

December 2024



Message from Administration

Blueberry School
1532 Parkland Drive, Parkland County
T7Z 1Y6

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Principal:
Mrs. Rosanne McIntyre
rosanne.mcintyre@psd.ca

Assistant Principal:
Mrs. Twyla Badry
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Head Secretary:
Mercy Rosborough

Secretary:
Tracy Davis

Website:
<https://blueberry.psd.ca/>

Facebook:
facebook.com/BlueberrySchool/

December is always a bustling month filled with celebrations and learning. We are excited to showcase the talents of our students during this festive season!

Winter has settled with snow, wind, and increasingly colder temperatures. For student safety and enjoyment, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for daily outside activities. We encourage all students, K - 9, to dress for temperatures that can fluctuate significantly from morning to afternoon. [Parkland School Division's Severe Weather Protocol](#) allows for outdoor play unless the temperature falls below -23°C.

We would like to extend our gratitude to our dedicated custodians for their continuous efforts in keeping walkways clear during winter weather. Should the paths to the East side of the building become challenging to navigate due to snow and/or ice, students and families will be redirected to use the main entrance or, in extreme cases, the Jr. High entrance on the West side of the school.

PowerSchool and Report Cards:

We remind families to frequently check their student's PowerSchool accounts for ongoing academic reporting. Students in Grades 1-9 have their assessment results regularly updated in PowerSchool. You can access PowerSchool either through the PowerSchool App or by [clicking here](#). Additional information regarding PowerSchool may be found [here](#).

Warm holiday wishes from all of us! May your season be filled with joy, laughter, and cherished moments with your loved ones.

Rosanne McIntyre
Principal

Twyla Badry
Vice Principal

General Information

Upcoming Dates

Dec 4	Winter Concert - Gr. 2,4 & Gr. 6
Dec 5	Winter Concert - Gr 1, 3 & Gr 5
Dec 13	Winter Concert - M/W Kindergarten
Dec 13	Grade 9 Hot Lunch Fundraising (Basiles)
Dec 18	Grade 1 Christmas Crafts
Dec 23 - Jan 3	Christmas Break
Jan 6	First Day Back
Jan 13	School Council Meeting in the Library
Jan 17	Grade 9 Hot Lunch Fundraising (Basiles)
Jan 23	Ski Club (Rabbit Hill)
Jan 31	PD Day - No School

Please note the [2024-25 Parkland School Division Calendar](#) for your planning purposes. The calendar can be found under "Printable Calendars" on the right hand side of the webpage.

Winter Break

Our last day of school before the Winter Break will be December 20, 2024. Winter Break will begin on December 23 through to January 3rd. Students will return to classes on January 6, 2025. Have a wonderful break!

Holiday Concerts

Our Winter Concerts are scheduled as follows:

- December 4 - Grades 2, 4, and 6 at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the Large Gym
 - For the evening performance, doors to the school will open at 5:00 pm. All actors please be in costume and come to the large gym at 5:15 pm for a sound check. Doors to the gym for parent seating will open at 5:30 p.m. For specific concert details, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.
- December 5 - Grades 1, 3, 3/4 and 5 at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the Large Gym
 - For the evening performance, doors to the school will open at 5:00 pm. All actors please be in costume and come to the large gym at 5:15 pm for a sound check. Doors to the gym for parent seating will open at 5:30 p.m. For specific concert details, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.
- December 6 - Kindergarten Tuesday/Thursday Mrs. Grundke's class
 - 1:30pm in the classroom
 - Doors will open at 1:25pm for everybody to be seated by 1:30pm
- December 13 - Kindergarten Monday/Wednesday Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Weidman's classes
 - 11:00 am in the Library

Holiday Concert Seat Raffle Fundraiser

As a fundraiser for our music program, we will be raffling off two pairs of seats for each of our evening elementary concerts. One pair will be located on the stage seating area, and one pair will be front row floor seating. You may participate in the raffle by going to PowerSchool and selecting the number of entries you would like along with the concert date and seat location. Each entry costs \$5 and winners are announced on **December 3rd at 3:30 pm**. The raffle option will open in Powerschool November 26th, accessible under "New Items". There is no limit to the number of entries you can purchase and the raffle will remain open until December 3rd. Each purchase is one entry into the draw. Good Luck!

If you would like to contribute to our Music program fundraiser, we will also accept donations in the form of "a Twoonie for Tunes" at our Gr. 1 - 6 concert performances.

Student Absences

To ensure the safety of all of our students at Blueberry School, it is imperative that we are aware of when they are absent from school. We ask that parents phone the school and leave a message on the *attendance voicemail* (Option 1) or email prior to 8:30 am to avoid the automated call-out cut off at 8:45 am. **Please include your child's full name, homeroom/teacher, and reason for the absence.**

Phone: 780-963-3625 (Option 1)

Email: blueberry.absence@psd.ca

School Fees

Any outstanding fees from the school year 2023-2024 will be sent to collection. Please pay your fees through your PowerSchool. Some of the [School fees](#) for 2024-2025 are added to your child's

PowerSchool account. Fees can be paid with a credit card online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/home.html>. Feel free to contact the office if you need further Assistance.

