

Check out the November 2018 Newsletter!

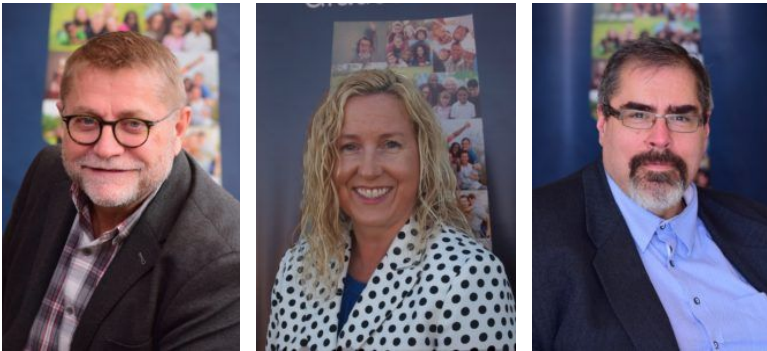
Click each article below to read this month's newsletter.



Learning Without Limits

We're already entering the third month of the school year—where has the time gone? Hopefully, you are working hard on your assignments, are interacting with your teachers, and are enjoying your classes so far. We are here to assist you, so if you have any challenges, please contact your teacher(s). For students writing diploma exams (and other exams) in November, good luck! And don't forget about time change on November 4 (fall back an hour).

Sincerely,



Mike Loitz,
Principal

Treena Bradbury,
Associate Principal

Frank McCallum,
Associate Principal

Did you Know?

The Vista Virtual School newsletter is now available as an online page.



Previously it was only accessible as a PDF; now you can search for past article topics, or select the information that is of most interest for you right on the website.

Each month you will still be emailed a link to the newsletter with the important Vista Virtual School information at your disposal.

Note: Awards applications and other important items are now posted on the Vista Virtual School website, whereas, the newsletter focuses on activities and events related to the school each month.

Minister's Youth Council

Congratulations Vista Virtual School student Tahir Natha on being named to the Alberta Education Minister's Youth Council!



"It is an honour to be a part of the council and I look forward to working with the Minister of Education to help students across the province," says Tahir.



As one of the 33 junior and senior high students, Tahir looks forward to the opportunity to provide input on education initiatives and engage with the ministry as a partner, as well as learning from the other students that are also part of the program.

"Students today do not feel they have a voice in their education, so I wanted to take a stand and be the voice for students who cannot speak up," he says. "Being a part of the Minister's Youth Council allows me to express the problems we see in the education system and how we can address those problems to better suit students today."

Please share your feedback on distance education and education in Alberta. We would like your views—see the Vista Virtual School website for more information and the form to provide your input.

Vista Virtual School Awards - Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who attended the VVS awards ceremonies in Edmonton and Calgary. Congratulations to the award winners!

Below are some of the photos from the two events; also see our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) posts.



Important Dates in November

- [Diploma Exams](#) (November 2-9)
- Daylight Savings Time (November 4)
- [International Volunteer Day](#) (November 5)
- Remembrance Day (November 11)
- [National Media Literacy Week](#) (November 5-9)
- [Bullying Prevention Awareness Week](#) (November 18-24)

Reminder - Diploma Exam Dates Posted

See the [Alberta Education](#) diploma exam schedule for the [exam dates](#). If you have any questions, please contact your teacher.

Adult Learning at Vista Virtual School

Are you considering taking classes as an adult, but have questions or need more information?

Please see the Vista Virtual School website under [Adult Upgrading](#) to learn more and see answers to common questions, or email us at vsadults@phrd.ab.ca.

Recent News Posts on the VVS Website

- [We Need Your Help – Online Classes](#)
- [Share Your Thoughts on Student Citizenship](#)
- [VVS Remembers](#)
- [Daylight Savings Time](#)
- [2019 Great Kids Award Call for Nominations](#)
- [Prime Minister’s Youth Council – Apply Now](#)
- [Think Globally Art Contest](#)
- [Terry Fox Humanitarian Award](#)

Monthly Events Calendar

Check out our [monthly events](#) on the vvschool.ca website. This calendar is updated as events are added.

Meet your Teachers



Shelley Rizzo

How long have you been a teacher?

Starting as a primary/junior high teacher in 1989, I obtained my intermediate science and senior math levels over the next two summers so I could teach high school. I taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Northern Ontario for grades 5-8 in my first year, moving on to a larger high school where I taught everything from small engine repair, art and computer programming, to math, sciences and special education. I moved to Alberta to teach in 1997. I teach mainly science courses at Vista Virtual School and have been a marker for math and science since 2011. And I have coached badminton, volleyball and basketball!

Interesting fact?

I have two adult children, an accountant with Ernst and Young in Calgary and a Certified Chef who is completing her Bachelor of Hospitality Management and Wine Sommelier certifications this year through Vancouver Island University. I enjoy travelling outside of Canada and seeing the world and all it has to offer.

What excites you each day?

Getting those emails, texts and phone calls that say "Thanks so much, I get it now!"—the light bulb goes on for the student and it excites me too.

Teacher's Pet - Bailey



Meet Bailey! Each month we're featuring some of the pets that are part of the staff families at Vista Virtual School.

Bailey, Associate Principal Treena Bradbury's very happy and energetic Golden Retriever/Great Pyrenees cross, enjoys her daily walks regardless of weather. On her travels, she especially pays close attention to smaller, swift-moving critters such as squirrels, pheasants, and prairie dogs.

Tips to Succeed at Distance Education

Set a schedule (and adhere to it):

- Plan your time accordingly and make sure to set all your due dates and exams.
- Plan when to start working on each project.

Complete all your assignments:

- The best way to learn the required course materials is to complete all assignments in order.
- Progress as directed by your teacher (as jumping ahead may cause challenges in your understanding later in the course).

VVS on the Road

- Medicine Hat – November 8 and December 6
- Lethbridge – November 15 and December 20
- Red Deer – November 22 and December 20

Contacts

Principal

Mike Loitz

**Associate
Principals**

Treena Bradbury

Frank McCallum

**Academic
Counsellors**

Lise Pethybridge

Andrea Robin

**Adult
Academic
Counsellors**

Christine Borle

Wayne Bobrosky

**School
Hours**

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Contact
Information**

P: 1-855-974-5333

WVS Support: Ext. 5317

*Edmonton Campus (Ext.
6100):*

*Calgary Campus (Ext.
6200):*

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341 58th Avenue SE

Edmonton, AB T7N 1P4

Calgary, AB T2H 0P3

**School
Website**

wschool.ca

School Email	wvsupport@phrd.ab.ca	wsadults@phrd.ab.ca
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We're Online	Twitter @VsitaVirtualSch	Twitter VistaVirtualSch	Website wschool.ca
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Connect with Us	Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates on events and activities throughout the year. Our website is also a valuable source of information.	Do you have a story to tell (or a typo to report)? Email Jay Zaal .	The next newsletter will be published in early December.
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