including:

- Area I, II and V schools impacted by new school openings
- Expressions of Interest for the Science and Mandarin Bilingual programs
- A single site for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program
- Development of a K-12 Math Strategy

In the 2017-18 school year and beyond, we will continue our work to engage stakeholders.

Two significant projects upcoming this year include the sustainable use of learning space in schools in Areas 6 and 7 and in high schools across our system.

Through the engagement process we will seek to understand what is important to parents, students, staff and community members.

Watch for opportunities to provide input and feedback on our website.