



# H.E Bourgoin Middle School

## Bears Facts

### Newsletter For Summer

#### H.E.Bourgoin Mission Statement:

**We develop confident learners who are caring community members  
through  
respect, opportunity, kindness and safety.**

**HER DOGS**

**We welcome Vonda Worthman  
as our new assistant principal at  
H.E. Bourgoin Middle School  
next year! We are grateful to  
have you as a leader in our  
school!**



## Big Bear & Little Bear Winners



# Farewell to Peggy Chick

Her retirement marks the end of an incredible chapter, but her impact will be felt for generations to come. Mrs. Chick has been more than just a teacher. She's been a guiding light, a fierce advocate, a creative spirit, and a constant source of support to everyone fortunate enough to know her.

From the countless hours she spent crafting unforgettable school plays, often side by side with her sister Sharon (Sharun), to the equally countless hours she poured into calling and connecting with parents, making sure every child had someone in their corner, Peggy has always gone above and beyond. She has touched so many lives, and I am proud to say mine is one of them. Mrs. Chick has poured herself into this community with love, grace, and relentless dedication. She has changed lives, and the ripple effect of her work will carry on long after her classroom door closes. **And just to show how far her legacy reaches, members of the graduating classes from 1998 to 2027 wanted to share a few words:**

*"You didn't just teach us, Mrs. Chick. You saw us, every one of us. And that made all the difference."*

**– Nicholas Blain**

*"She was an amazing teacher and I am forever grateful for her. She helped me lots and I would not be where I am today without her."*

**– Gloria Cardinal**

*"She was always so kind and understanding and we all loved her so much. Congratulations on your new chapter"*

**– Chantal Normand**

*"You made school feel like home. Thank you for being not just my teacher but also my friend."*

**– Peyton Sartain**

So today, we don't just say goodbye to a teacher, we celebrate a legacy.

Peggy, thank you. For your passion. For your kindness. For being the heart of this school community.

**Congratulations on your retirement. You've more than earned it.**





**Mrs. Nikki Wakulchyk**

**New Band Teacher—Mrs. Nikki Wakulchyk is eager to share her love of music with the Bears in the Bear Den! She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music, a Bachelor of Education After-Degree in Elementary Education, and a Master of Education in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Studies, focused in Language and Literacy. From her own early experiences making music, Nikki understands the powerful sense of belonging and accomplishment that comes from creating music as a group, and she is passionate about sharing that with her students. Nikki is excited to provide students with opportunities to stretch themselves musically and personally, and will strive to help them feel supported, valued, and connected. Through participation in band, students not only grow as musicians but also build resilience, a sense of belonging, and confidence in performing. We are thrilled to offer our Grade 7 and 8 students the incredible opportunity to participate in the band program at H. E. Bourgoin School this fall!**

**New HEB Athletic Director for students in grades 5–8! – Miss Alysha Coates brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to her role as Physical Education Teacher and Athletic Director at H.E. Bourgoin Middle School for the 2025–2026 school year. She holds a Bachelor of Education from the University of Toronto, Intermediate Division Health and Physical Education training from Trent University, and a Master’s Degree in Education from Simon Fraser University. Alysha is a certified Introduction Tandem Lake Canoe Instructor with Paddle Canada, a NASP and NCCP Certified Archery Instructor and Coach, and an NCCP Certified Small Boats Coach. She is also a Trained Aboriginal Sport Coach, dedicated to supporting inclusive and culturally grounded athletic development. She has proudly coached Team Yukon in Archery at the Arctic Winter Games and Canoeing at the North American Indigenous Games. A passionate outdoorswoman and long-distance competitor, Alysha has completed the Yukon River Quest—the world’s longest annual canoe race (715 km)—twice. She has also participated in the Klondike Road Relay and the Kluane to Chilkat International Bike Relay. Beyond competitive pursuits, she is an active community member involved in sports such as softball, basketball, pickleball, and fitness training. Ms. Coates is deeply committed to the Sport for Life model, integrating physical literacy, mental health, and inclusion into all areas of her teaching and coaching. She is excited to inspire and support student-athletes as they grow in confidence, skill, and teamwork both in the gym and beyond.**



**Miss Alysha Coates**

Report cards went home this week with students on their last day!



# Upcoming Events

August 29th— HEB Meet and Greet  
September 2nd— First Day of School  
September 11th— First School Council Meeting  
September 22nd— School Photos

As we are welcoming in new staff next year we are also bidding farewell to a fantastic group of staff: Mrs. Malo, Mrs. Yadowsky, Mr. Sauve, Miss. Yaworski, and Mrs. Chick! We thank you for your incredible commitment and for all the hard work you've poured into our students and our school. Your positive influence will certainly be felt for years to come. We wish you all the very best as you embark on your new journeys, and we hope your next opportunities are as rewarding as you are. YOU ROCK!

## Celebrating Our Support Staff



# School Supplies

**Grade 5–** <https://www.hebschool.ca/download/519572>

**Grade 6–** <https://www.hebschool.ca/download/519573>

**Grade 7–** <https://www.hebschool.ca/download/519574>

**Grade 8–** <https://www.hebschool.ca/download/521050>

New this year, H.E. Bourgoin Middle School is also excited to offer you the opportunity to purchase school supplies through School Start for the 2025/2026 School Year. This is a fast and easy way to get everything you need shipped to your home or school—  
<https://schoolstart.ca/>

## Update & Verification Forms

This is a friendly reminder to please complete your Update and Verification Forms as soon as possible.

These forms ensure we have the most accurate and up-to-date contact, medical, and emergency information for your child. This information is essential for your child's safety, communication, and access to services throughout the school year.

If you haven't completed the forms yet, please log into the Parent Portal to do so.

<https://powerschool.nlsd.ab.ca/public/home.html>

Thank you for your attention and support in keeping our records current!



# ***Farewell To Mrs. Malo***

## **Mental Health Services**



I want to say thank you to NLPS for giving me the opportunity to grow, and for helping me find my second home here at HEB. HEB has been an incredible place to work, surrounded by dedicated staff and amazing students who made every day meaningful.

To the students and families I've had the privilege to work alongside, thank you for your trust, your kindness, and the connections we've built. I will carry those memories with me and will miss this community deeply.

Although my time here is coming to an close, HEB will always hold a special place in my heart.

Wishing you all the very best,  
- Mrs. Malo

NLPS will be moving to a regional" family of schools" model to provide students mental health supports.

What does this look like?

Our current model, where each school has a Student Advocacy Counsellor will be replaced by a team-based approach that includes:

- Child Development Counsellors (CDCs) - providing universal supports as well as some group and individual supports. There will be two in the Bonnyville region, three in Cold Lake and three in Lac La Biche.
- Mental Health Therapists - offering intensive, short-term support for students with complex mental health needs. There will be one in each region (Bonnyville, Cold Lake, and Lac La Biche).
- Clinical Psychologist - supporting students who require specialized (Tier 3) services from throughout the division.