



# Mitford School



Nancy Dutchik  
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## Grade 8 Watershed Inquiry Project

Dear Grade 8 Students and Families:

Over the next few months the Grade 8 students at Mitford School will be continuing to work on an inquiry project to study the Bow Valley Watershed. The goal of this project is to foster student engagement and critical thinking through civic and global action. The Grade 8 "Confluence Project" is focused on discovering the answers to five key questions;

*How is quality of life connected to our worldview?*

*Should Canada be concerned about water?*

*Do we as users of the Bow River have a responsibility to people downstream?*

*How can we ensure a high level of water quality for future generations?*

*What actions should I take for water?*

As part of their exploration, the students will be taking part in an off campus field study. They will participate in a three-day trip from **May 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>** along the Bow Valley Watershed by bus. The Grade 8's will be split into two randomly selected groups. One group will be heading west to Bow Glacier and will follow the Bow River back to Cochrane, stopping in Banff, Canmore and Morley. The other group will be going to High River, Lethbridge and then back through Medicine Hat. Both groups will be testing water quality, investigating the various stakeholders (ie. agriculture, industry, recreation) and visiting areas damaged by the floods. Upon returning from the trips the Grade 8's will get together to share their experiences and findings.

More information about the three-day trip will be provided over the next few months and at our parent meeting on **March 16th from 5-6pm**. Please watch for more information in the newsletter and on the Mitford Calendar.

The total cost of the 3 day trip in May is **\$300.00** including all travel, accommodations, food (\$10/meal) and activities. This can be paid in full or in installments and the students will be fundraising to help subsidize part of the cost. Last year some students covered the entire cost of the trip through fundraising. As part of our planning we are looking for corporate and community sponsors to support our trip. If you have any information regarding companies that may be interested in participating in our project please contact Krista Wunsch at [kwunsch@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:kwunsch@rockyview.ab.ca).

### Installment Payment Plan

\$100.00 - Due Friday April 1

\$100.00 - Due Friday April 29

~~\$100.00~~ - Due Friday May 6



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Dear Grade 8 Families:

To help offset the costs of our upcoming Watershed field trips, we have organized two optional fundraisers for students to do during the month of March. If you would like for your student to participate in either or both opportunities, please return the RSVP slip on the bottom of the page to Ms. Rowe for planning purposes. Additional information will be given to interested students in early March.

If you would like to assist with the bookkeeping or organization of either event, please check off the volunteer section and include your name and email address. Parent help will be greatly appreciated!

**Event #1: 59 Minute Fundraiser! Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.**

- In 59 minutes, students will attempt to sell as many tubs of cookie dough as possible
- Students to prepare a list of at least 30 prospective buyers / contact information before
- Just like a telethon, with a counter, timer, bells, and food will be provided!
- Script is provided; students will need a fully charged cell phone, and their contact list
- Prizes awarded for top sales, speed sales, first sale, multiple sales etc.
- One week following event to collect funds / finalize sales; 40% profits
- Cookies frozen on Thursday March 31 pick up from 2:30-4:30pm (some flexibility)

**Event #2: 'Prairie Gourmet Perogies' sales March 21 – April 6<sup>th</sup> (over Easter Break)**

- 7 types of perogies; boxes of 100 (50 if dessert flavours)
- \$30 per bag, \$7 profit to the student
- Delivered frozen on Thursday, April 28 pick up from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. (some flexibility)

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**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Homeroom:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Will participate in the 59 Minute Fundraiser on March 16<sup>th</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ Will participate in the perogie sales from March 21 – April 6<sup>th</sup>

**Parent volunteers:**

I can help with the \_\_\_\_\_ campaign.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Positive Behaviour Contract

Our grade 8 team is very excited to offer you the opportunity to participate in the Watershed Inquiry Trips this year. These field experiences will allow you to practice hands on learning in a meaningful way. To ensure that all students, parents/guardians, teachers and community members have access to a fun, safe learning environment certain expectations must be followed prior to and during the trips.

### **Student expectations before the trip:**

- all school and division rules are being followed
- you have not been suspended or sent to the office on a regular basis
- classes are being regularly attended
- school work is being completed on time and to the best of your ability
- you are being respectful to all peers, community members, and adults

### **Student expectations during the trip:**

- all school and division rules are being followed
- be respectful to all peers, community members, and adults
- be engaged and actively participate in the learning experiences
- have fun with your Inquiry

You are representing not only the school, but the town as well and we want to leave everyone we come across with positive thoughts about the Grade 8's at Mitford. Students who are not meeting the expectations prior to the departure will lose the privilege to attend the trips. If there are any major issues while on the trip, parents will be contacted and they will be responsible for either picking up the student, or that student will be placed on a bus home at the cost to the student/parents.

We don't anticipate any issues and are looking forward to having fun investigating our watershed with you! We truly hope that all of our Grade 8's will take part in this unique experience. Please feel free to call (403-932-4457), or email if you have any questions.  
Sincerely,

*Janelle Phillips*  
jphillips@rockyview.ab.ca

*Krista Wunsch*  
kwunsch@rockyview.ab.ca

Please sign and return this contract as soon as possible.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_