Ski Club

Blueberry School will be having a Ski Club for students in **Grades 3 - 9**. This will run Jan. 23, Feb 20, and March 13, 2025. Registration must be done online through PowerSchool - powerschool.psd.ca/public. Registration starts on **December 1st** and will remain open until **January 10th, 2025**. No late registrations will be accepted. If your child is interested in joining the Ski Club this year, log into your PowerSchool account - "Fees", and under each student's tab, you will see "New Items". Click on the "Ski Club" box and this is where you will register your child. You have the option to select on what dates you want your child to participate. All fees vary per trip. This is also where you will give permission for your child to participate. All information regarding the Ski Club is in your PowerSchool. You will need to register each child separately under their tab. Payment can be made in cash, credit card, and cheque. If you have any questions regarding Ski Club, please call the school @ 780-963-3625 or email mercy.rosborough@psd.ca. We will need **volunteers** to run this program. If you are able to help with Ski Club, please contact Faye Grundke at faye.grundke@psd.ca.

Visiting Blueberry

To ensure our school day runs smoothly, we ask that you contact the office if you need to drop off a student after bell time in the morning. If a pick-up is needed mid-day, parents/guardians can call the main office and the student will meet them there. All visitors are required to check in at the office.

Grade 9 Farewell Fundraising Lunches

Our Grade 9 students are offering hot lunches to support fundraising efforts for Farewell and year-end celebration. Please order through your PowerSchool account under new items. No cash will be accepted. Make sure to check out and pay for your order as it does not stay in your cart.

Entering and Exiting Blueberry

Students enter and exit the school through their designated doors. Exterior doors are locked during instructional hours. Students who arrive after 8:01 am are asked to enter through the main entrance.

School Busses

Students are only allowed to ride their registered bus and are not able to take a friend's bus at any time. PSD does not allow "guest riders" on buses. Thank you for making alternate arrangements if your child is going to a friend's after school. For bus status updates, please see the [PSD website](#) and/or download the [Bus Status app](#).

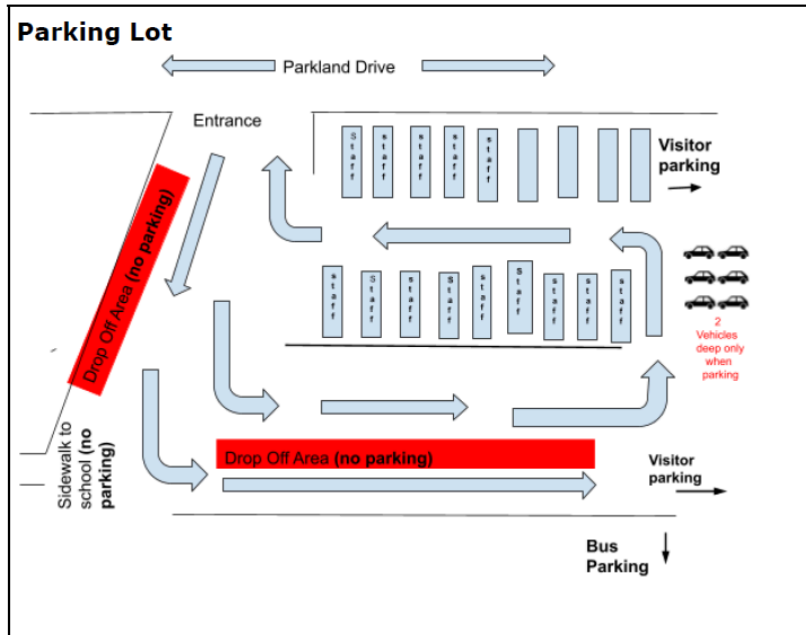
Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Please note the following important information regarding **child safety** and parking at Blueberry School:

1. There is NO PARKING in the drop-off areas in the morning from 7:40-8:00am and from 2:20-2:50pm.

2. Please be mindful of students and staff trying to cross the parking lot to get to and from the school.
3. Our front parking lot goes in a “one-way” direction. If you are dropping off your children, please go around to the drop-off area, and then continue around the parking lot to exit. Please do not make u-turns at the entrance after you drop your children off.
4. If you are parking to come in with your children, please use the far west side of the front (south) parking lot to park (there is no parking in the drop-off area).
5. The back parking lot (where the buses come in), is closed to vehicles while the buses are there (arrival and dismissal times).
6. Note that the parking stall by the gate is designated as accessible for those people who require it. It is not for general public use.
7. There is **no parking permitted in the North parking lot** during bus pick-up times (7:45 am - 8:00 am and 2:45 pm - 4:30 pm). Please do not park in the North parking lot to pick up students at the end of the school day as you will have to wait for buses to depart.

