

FOUR WINDS PUBLIC SCHOOL

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June 3, 2025

Hello Firebird Families!

We blinked and it's June! C'est déjà l'été!

As the school year winds down, we're taking a moment to celebrate all the learning, growing, and "aha!" moments that have filled our classrooms this year. Whether it was mastering multiplication, crafting creative essays, or tackling science experiments — you've all been amazing! 📚🎉

June also brings exam season, and we know our students are working hard. Remember: do your best, take deep breaths, and don't forget to sleep (yes, it helps!). You've got this! 💪✍️

Here's to a strong finish and a summer full of sunshine and well-earned relaxation.

School Council and PFA

June School Council and PFA have been cancelled for June. See you in September!

Calendar of Important Upcoming Events in June:

June 3-7 Pride Week at Four Winds

Optional lunch time activities in the atrium for students to celebrate diversity and a sense of belonging for all in our Firebird community.

June 9-12

We will be joined by a resident artist, Keith Callahoo, who will be facilitating optional lunchtime tea-painting sessions with interested students, focusing on our local natural surroundings and the school community environment. Keith will take students' ideas and turn them into a colorful mural to brighten up our school walls. Keith brings a fun blend of modern graffiti vibes and natural elements to his art.

June 9 - Health focus on Sexual Health

All junior high students will be participating in learning activities focusing on human sexuality on Monday, June 9th in the afternoon (Blocks 3, 4 and 5) with their grade groups. The program rationale is to enable students

to make well informed healthy choices based on attitudes, beliefs and values. An email with further information has been sent to junior high parent/guardian.

June 11 - Francontre

Les classes du programme d'immersion partent pour une journée ensemble de plaisir et d'aventure en Français. Veuillez vérifier les formulaires de participation qui sont affichés sur Powerschool.

The French Immersion classes are on a field trip together to celebrate the hard work and team-building that they have done throughout the year, in French!

June 12 - Grade 9 Farewell

The Grade 9 Farewell is a special event held to celebrate the achievements and memories of our graduating students. It includes heartfelt speeches, fun activities, and a chance for students to reflect on their time in middle school. Families, staff, and students come together to honor this important milestone and wish our Grade 9s success in high school.

June 13 - Everybody Out!!

Each grade level is celebrating together a year of hard work and growth with a fun-filled field trip packed with adventure, laughter, and lasting memories! This special day is a chance to relax, explore, and enjoy time together outside the classroom. Each grade level has a different trip:

- Grade 9: WEM Waterpark and Galaxyland
- Grade 7 and 8: Lion's Park, Servus Place, Lois Hole Park
- Grade 6: Castledowns Spray Park and Activate (optional)
- Grade 5: Jackie Parker Park

June 17 - We Rock the Spectrum field trip

Our students in specialized programming will be enjoying the fun and games at the all children's gym and indoor play area in Edmonton.

National Indigenous Day - June 20

Our Elementary students will be walking to the MCCC to participate in a tipi teaching in the field. They will be invited to listen to drumming in the auditorium following the field activities.

Each grade level of junior high students will be participating in three sessions during the morning blocks in the back field at Four Winds.

June 19-25

Exam time for our Junior High students.

June 26

Sport for Life end of the year field trip

June 27 Award Ceremony

Elementary awards will start at 9:30am. Junior High awards will start at 11am. Your child's homeroom teacher will be reaching out soon to let you know if your child is being recognized with an award—stay tuned for some wonderful news!

New to Four Winds for 2025-2026

Fee schedule for 2025-2026

Click the link for a breakdown of the [fees](#) for the upcoming school year. They have been approved by Sturgeon Public Schools, our School Council, and our Staff.

Bring Your Own Device for Junior High

Next year, Four Winds will not enter into tech agreements to loan out school owned chromebooks. There will be some limited chromebooks at the school in the classrooms for single-use. Please see the rationale [here](#).

ExtendED

There are exciting new developments in Literacy and Numeracy happening at Four Winds as we pilot an [enrichment program](#) for grades 8 and 9. More information can be found in the link or in the attached letter.

School Handbook 2025-2026

Our [School Handbook](#) has undergone some modifications for next year as we included updates to reflect our innovative changes in our school's structure and guidelines. Please note the following changes of interest:

- our school schedule as we move to a 3 day rotation
- increased clarity in our assessment plan
- student awards
- student dress code changes (no hoods up in school)

Heads Up for the Fall!

Parent Book Club in the Fall

We invite parents interested in studying *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt to our first Book Club starting in the fall. You are welcome to read through the book this summer or to read it chapter by chapter as we progress through the reading as a group. We will meet as a monthly group, virtually and in-person.

The book explores the alarming rise in anxiety, depression, and social disconnection among young people, arguing that a major cause is the shift from a play-based to a phone-based childhood. Drawing on extensive research in psychology, neuroscience, and education, Haidt examines how the widespread use of smartphones

and social media—especially during critical developmental years—has impacted kids’ mental health, relationships, and resilience.

Return to School

Ready, Set, Rise! Family Night and Meet the Teacher: August 27, 2025 from 4-6pm

Enjoy an evening of food trucks and meeting the teachers. Bring your school supplies that night to receive your locker and homeroom schedule.

Staggered Start Schedule:

- Thursday, August 28, 2025: Students with last names beginning A–K
- Friday, August 29, 2025: Students with last names beginning L–Z
- Tuesday, September 2, 2025: All students attend together

Transportation services will be provided on staggered start days for students who are registered for bus service. Families can expect to be contacted directly by their assigned bus operator prior to the first day of school with specific route and schedule details.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Bouchard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "G".

Gidget Bouchard, Principal