

## **Welcome to École Vickers Public School**

This booklet is designed to give you and your children some helpful information regarding the school and its programs. We hope that a better understanding of our school system and École Vickers Public School will be yours through the use of this booklet. If you have further questions or comments on the school and the programs, please feel free to contact us in person or by telephone, 306-922-6446. We are located at 2800 Bradbury Drive.

**Principal**                **–Mrs. Jennie Green**  
**Vice Principal**       **–Mr. Kevin Tait**  
**Vice Principal**       **–Mme Kara Cantin**

### **INTRODUCTION**

École Vickers Public School is a dual track school with English and French Immersion programming. Staff members at École Vickers Public School believe that education is a shared responsibility of the school, the home, the community and the individual. We are proponents of the Whole Child and believe that all students should be healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. Our goal is to promote a healthy learning and working environment that will meet the needs of all children and ensure their success.

### **ALLERGIES: NUT, OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS AND SCENTS**

We have students in our school with severe life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to nuts, peanuts and products containing nuts or peanuts. Exposure to even a tiny amount, such as peanut butter on the hands of a student or teacher who then touches a doorknob, computer, water faucet, water fountain or other article that is then touched by a student severely allergic to peanuts, could be enough to cause a severe reaction.

The school has established emergency plans for the students. Part of this plan is to establish a safe environment for all students. Therefore, we are committed to making our school be **nut free and scent free**. Parents and teachers should avoid in sending nuts, peanuts and products containing nuts or peanuts in lunches or snacks.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance at school is most important. Make school attendance a top priority! The school has implemented a phone-in/text-in policy when children are absent from school. The policy is intended to help ensure that children arrive safely at school.

If your child does not arrive at school, and you have not notified the school through a note, telephone call, text or personal contact with the student's teacher or through the office, we will attempt to contact a parent/guardian. Thanks for your cooperation!

**ATTENDANCE PHONE LINE TO LEAVE A VOICE MESSAGE: 306-922-6446**

**ATTENDANCE CONTACT FOR TEXT/EMAIL: VKATTENDANCE@SRSD119.CA**

### **BAND**

Band is a mandatory program for students in grades 5, 6 and 7. Grade 8 students have the option of participating in band.

### **BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS**

École Vickers Public School is a **wheels free zone**. Bicycle racks are provided for students who wish to ride their bicycles to and from school. All bicycles must be securely locked in the rack. No scooters, skateboards or roller skates are to be used in the school building. As is the case in all Saskatchewan Rivers Public Schools, we expect students to get off their

bikes, scooters or skateboards at the edge of school property. Students will lose the privilege of bringing their bicycles, scooters and skateboards to school if they ride them on the school property or if they do not obey the rules of the road.

### **BOUNDARIES**

The attendance area for English stream École Vickers Public School includes the following:

- Residences east of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue East.
- Residences on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue East from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to Marquis Road.
- Residences on the following streets: Dent Crescent; Lacroix Crescent; Lacroix Street; Erickson Crescent and Musk Road.
- Residences on both sides of Sherman Drive from Dunn Drive south to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave E and on the east side of Sherman Drive from Dunn Drive north to the north entrance to Lacroix Crescent.

The attendance area for French Immersion stream École Vickers Public School is determined by the following:

- All eligible urban French Immersion students living on the east side of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue East will attend École Vickers Public School. All eligible rural French Immersion students living in the East Central Public School attendance area and the Osborne Public School attendance area will attend École Vickers Public School.
- Residence in a designated French Immersion catchment area is based on the principle residence of the family as indicated on the student registration form.

### **BUSSING**

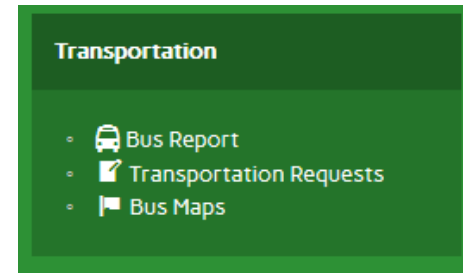
Bussing will be provided for all French Immersion students.

Registering your child for bussing is necessary, but not every year. Please only re-register if the students' information is

changing. This may include change of school, address or contact information.

