



October 15, 2024

Hello,

We hope you had a bountiful Thanksgiving weekend. We are grateful for your partnership in education. Here is what we have for you in this month's newsletter:

- October 2024 Footnotes on how we continue to foster a culture of wellness and well-being.
- An invitation to share your voice regarding our Flourishing Community
- A guide for effective communication
- Have you checked your learner's gradebook this month?
- FSD Student Portal information
- A reminder regarding the Fall Break in November

If you have wonders or concerns about your child's learning or learning environment, please connect with your child's school.

[READ THIS MONTH'S EDITION](#)

FOOTNOTES

STEPS TOWARD A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY



FOOTNOTES

steps toward a flourishing community

October 2024

HOW WE CONTINUE TO ADVANCE WELLNESS & WELL-BEING

WELCOME

Welcome to the Footnotes, a monthly newsletter showcasing how Footfalls School Division (FSD) is placing education at the centre of a flourishing community.

These highlights are assurance to our school community that the Board of Trustees is actioning the goals and priorities of FSD's annual Education Plan making visible how the work of the Board is connected to schools and students in their classrooms.

AS A PLACE FOR ALL WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE WELLNESS AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL LEARNERS

FSD partners with CASA Mental Health to host a **CASA Classroom** in 2024-2025.

OCTOBER 2024
FEBRUARY & MAY 2025
Students' Matters conferences engage learners to review SOS-Q data and form a plan to address areas of opportunity within their own schools. This builds a culture of compassion and develops leadership skills.

STEPS TO ADVANCE WELLNESS & WELL-BEING

DECEMBER 2024
Support Staff will participate in learning to support a **trauma-informed culture**. EAs will have the opportunity to receive **SIVA training**.

NOVEMBER 2024
We will engage with you, our partners in education, to see what evidence you see that shows we are in a **flourishing community**.

OCTOBER 2024
Students will participate in the annual **SOS-Q** to measure student internal & external resilience factors.

SEPTEMBER 2024
Members of our Teaching Staff participate in **SIVA training**.

AUGUST 2024
Funding for the **School Mental Health Pilot Project Grant** has been extended through to June 30, 2025.

MAY 2024
FSD partners with CASA Mental Health to host a **CASA Classroom** in 2024-2025.

OCTOBER 2024
FEBRUARY & MAY 2025

Students' Matters conferences engage learners to review SOS-Q data and form a plan to address areas of opportunity within their own schools. This builds a culture of compassion and develops leadership skills.

SOS-Q
Student Orientation to School Questionnaire

SIVA
Supporting Individuals through Value Attachments



FOOTNOTES
DECEMBER 2022

Footnotes: October 2024

HOW.WE.CONTINUE.TO.ADVANCE.WELLNESS.™ .
WELL_BEING

This month's issue is a continuation of the December 2022 edition, where we illustrate our advancement of wellness and well-being along a timeline to the end of the year. Points on the timeline include Students' Matters, the SOS-Q, SIVA training, and the Mental Health in Schools Grant extension. [Click here to read the October issue of Footnotes](#)

An invitation to be a part of our Framework for a Flourishing Community

At Foothills School Division, we know that success is mutual. As a system we advance goals to achieve the success of our students, staff, and community. The same can be said about flourishing. One does not flourish in isolation—it is a continuous, collaborative effort of community members to co-create the conditions for each individual to flourish.

We believe that a flourishing community is one where everyone feels connected, valued, and empowered to contribute. Over the last five years, we have been building capacity within our own learning community to understand what it means to flourish and developing a culture that meets our organizational purpose to place education at the centre of a flourishing community.

After years of development, we believe that we are now at a place that is critical to invite you, our greater learning community, to join us on this journey toward flourishing. This project aims to understand what flourishing looks like within our workplaces, homes, and community, all with the intent to determine how we can co-create the conditions for each individual to flourish.

Please watch the invitation to join us at the video below, and contribute to this project at the following link:



<https://youtu.be/gUDNalxoBmc>

Participate at fsdconnect.com/flourishing-communities

Effective Communication

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US?

Effective communication is a two-way function. From the division, you can expect to receive regular communications and opportunities to engage to inform decision making. Including:

- A monthly newsletter from FSD (Technology updates, important date reminders, celebrations of our
- community, opportunities to inform decision making, and more!)
- A clear plan (Education Plan, Budget, Operational Plan, Capital Plan)
- Transparent Reporting (Annual Education Results Report, Audited Financial Statements)

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM OUR PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Social media can be a wonderful communication tool, but it is not an effective way to get factual answers or resolve concerns about our students, staff members, or operations. Often, it can prolong the resolution process. When you have a question, concern, or feedback, please follow the steps within [Administrative Procedure 151 - Parental/Guardian Complaints or Concerns and Dispute Resolution](#)

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM OUR PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



