



The Phoenix Messenger

FFCA High School 1919 - 76 Ave SE Calgary, AB T2C 0G8 P: 403-243-3316 F: 403-287-7367

Matter of Principal - SOME THINGS STAY THE SAME

Good Afternoon Staff, Parents & Students!

We are now almost two months into the school year at our new campus. It has been no small feat getting us to this point. To summarize, we packed up the entire contents of a high school campus of 430 students into 5 semi trailers. We built 10 new classrooms, 2 science labs, a science prep room, change rooms, installed 6 basketball hoops, 20 SMART boards, a computer and phone network and painted a gym floor. We unpacked the contents of those 5 semi trailers and moved in. We are now in a different building in a different community with 190 new students, 7 new staff and a new associate principal. Some things change.

But when you walk through the doors of our new building, it doesn't take long to notice that it still feels like FFCA. We still have hard-working teachers doing their best to help students who are also working hard to reach their potential. There are kids pursuing excellence in academics, athletics, fine arts and leadership. Some things stay the same.

October 29th will be a day dedicated to celebrating both that which has changed and that which has stayed the same. The following is our schedule of events:

12:00	Official Campus Grand Opening Ceremony (gymnasium)
1:00	Student Grand Opening Party and Dance
6:00	Grand Opening Open House
8:00	'Night of the Phoenix' Awards Ceremonies celebrating student excellence in 2008-2009

We hope that all of you students and parents can come share in the events of the day.

Yours in Leadership,

Kurtis Leinweber
Principal Educator

Preston Lowther
Associate Principal

In this Issue

Grade 12 - Post-Secondary Information...	2
Apply Alberta.....	2
Renewing Your Waiver List Application....	2
Community Courtesy	3
YourSchoolBus.com.....	3
Yearbook "Image Share".....	3
SUTP	3
Library Update.....	4
Board of Directors - Public Meetings.....	4
Our School Council - Meeting Dates.....	4

Dates to Remember

Oct. 27 - School Council Meeting (7:00pm)
Oct. 29 - GALA UNIFORM DAY
- Official Grand Opening Ceremony (12:00pm - 1:00pm)
- SU Grand Opening Party & Dance (1:00pm - 3:00pm)
- Open House (6:00pm - 8:00pm)
- Night of the Phoenix (8:00pm - 10:00pm)
Oct. 30 - Casual Day
- Report Cards - Term 1
Nov. 4 - Take Our Kids to Work Day
- Grade 9's - No Classes
Nov. 5 - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews - No Classes (4:00pm - 8:30 pm)
Nov. 6 - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews (8:30am - 1:30pm)
Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly (11:00 am)
Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day - No Classes
Nov. 13 - Grade 9 Vaccinations (not all kids)
Nov. 16 - Basketball Tryouts Start
Nov. 18 - Board Meeting (6:00pm)
Nov. 24 - School Council Meeting (7:00pm)
Nov. 26 - Basketball Parent Meeting (7:00pm)
Nov. 27 - Casual Day
- Musical Early Show (6:00pm)
- Musical Late Show (8:00pm)
Nov. 30 - Alberta Post Secondary Fair (9:00am)



Grade 12 Post-Secondary Information

Grade 12 students need to check each newsletter as Ms. Geran includes important information such as post-secondary updates and scholarship applications in each edition. Although the school year has just started, it is not too early to begin thinking about your future plans. Ms. Geran will be meeting individually with each Grade 12 student before the first report card to check on post-secondary plans.

Going to university information sessions and open houses provides both students and parents with a wealth of knowledge. It is also suggested that students visit post-secondary schools they are considering. Why not take advantage of a "Student For a Day" program? This is one of the most important decisions in one's life, so take the time to make a great choice!

ApplyAlberta

Starting this fall, students applying to Alberta's public colleges, technical institutes, or universities will use ApplyAlberta – the province's new application and transcript transfer system. Hopefully, ApplyAlberta will make it simpler for students to apply to one or more institutions. Students will use this secure government website where they will fill out a password-protected profile with their personal and academic information. This profile will form the basis of every application they submit, saving them time and effort. They will also authorize institutions to request the transfer of their Alberta Education high school transcripts to post-secondary schools. Students will not have to pay for transcripts transferred through Apply Alberta. More information on the system is to be sent to school counselors this fall. Ms. Geran will be preparing Grade 12 students to use this system when it is ready. Stay tuned for further updates.

Time to Renew Your Wait List Application

Who: EVERYONE who has a child's name on the wait list. This includes siblings and those with priority status.

When: October 1st through to the 31st.