The direct link to register is

<https://www3.srsd119.ca/busgarage/transport/request.php> or you can simply type "Sask rivers school bus" in a search engine (we recommend Google) and we will surely pop up. Once you click on our link, look for this box towards the bottom of the page and choose "Transportation Requests". You may find our links for the daily bus report and city bus maps handy as well.



If you are not sure if you have previously registered, or if you have any questions please contact the Transportation Department at 306 763-2323.

We also offer bussing for all students living in our "walk to" area.

Use of this "walk to" bus service is voluntary. Families can chose to access this additional bussing when desired. No confirmation of use is required.

To register for bussing services and to see a map of the "walk to" bus route, please go to <https://www.srsd119.ca>

### **CLEANLINESS**

We are very proud of our school and encourage our students to assume a collective responsibility for the general cleanliness of the school and its grounds. Garbage cans and

recycling bins are located prominently throughout the school and on the school grounds. Sunflower seeds and gum are not allowed in the school. To help keep our entrances clean and organized, students are designated doors to enter and leave the school, as well as a specific location to place their wet and muddy footwear.

### **COMMUNICATION**

We encourage parents, students and members of the community to join with us in creating and maintaining strong lines of communication. Each month the school will post a **Newsletter** on our web page. The newsletter will bring to your attention upcoming events at the school. Please read these newsletters carefully and take note of the special happenings at the school. If you prefer a hard copy, please contact the office.

The École Vickers Public School website is another tool we would like to use for communicating with our community. The web-site address is: <https://vk.srsd119.ca>

We also utilize a communication tool called REMIND. This is a system where messages are texted to your mobile phone. If you are interested in receiving REMIND updates, text @vpsc to 226-773-2364 and follow the prompts.

You can email the administration at:  
[igreen@srsd119.ca](mailto:igreen@srsd119.ca) [ktait@srsd119.ca](mailto:ktait@srsd119.ca)  
[kcantin@srsd119.ca](mailto:kcantin@srsd119.ca)

### **SPECIALIZED LEARNING CENTER**

Based on the premise that "all children are unique and worthy of the best opportunities we can provide", the SLC or Developmental Education classroom offers learning opportunities for severe or profound mentally and physically disabled students. Many of the students have multiple

disabilities including physical, sensory and/or behavioral problems. Their ages range from 3 to 12 years.

Focusing on Life Skills, programming is individualized to meet each student's needs, both in terms of developing their functional daily living skills and promoting self-reliance and independence. Parents play an active role in program development and implementation to promote home/school continuity.

A key ingredient in the continued success of the program is integration, both in terms of physical location in a regular school setting and interaction with other students. Through activities such as integrated recesses, assemblies, co-operative projects, and individual student integration into regular classes, Developmental Education students and regular class students have an opportunity to positively interact with each other and become friends.

The school is also equipped with a **Snoezelen Room** that provides our students with access to a multisensory environment. The room is unique and is beyond description, but if anyone is interested in a tour, please contact the school and arrangements can be made to accommodate your request. The room is also made available to students from other schools and people needing the therapy it provides. This is designed to stimulate the withdrawn child or relax the over stimulated child.

### **DISCIPLINE**

Each teacher is responsible for the discipline in his/her classroom on any given day and during any school-related activity. If a situation warrants it, teachers will initiate home contact. If the problem still persists, the administrative team at the school will become involved. The discipline policy in the school follows the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School

Division Policy and Student Code of Conduct. We ask that parents contact the teacher initially to address any concerns.

### **DRESS**

Students are expected to be outside before school, at noon, and during recess unless it is unusually cold or wet.

Appropriate clothing and footwear is essential.

All clothing should be marked, particularly boots and shoes, so that if they become misplaced they can be identified and returned.

The Lost and Found Boxes are always well stocked with unclaimed articles of clothing, which we attempt to display at strategic times throughout the year.

Muddy or wet footwear must be left on the boot racks at the entrances to the school. It is a good idea to provide shoes, slippers, or non-marking gym shoes to be worn in the school at all times, in case an emergency exit is required.

Students are also reminded that the clothing they wear to school must be appropriate for a public school setting that has children from ages 5-14. Students may not wear clothing that is offensive and/or gang or cult related.

Hats and hoods are not to be worn in the school. Students will be asked to remove or change items of clothing that are deemed offensive.