FOR OPINIONS, ASK FRIENDS, FAMILY, OR MAKE A RESPECTFUL POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

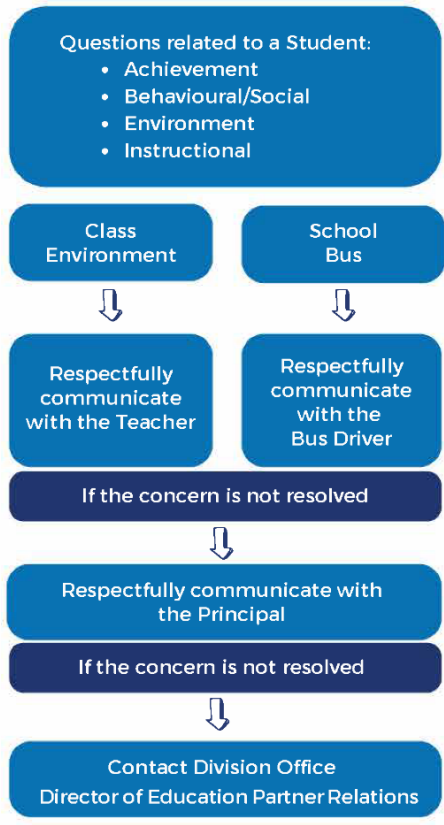
FOR FACTS AND RESOURCES TO ANSWER A QUESTION, GO TO THE SOURCE: DIVISION OR SCHOOL WEBSITES, SCHOOL PERSONNEL, OR DIVISION OFFICE.

Social media can be a wonderful communication tool, but it is not an effective way to get **factual answers** or **resolve concerns** about our students, staff members, or operations. Often, it can prolong the resolution process. When you have a question, concern, or feedback, please follow the steps within Administrative Procedure 151 - Parental/Guardian Complaints or Concerns and Dispute Resolution

LEARN MORE:

- [Administrative Procedure 151](#): Parental/Guardian Complaints or Concerns and Dispute Resolution
- [Administrative Procedure 146](#): Social Media Code of Conduct
- [Administrative Procedure: 170](#): Bullying, Harassment, and Threatening Behaviour

HOW TO ADDRESS CONCERNS REGARDING A STUDENT OR LEARNING



Learner Gradebook Update Reminder

It is a great day to check your learner's progress on the [Edsembli Family Portal](#). Edsembli is the hub for your child's gradebook, school fees, attendance, and more. This is just one way for you to be involved in your child's learning.

Please visit [the Foothills School Division website](#) for more information on our [System of Reporting, which explains our student assessment and reporting process along with our grading matrix](#).

As a core component of the [Foothills School Division System of Reporting](#), your child's teacher(s) maintain an ongoing record of student achievement relative to the [Alberta Curriculum and Program of Study](#). Student grades are updated on a regular basis and are available online to students and families through the [Edsembli Parent Portal](#).

Information and instructions on how to access your Edsembli Parent Portal can be found in the [Edsembli User Guide](#). If you have any questions or difficulty accessing your Edsembli portal, including password resets, **please contact your school directly**.

Quick Links:

[Edsembli Family Portal](#)

[How to reset your password](#) (Edsembli User Guide)

[Understanding Grading](#) (FSD System of Reporting)

Alberta myPass

Students, parents or guardians can sign up for myPass. We encourage all high school students to sign up in Grade 10.

myPass is an Alberta Education self-service website for students to:

- Order high school transcripts in English and French
- View diploma exam marks
- Register to write or rewrite diploma exams with online payment
- View and print Detailed Academic Reports (DAR)
- View progress towards a credential (diploma or certificate)
- Order additional copies of an awarded credential in English or French
- Receive notifications for important messages

[Learn more and sign up here](#)



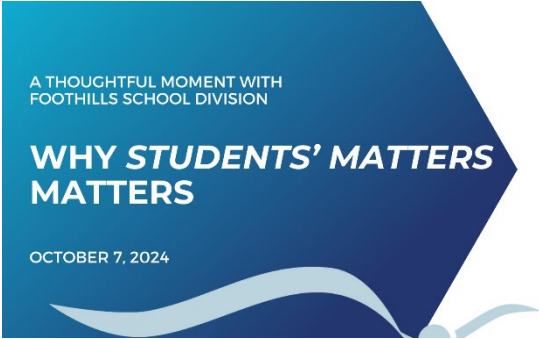
SOS-Q Starts Soon

Each year the “Student Orientation to School Questionnaire” (SOS-Q) is administered to all students in grades 4 to 12 during the months of **October, November** and **December**. This survey is used to identify student degrees of connectivity to school within a variety of dimensions. The intent is to provide schools and the division with timely data at both the school and individual level that support the development of strategies and interventions to identify and re-connect students.

[View the SOS-Q data in the 2022-2023 AERR.](#)

A Thoughtful Moment

A Thoughtful Moment is a weekly blog post intended to connect the strategies outlined within the education plan to the work within our classrooms and community. With perspectives from across the division, we invite you to read these short reflections on how together, we are placing education at the centre of a flourishing community.





Important Dates

November 1 - Non-Instructional Day (no school)

November 11 – Statutory Holiday: Remembrance Day

November 12 – 15 – Fall Break (schools closed)

December 13 - Non-Instructional Day (no school)

View the year-at-a glance here: bit.ly/FSD-Calendar

Get.Connected

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[Facebook](#) . [Instagram](#)