How: Renew your application online through the FFCA website www.ffca-calgary.com Go to Parent Information, Select Registration/Wait List Access, then click on the link that says Wait List Online System. Enter your username and password (detailed instructions are given on the website to retrieve yours if you do not already know it). You will see your family profile. Select and click on the renew button.

What if I don't have a computer? You can renew in person at Central Office #240, 688 Heritage Drive SE, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

To renew, do I fill out a new application and send it in? No. You do not complete a new application to renew. Renewals are done online through the FFCA website or in person at the Central Office.

Does it matter what day in October that I renew? No, your original entry date is how you are sorted on the wait list.

If you have any questions please contact Wanda Olson 520-3206 ext 190 or by email wanda.olson@ffca-calgary.com



Community Courtesy & Safety

We would like to remind our FFCA families, parents and students alike, when driving in our new community of Ogden, please drive with courtesy.

When dropping off your children please do so with care. Please park on the north side of 76 Avenue (so that you are not in the way of busses) or drop off your children in the Safeway parking lot so that you are clear from traffic. We would ask that there be no U-turns on 76th Avenue at any time during the day.

Students, when crossing the street, please use the two crosswalks that are provided. This is not only for the courtesy of the community, but for your own safety as well.

Thank you all for your attention to this matter.

YourSchoolBus.com

As some of you are aware, last year we struggled through a period of bus delays and or no bus drivers with Southland Transportation. This year, all of the SOUTHLAND bus drivers are equipped with a Blackberry for signing in with Southland in the morning and to advise of any delays. Parents and students can sign up to receive text messages about their bus routes. This will automatically go out to any subscribers to advise of delays/cancellations to their bus route.

We encourage students and parents alike to sign up for this program as outlined below so that you receive the most up-to-date information on your bus route.

All you have to do to sign up for this free service is:

Got to: www.yourschoolbus.com

User name is: **ffcasubscriber**

Password is: **signup**

Then follow the link and provide the information needed.



Yearbook - "Image Share"

Dear Parent or Student,

Get your pictures in the yearbook! The Yearbook Staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Go to: <https://images.jostens.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username:400004349 and password:ffca2010
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details".

It's that easy! Submit your photos today! The last day to submit photos is 6/30/2010.

Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the school year!

Sincerely, Yearbook Adviser and
the 2010 Yearbook Staff.

The Yearbook Staff will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions can be used in the book.

SUTP Coupon Books Available

SUTP coupon books are now back at the high school and available for a limited time. Each coupon book has thousands of dollars worth of savings.

Should you wish to purchase a coupon book, please send \$20.00 to the office, and we will send the book home with your child that very same day.

Thank you for support this high school fundraisers!

Library Update

Now that the school year has started, please keep the following points in mind.

- Each individual textbook is linked to an individual student. They are responsible to return that specific book in good condition to the library at the end of their course.
- You are responsible to pay the full replacement cost of any items not returned; this amount is deducted from your book deposit. Should you owe more than the deposit amount, you will be invoiced for the remaining balance.
- If your book is in need of repair, visit the library to have it fixed.
- You must have your student ID to borrow items from the library.

The library is a resource for students; take advantage of it. If you have title suggestions, please pass them along to Mr. Halas. The Glenmore Square branch of the Calgary Public Library is another great resource located in the Safeway mall beside the school.

Mr. Marc Halas

Public Board Meeting Schedule

2009-2010 Public Board Meeting Schedule All meetings are held in the Central Office Boardroom* on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise specified

November 18, 2009
 December 16, 2009
 January 20, 2010
 February 17, 2010
 March 17, 2010
 April 14, 2010 May 12, 2010 June 16, 2010

*FFCA Central Office is located at:
 #240, 688 Heritage Dr. SE, Calgary
 (go to www.ffca-calgary.com, then Contacts/ Central Office to access map)

2009 - 2010 High School's School Council

We are pleased to announce our 2009-2010 high school council.

Chair.....Cindy Van Den Bussche 403-293-5975 [cindmdb@shaw.ca]
 Vice Chair.....Leslie Barnes
 Secretary.....Rhonda Free
 Treasurer.....Harjit Saroya
 Fundraising.....Vacant
 Volunteer Coordinator.....Greg Gablehaus
 Health & Wellness.....Heather Selig
 Community Service.....Joanne Brown
 Member at Large.....David Cox

Fundraising: We are currently looking for that special someone to take advantage of this awesome opportunity. Should you be interested in this position, please call:
 Cindy Van Den Bussche @ 403-293-5675.

We have many other partnership possibilities available; please feel free to join us at the school council meetings

High School Council Meeting Dates for 2009/2010

October 27
 November 24
 January 26
 February 23
 March 23
 April 27
 May 25
 June 15

All meetings are at 7:00pm in the FFCA Staff Room, we look forward to seeing you there.