### **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

École Vickers Public School has continually emphasized the provision of Student Support Services for children and youth with diverse learning needs. The Educational Support teachers collaborate and consult directly with classroom/subject teachers, support staff, and parents to establish teaching practices that will best meet the diverse learning needs of individual students within the regular classroom setting. Collaboratively, a variety of instructional

approaches and learning strategies are determined and implemented to support student learning. In consultation with the subject teacher, the Educational Support teachers may provide instruction within the regular classroom. On occasion, pullout sessions which are facilitated in the Educational Support classrooms, supplement or extend classroom activities. Additional personnel may assist in student assessment and intervention including a Special Education Consultant, Speech and Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Educational Psychologist, English as a Second Language Tutor and Student Family Counselor. Ongoing communication with all members of the collaborative team is essential to the Educational Support Services offered at École Vickers Public School.

Parents are welcome to participate in the learning experiences of their children. Please contact the school with any questions or concerns regarding Student Support Services at École Vickers Public School.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students in grades 4-8 have the opportunity to join one of École Vickers Public School's many clubs or teams. The emphasis is on participation rather than competition. These activities are usually conducted before or after school or during the lunch break. Choir, handbells as well as academic and athletic extra-curricular activities are available for students.

### **FUND RAISING**

Major fundraising activities at École Vickers Public School are sponsored by the School Community Council. The School Community Council sponsors various activities throughout the year. All profits are directed to improvements that are of direct benefit to the students.

Classes and teams may become involved in small "in school" projects to raise money. They are usually limited to the sale of pizza, baking, etc. Money from these sales is directed towards special class or team projects.

### **HOMEWORK**

Students may have homework assigned by their homeroom teacher or a subject teacher. Students are expected to complete such assigned work by the due date, with parental support. If you or your child has any questions regarding an assignment please contact the appropriate teacher. During the noon hour, the library (October to April) is available for students to work on homework and school related assignments.

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

The playground is supervised from 8:35 a.m. until classes begin in the morning, during recesses, and at noon. Supervision is also provided for students after school until 3:15 p.m. Children should not come to school too early in the mornings, especially during rainy or cold weather.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

For the most part, we want our students to enjoy playing outdoors before school, during both recesses, and the noon hour. On rainy days, we allow students to come into the school upon their arrival and remain indoors during all breaks. In the winter, we use -30 degrees Celsius as our cutoff to remain indoors. If the temperature and/or wind-chill in combination with the temperature exceed -30, then all students are permitted in the school in the morning and during break times. We do expect that all students be dressed appropriately for the weather, as there are many cold days that students are expected to be outdoors.

### **LIBRARY**

In the primary grades (K-3), the children are read to and encouraged to take books home to be read aloud. The experience of parent and child or teacher and child reading together creates a special attitude towards books.

As reading ability develops, the library serves a different purpose. Students are always encouraged to read for enjoyment; however, now their reading is also for learning in specific subject areas. The library becomes an extension of the classroom, as a focus for resource-based learning. This search for knowledge should lead students to the use of the public library.

Borrowing of library resources is encouraged. However, this comes with the responsibility of caring for, and returning books to the school when due. We encourage parents to send/bring books to the school if they are found lying around home too long. Students will be charged a replacement fee for books that are lost or damaged.

### **LOCKS, LOCKERS, AND TEXTBOOKS**

Upon registration, each student in grade 5 to 8 is provided with a locker and textbooks when required. Students are strongly encouraged to keep their locker combination to themselves to ensure that their property remains safe. Students are to bring locks from home and are to provide their homeroom teacher with the combination, or spare key.

Textbooks are numbered and their condition is recorded when assigned to each student. Students must return the books loaned to them at the end of the year in reasonable condition. If the correct text cannot be located, students will be charged for book replacement.

## **LUNCH BREAK**

All children are welcome to stay for lunch at École Vickers Public School. With this privilege comes the responsibility of behaving in an acceptable manner. Students who eat their lunch at school, are expected to remain on the playground unless they have parental permission to leave. If a student has permission and leaves at lunch to go to the store, make sure the purchases (ex. slush, etc.) are consumed before returning to school at 12:20 p.m. After a period for eating between 11:40 and 12:00, all students not involved with indoor noon hour activities are asked to go outside when the weather is clement. Students can choose from the following activities in the time between 12:00 and 12:20:

1. Library for students who require extra help;
2. Fine arts related activities;
3. Student Leadership Council meetings;
4. Choir;
5. Handbells;
6. Yoga.

