



**Principal's Corner – Did You Know??**

. . . that TA Norris students are very Active Citizens not only in the school, but for the community?? We have partnered with Mighty Peace Chevrolet/GMC to collect food for the food bank. This is happening for the month of October. Our students and families have brought in SO MUCH food! The stacks in the classroom are getting bigger and bigger! The class that brings the most 'weight' of food will earn a pizza party supplied by Might Peace. We want to thank the TA Norris family for all their donations. This will go a long way to help so many! Thank you to Mighty Peace for initiating this food drive.



**Mandatory Masks**

Reminder that Masks are required for all students on school buses (including field trips) as well as in the hallways and other common areas within the school such as the library, halls, and foyer.

Please make sure your child has extra masks in their backpacks - with the cooler weather arriving, they do get wet.



**ADHD Parent Information Evening**

Dr. Paul Soper, a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, will be in Peace River on Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, to deliver a presentation on ADHD (Attention Deficit Disorder/Hyperactivity Disorder). If you are interested in the presentation, please call Peace Region Family Resource Network to register, 780-624-0770.



**Grilled Cheese Fundraiser – Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup>**

On Wednesday there is another fundraiser for the French trip to Quebec. Grilled Cheese will be sold for \$2.50 each; early in the week, teachers will fill out a google sheet of who is interested in buying one or two . . . the money will be collected within the first block of the day and then sandwiches will be delivered to each room at lunch time.



**Friday Hot Lunch & Cutlery for Lunches**

When packing your child's lunch kit or when they are packing their own, please remind them or make sure they are also include their school utensils or utensils from home.

We have a minimal amount of plastic cutlery in the event they do forget occasionally, but we seem to be having some students come everyday.

If you ordered Friday's Hot Lunch, it is from Subway on Friday, October 22.



**School fees: Contactless Payments**

Peace River School Division is eliminating payments by cash or cheque in school offices. Please see the attached letter about contactless payments; it will help you get set up with SchoolCash Online.



**Parent Portal Access**

Peace River School Division is changing to a paperless system. You should have received a letter containing access codes specifically for you and your child. It is important that you please take the time to create and access your Parent Portal as

this will be how all future report cards will be viewed.

Also, for the grade 7 & 8 parents, it will give you access to view up to date attendance, assignments, and test results. For those of you who already have your account set up from last year, you may need to log out and back into your account to update your child's data for this year.



**Superintendent Message - School Bus Safety Week - October 17-23, 2021**

It's School Bus Safety Week and this year's theme is "Bus Rules Rock!". School bus safety rules help keep our students safe. Student safety is always the Division's priority however this week of awareness helps to better educate our students, families, staff and community members regarding the importance of school bus safety. This is also a great opportunity for us to thank our school bus drivers, school and transportation staff and community partners for their assistance in keeping our students safe on the way to and from school.

As a part of School Bus Safety Week, the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council (ASTAC) students from kindergarten to grade six throughout the province are encouraged to participate in the School Bus Safety Week poster contest. Students are invited to create posters that visually outline the theme "Bus Rules Rock!" demonstrating proper school bus safety behaviour.

I am happy to say that Peace River School Division (PRSD) will be sharing their Transportation Department's 'Be Safe! Follow School Bus Safety Rules' document with staff to help in educating K-6 students on school bus safety. We encourage everyone to follow school bus safety rules. Every time you are near a school bus, be aware, be careful and be safe.

PRSD thanks its professional school bus drivers, staff, students, families, community organizations and community members for their commitment to ensure student safety.



Each day PRSD transports approximately 2495 students to 24 schools with a total service area of 11,860 kilometers.

Adam Murray  
Superintendent of Schools



If you know of somebody who has a student at TA Norris Middle School and that they are not receiving our *Weekly Activity Memos* by email or text messages, please refer them to page 3 of this newsletter. It is important as this is our way of communicating with families.

We continue to use School Messenger, <http://www.schoolmessenger.com/> which allows us to send information in three ways:

**By SMS** – texts will go out to the cell phone numbers we have on file here at the school. If your phone number has changed recently, please let us know! You need to opt into this service as indicated on the attached information sheet.

**By Email** – we will continue to our send weekly email list of activities, however School Messenger will be used for special bulletins.

**By Phone** – this allows us to send a pre-recorded message to your primary phone number. If there is no answer, the message will be delivered to the other phone numbers we have on file until a connection is made. Please wait for the school-initiated portion of the call to begin as School Messenger will consider the call to be incomplete if you hang up during the introductory portion. Please opt into the School Messenger program – thank you.

***Please register your mobile devise to receive text messages - see Page 4 for further details – thank you.***

*Please feel free to visit the school website, <http://www.tanorrismiddleschool.ca>, to check for messages from Teachers, Superintendent Messages and other information that may be of interest to you. Also if you **Like** us on Facebook, you can be notified of special items that may be of immediate interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to answer them or find the answers.*

## Parents and Guardians

### You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.\*

You can participate in this free service\* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number, **724665**.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “**Stop**”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from  
your mobile  
phone now!**



**Just send  
“Y” or “Yes”  
to 724665**

**i** Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a “text message”. Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as “short code” texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you’ve ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

\*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See [schoolmessenger.com/tm](http://schoolmessenger.com/tm) for more info.

