

2025-2026 Handbook

Griffiths Scott School 4612 - 51 St Millet, Alberta T0C 1Z0



student achieves optimal learning.

Vision: Together we embrace **UNESCO** values and learn in respectful. positive ways.

Values: Respect, Responsibility, Reason, Honesty, Integrity



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty Six territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Salteaux, Blackfoot, Metis, Dene, and Nakota Sioux and Anishinaabe. We acknowledge all the many Indigenous Nations, Metis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for time immemorial. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

Staff Directory

Administration

Principal Mrs. Tanya McFarland

Vice Principal / Inclusion Coach Mr. Michael Currie

Teaching Staff

Kindergarten Mrs. Sue Quinton

Grade 1 Mrs. Ronda Sendecki

Grade 2 Mrs. Kim Grekul

Grade 2/3 Mrs Nicol Goodrich

Grade 3 Mrs. Monica Williams

Grade 4 Mrs. Cindy Mandseth

Grade 4/5 Mrs. Dawn Craik

Grade 5 Ms. Nancy Killen

Grade 6 Mr. Parminder Gill

Grade 7/8 Ms. Hayley Snowden

Grade 7/8 Mrs. Cindy McGrath

Grade 7/8 Mr. Dorian Jacobs

Band / Music Mr. Marshall Tindall

Student Support

Early Literacy Ms. Cassidy Young
Family School Liaison Mrs. Alicia Cardinal
Indigenous Support Worker Mrs. Gloria Rogers
Mental Health Capacity Builder Mrs. Natalie Peek

Office Support

Administrative Assistant Mrs. Karen Sonnenberg

Educational Assistants

Jennifer Kadyk, Monica Zweier, Emily Yanosik, Brooke Walters, Donita Besavilla, Megan Couture

Custodian

Mrs. Natalie Evans

2025 - 2026

Bell Schedule

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Door's Open 8:20 am	
Announcements 8:30 am	
Block 1 8:30 am - 9:05 am	
Block 2 9:05 am - 9:40 am	
Recess/Transition 9:40 - 9:58 am	
Block 3 9:58 am - 10:33 am	
Block 4 10:33 am - 11:08 am	
Block 5 11:08 am - 11:43 am	
Recess/Transition 11:43 am - 12:13 pm Lunch 12:13 pm - 12:32 pm	
Block 6 12:32 pm - 1:07 pm	
Block 7 1:07 pm - 1:42 pm	
Recess/Transition 1:42 pm - 2:00 pm	
Block 8 2:00 pm - 2:35 pm	
Block 9 2:35 pm - 3:10 pm	
End of Day Supervision/Busses 3:10 pm - 3:20 pm	

Office Hours - 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

UNESCO

Griffiths Scott is proud to be a UNESCO school. That means we are part of the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Associated Schools and Project Network (ASPnet). The goal of this organization is to provide students with an international perspective of the curriculum in order to help them develop an understanding of how issues are related to their future and community.

At GSS we organize a variety of UNESCO projects and activities throughout the year. Some of the projects include acknowledging Truth and Reconciliation Week, fundraising for our local Christmas Giving project, developing partnerships within our community, and bringing awareness of global events to our students throughout the year.

UNESCO has Four Pillars of Learning which are fundamental principles for reshaping education:

Learning To Live Together: To expose individuals to the values implicit within human rights, democratic principles, intercultural understanding and respect, and peace at all levels of society and human relationships to enable individuals and societies to live in peace and harmony.

Learning To Be: To provide self-analytical and social skills to enable individuals to develop to their fullest potential psycho-socially, affectively as well as physically, for an all-around complete person.

Learning To Know: To provide the cognitive tools required to better comprehend the world and its complexities, and to provide an appropriate and adequate foundation for future learning.

Learning To Do: To provide the skills that would enable individuals to effectively participate in the global economy and society.

Communication - School Messenger and Home-School Contact

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools and Griffiths Scott have various mechanisms that are set up to facilitate communication with families. These methods will help inform our parents and community about all the happenings in our school and district.

- ✓ District Website <u>www.wrps11.ca</u>
- ✓ School Website www.griffithsscott.ca
- ✓ Instagram Account @griffithsscottschool
- ✔ Facebook Account Griffiths-Scott School
- ✓ School Messenger (texts and emails)
- ✔ PowerSchool Mark Book
- ✓ Monthly Newsletter and Calendar on our school website
- ✓ Google Classroom
- ✔ Parent Advisory Council (monthly meetings)
- ✔ Outdoor school Sign

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools is committed to partnering with you as a parent to provide the best educational experience for your child. This partnership is built on reciprocity, where we are dedicated to keeping you informed and actively seeking your input and guidance. Please click on the link to see Parents as Partners brochure.

Parents, guardians, and caregivers are responsible for maintaining regular communication with the school and engaging in meaningful and respectful discussions about their child's strengths, challenges, and next steps. Possible ways to become involved:

- Volunteer for field trips
- Regularly monitor PowerSchool, school websites, and social media for updates.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Participate in our Parent Advisory Council

Student Code of Conduct

At Griffiths Scott School, we expect students to follow the Student Code of Conduct set by the Alberta Government.

Student Responsibilities:

"Section 31 of the Education Act states - A student, as a partner in education, has the responsibility to:

- → Attend school regularly and punctually,
- → Be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education,
- → Ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,
- → Respect the rights of others in the school,
- → Refrain from, report, and not tolerate bullying or bullying behavior directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day, or by electronic means,
- → Comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board, g. Cooperate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services,
- → Be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct,
- → Positively contribute to the student's school and community.

A Safe Learning Environment

All students are expected to participate in creating a school environment that is safe, welcoming, caring, and respectful to all members of our school community. It is expected that the environment at Griffiths Scott is one that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

Generally, students are expected to:

- → respect for self, others, and property
- → emphasis on academic participation
- → cooperation with authority
- → following the rules

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

At Griffiths-Scott School we have an "Away for the Day" cell phone policy. We recognize that many students have cell phones (particularly in junior high) and that they often bring them to school. The rules and regulations will be clear and consistent starting on the first day of school. When students arrive at school the phones/PED's are "Away for the Day". The policy is in place to support student learning and promote a safe and caring environment. We encourage students to be active and socialize with their friends during recess and lunch breaks. Students are not allowed to use their phones and devices during breaks. Our classrooms are equipped with telephones if students need to contact home. If you need to communicate with your child during the school day please contact our office.

Closed Campus

Griffiths-Scott School continues to be a closed campus school, thus ensuring the safety of all our students. During lunch recess, students are able to participate in a number of activities, such as intramurals, Esports, Just Dance, Board Games and Chess Club, or play outside in the supervised areas. If your student forgets their lunch, we do have a lunch program available should they require it.

Valuables at School

It is recommended that students leave personal valuables such as toys, jewelry, money, gaming systems, and personal electronic devices at home. If it is necessary to have these items at school, they need to remain in their locker. The school will not be held responsible for stolen goods or breakage.

Violence, Possession of Drugs or Weapons

Violence, or possession of weapons or illegal drugs, including alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco are not allowed on school property. Parental contact will be made in all situations involving violence or the possession of drugs or weapons. Enacting VTRA protocol, suspension, and involvement of R.C.M.P. may be included in the school's response.

Lockers are the property of WRPS and WRPS reserves the right for staff to open, search, and inspect a locker without notice if WRPS staff have reasonable grounds to believe that there may be drugs, alcohol, stolen property, weapons, or anything deemed by the school or police to be a danger to others in the locker this is in accordance with WRPS AP 354.