A canteen is open each day from 11:40 a.m. - 12:00 noon. A variety of items are available for purchase. All profits from this venue go directly back to the school.

## **PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT INTERVIEWS**

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be conducted in the months of November and March. Each student will be given his or her report card several days prior to the interview dates. It is suggested that parents sit down with their child(ren) and thoroughly discuss their progress prior to coming to meet with their teachers.

## **PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

Our parking lots are out of bounds for students. We urge parents to support us in this safety endeavour by dropping off

their children on the west side of the school on Olive Diefenbaker Drive; on Bradbury Drive, east of the Special Needs bus zone and between Gisi Road and Olive Diefenbaker Drive. We encourage the children to cross all streets in a safe manner by crossing at the corner or at cross walks. Teacher supervision is also provided at our major crosswalks. The Community Club rink parking lot is the bus pick up zone after school for our French Immersion busses, and a convenient place for French Immersion parents to meet their children for pick up.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Fundamentals and fitness are essential elements in any physical education program; however, total participation in any program must have an element of fun and this program is no exception.

There are requirements that must be met by all students. We expect students to wear clean gym runners with non-marking soles as well as some type of gym clothing. T-shirts and shorts or sweat pants are suitable gym clothing. All jewelry must be removed. Students in Kindergarten through grade 6 are required to wear gym runners and appropriate clothing on gym days. Grade 7 - 8 students will also be expected to have appropriate outdoor wear. Health and safety are important reasons for proper dress. Jeans, snug fitting pants, and dresses inhibit movement to the degree of being unsafe.

We would ask that parents notify the school of any health problem(s) that may prevent a child from participating in the physical education program.

## **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards are sent home at the end of each of the three reporting periods. Reporting periods fall within the following months:

- a) November
- b) March
- c) June

To encourage communication between home and school, Parent-Teacher Interviews are held after the November and March reporting periods. Parental visitation is welcomed at any time throughout the school year.

## **SCHOOL ACTIVITY FEE**

This fee is collected to assist in covering the costs of extra activities or events that would not be a part of the regular school programming and would enhance the education of all students. Some examples of these are out of school educational experiences, activities, presentations and/or speakers. The fee is \$10.00 for Kindergarten and \$20.00 for Gr 1-8. Please send with your child on the first day of classes.

## **SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL/K-12 FRENCH IMMERSION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Recognizing the immense value of the partnership and four-way communication between educators, parents, students, and the larger community, informal meetings are held at a time and date specified in our newsletter.

All parents with children attending K-12 French Immersion programming within the boundaries of the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division, as well as all staff who serve these students, are members of the French Immersion Parent Advisory Committee. This committee meets at a plenary

session once per year. All parents with children attending École Vickers Public School are members of the Vickers School Community Council. Members can be involved as much or as little as they choose

## **SCHOOL PICTURES**

A photographer will visit the school in the fall (please check the newsletter for specific dates). All children will be photographed and parents given the opportunity to purchase the picture package that best suits their family.

Purchasing picture packages is optional for families; however, we require photos for our records.

## **SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER/COUNSELLOR**

The program was initiated to promote communication and co-operation between the school, the home, and the community. This is accomplished in various ways:

- The School Social Worker is a resource and/or referral person for anyone wanting information about existing community resources.
- Time is spent with students who are experiencing problems at school.
- The School Social Worker is available at the school on an emergency basis should any crisis arise as well as being available to visit parents at their request.
- We also have access to the P.A. Health Region, which provides drug awareness education, addiction counseling services and mental health support.

## **SCHOOL WEB SITE PUBLISHING**

Many pictures are taken of students at work and play during the course of a school year. If any photographs are posted to our website, it is always done in accordance with School Division policy and procedures, with student safety in mind and parent approval. If you have any concerns about the publishing of your child's picture, please let us know.

## **STUDENT DROP-OFF**

Parents and visitors to the school will no doubt be aware of the amount of traffic which comes and goes throughout the school area. We ask that you take special care when dropping off your children, and be cautious of school buses and other vehicles. We urge parents to support us in this safety endeavor by dropping off their children on the west side of the school on Olive Diefenbaker Drive; on Bradbury Drive, east of the Special Needs bus zone and between Gisi Road and Olive Diefenbaker Drive.

Please do not drop your children off in the staff parking areas. The Community Club rink parking lot is our French Immersion bus pick up zone, and a convenient place for French Immersion parents to meet their children for pick up.