Please note the “no parking” areas on the map below. Vehicles parked in these areas cause traffic congestion. Our parking lot is single lane traffic and one way only.



We recognize that everyone’s time is valuable and by following these guidelines we can ensure smooth drop off/pick up, while we prioritize student safety.
Thank you for your support in making our parking lot a safe environment!

We appreciate your support in making our parking lot a safe environment for all!

Athletics

Intramurals

Our grade 7-9 students will begin Basketball intramurals once the weather turns colder.

Grade 5 and 6 students continue with intramurals weekly.

Basketball

Basketball tryouts are underway. Students are encouraged to watch daily announcements to stay informed.

If you are interested in helping coach this season, please contact Mrs. McIntyre. We'd love to have the support of community coaches.

Stronger Together Newsletter

Check out this month's Family Supports [Newsletter](#).



**PARKLAND**
SCHOOL DIVISION

Stronger Together

A monthly newsletter with information to help you and your family navigate your child's educational journey.

December 2024

Calendar

Check out our [school website](#) to see our school's [monthly calendar](#).

Hot Lunch

Blueberry School provides a healthy, nutritious meal to our students through our hot lunch program.

Hot lunch runs three days a week -- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from October to May. Students are required to pre-order and pre-pay for these meals.

There are some new offerings this year and gluten-free and vegetarian items will be available with certain meals. Please note that if your child has a severe allergy, please contact the coordinator for more information on the menu options available.

You can create an account or log in to the website platform Munch a Lunch to order and pay for school lunches. All previous Munch a Lunch accounts are carried forward each year with the same login information.

Ordering Lunch Online

1. Go to munchalunch.com/schools/blueberry.
2. Click the "Register Here" or "Log In" button. The system will guide you through.
3. After adding your children, click the green "Order Lunch!" button to order.
4. Next time you visit, click the "Login Here" to access your account.

Contact Jennifer Fiddler at jenniferdavina@hotmail.com or 780-886-7344 if you require assistance or have any questions about the hot lunch program.

Blueberry School Council & Fundraising Committee

School Council

Blueberry School Council 2024-25:

- Chair - Erin Craig
- Vice Chair - Jen Richens
- Secretary - Mercy Rosborough
- Members at Large - Sarah Corker and Cayla Nelson

Save the Date: This month's meeting will be held in person and online on **Jan 13th at 6:30pm** in the library. Please consider joining us either in person or by [clicking this link](#).

Blueberry Fundraising meeting is on **December 16, 2024** at 7pm Google Meet code: [hnm-yemf-vyw](#)

BLUEBERRY SCHOOL 
Fundraising
HEALTHY AND CONNECTED 2024-2025

Our Rafflebox "COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS 50/50 RAFFLE" is live!!



Must be a resident of Alberta and 18 or older

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/bsfcr>

Subscribe to receive our

Emails!

CLICK HERE



Operation Education is a fundraising initiative where we partner with **Boston Pizza to earn 5% cash back!**

Staff, students, and families can dine at any participating Northern Alberta Boston Pizza location and help our school earn 5% cash back on the pre-tax total of submitted receipts!

It's as simple as:

- *Dine out at Boston Pizza
- *Save your original receipt
- *Submit the original receipt to the school office
- *You have until June 30, 2025!

Passionate about our Playground?

The playground committee is still seeking a new playground lead! Please reach out if you are willing to help!



Make labeling easy with Oliver's labels and help support our school!

www.oliverslabels.com/blueberryschool



Want to join us? Please reach out!

Connect with us on Facebook
or via e-mail:

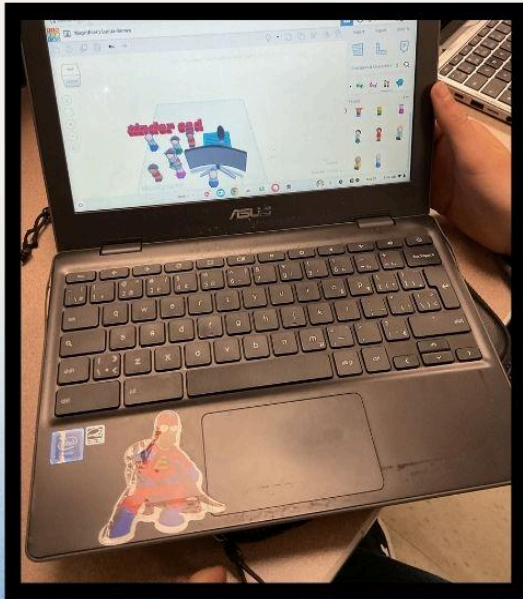
blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

Thank you for your support! We couldn't do this without you!

Photo Album

Remembrance Day





JR High Option

Tinker Cad





JH OPTION BASKETBALL