



**Welcome!!**

**Graminia 101  
2023/24**



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on Instagram!**

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on Facebook!**

# PSD & Graminia's commitment to inclusion:



Moving from:

- The idea of fixing students to the idea of improving environments
- Dependence on staff (teachers and EA's) to a focus on independence
- “Special Education” to ALL students being special
- A deficit model of thinking to a strength-based model of thinking
- Having high expectations for some to having high expectations for ALL



# Continuum of Supports:

Starts with incredibly compassionate and committed teachers and classroom support staff!  
Who are supported through:

- Universal supports in classrooms
  - Wiggle stools
  - Timers
  - Visuals
  - Brain and Body breaks
- Collaborative Response Model
  - Teachers in each grade level common plan and assess
  - Teacher meet monthly across grades for more supports and common approaches
  - School Based Support Team Meetings that can include divisional facilitators & Divisional Principals



# Continuum of Supports:

Starts with incredibly compassionate and committed teachers and classroom support staff!

Who are supported through:

- Literacy and Numeracy Leads
  - Provincial supports for Lead Teachers to go to PD to then bring back and share with teachers for a push in intervention model of supports
  - School Based supports for Lead Teachers to continue a small pull out intervention model
  
- Administration and IEL supports:
  - IEPs
  - PBSP
  - Ed Psych Testing

more on this...



# Inclusive Education Lead

## Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

- outlines strategies to support learning and help close the gaps for students that are significantly below or above their peers in academic achievement

## Positive Behaviour Support Plans (PBSPs)

- similar to an IEP, a PBSP is strategies to support learning and help close the gaps for students that are significantly below or above their peers in age appropriate social and emotional responses

## Educational Psychology Testing

- when there is a gap between strategies teachers are putting into place and growth seen and we need to understand better how the children learn Ed Psych testing may be recommended

# Admin Team



Ms Neumann  
Principal



Mrs Chessor  
Assistant  
Principal



# What Can I do?

1. Call / book a meeting and talk to the teacher
2. Ask what universals the teacher is using in their classroom
3. Ask for an SBST - School Based Support Team meeting - the teacher will meet with the team, review your child's file and a support plan is created
4. Ask to see the plans for support IEP & PBSP - you can have any of the SBST members join the meeting
5. If you are still feeling unheard - call to speak to the IEL and Administration Team. They will ask if you have asked to do the above steps ....



## I think ... “They must know...”

If you have not been contacted by your child's teacher or from an administrator . . .

We probably don't know.

We are committed to keeping all informed and in the loop - so call :)

Even in the Tech Savvy world - a phone call is the quickest and easiest way to get a hold of the school member and we are committed to calling you back.





## How to / What's new ...

- Parent portal - use it to pay fees, see report cards, update demographic information
  - Speak with the secretaries to get the login information - must setup the account using a laptop not a mobile device - we have a laptop in the office set up for parents to use
- Field Trips - the maximum that a grade level will have in fees for field trips is listed on our [website](#).
- Teachers will send home permission forms and payment costs for each field trip individually.
- Payment plans can be created online

# Fees Schedule 2023-24



- Complementary Courses are list by Term on the website and information regarding their cost, if any, is listed there. Additionally, parents will receive a letter from the course teacher with the fee this week. Fees are due for Term 1 by Monday September 25.
- Swimming, Play Parkland and year-end activities are also included in the Fees Schedule. These mainly affect gr 3-5 and gr 7-9.
- Cultural Fee of \$6 for in-school school-wide cultural experiences, Carnival (French Canadian Winter celebration), National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations and positive school culture building activities.

# Fees Schedule For Extra Curricular



- These are determined by sport or activity. All participants are required to pay the fee to participate. The website will be updated prior to October with this years fees.



# Fee Assistance / Waiver Form

Parents/Guardians may apply for a waiver of instructional material fees and course fees.

To apply for a 2022-2023 waiver, [complete & submit this form](#)



# General Information

- Absences - Call in your child's absence to the office or if emailing include the office in the email.
- Parking Lot -
- Hot Lunch- is awesome! Sign up to order and it is weekly
- Recess Bins in class this week and will be restocked shortly
- Increased and more consistent supervision on recesses

Various avenues of gaining information from your classroom teacher and from the school as a whole:

- School website (<https://graminia.psd.ca/>)
- Teacher weekly communication via email outlining learning activities and current topics
- Graminia Flyover Monthly newsletters
- Graminia School [Facebook](#)



# How Can I Get Involved?

## School Council - [What is School Council?](#)

- First meeting date: September 20, 2023

## Graminia Foundation

- First meeting date: September 20, 2023 (after Council meeting)

## Graminia Swinging Band Society

- Check out their [new Facebook page](#) to find out

## Graminia Rink Society

- Want to connect with your community? The *Arnold Semeniuk Memorial Rink* and tennis courts at the school are 100% volunteer run and cared for through the Graminia Rink Society. We are a fun team of dads and a few mom's and the Society is looking to add new members to support communications, treasurer, secretary and of course volunteers to keep our space ready to go for both the school and the community! If you are interested to learn more we can be reached at [graminiarink@gmail.com](mailto:graminiarink@gmail.com)

## Other Volunteer Opportunities

- Please reach out to your teachers or they will be reaching out to you to volunteer for field trips, in class activities, and other exciting events.



# School Council - What is it?

School Council is a collective association of parents, teachers, principal and community representatives whose purpose is to advise the principal and the board on matters relating to the school. It is an excellent opportunity for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning.

The purpose of the Council is to provide a platform for the school Administration to consult with parents and increase mutual understanding of matters within the school. The Council also plans in conjunction with the Principal the use of the funds raised by the Foundation.

The role of school council:

- focus on what is best for all students in the school
- consider the interests of all school stakeholders
- develop, maintain and reflect the culture of the school
- represent the parent voice in the school community

<https://graminia.psd.ca/parents/get-involved/school-council>

<https://www.facebook.com/GraminiaSchoolFamilies/>



# School Council - What is it *not*?

School council is an amazing platform to learn more about our school, connect with other parents and advise our Principal and Assistant Principal, but it is not:

- A place to air grievances
  - Please contact our Principal and Assistant Principal directly to discuss grievances.
- A place to discuss specific teachers
- A place to discuss specific students





# School Council - Who is on it?

Current Graminia School Council Executive:

**Chair** - Angie Gehlert ([graminia.scchair@partner.psd.ca](mailto:graminia.scchair@partner.psd.ca) / [angiebyouth@yahoo.ca](mailto:angiebyouth@yahoo.ca))

**Vice-Chair** - Amber Darragh ([robamber@gmail.com](mailto:robamber@gmail.com))

**Secretary** - Cassandra Graham

At meetings, typically our Principal, Assistant Principal, School Trustee (Aimee Hennig), and interested parents and caregivers of Graminia students attend, and sometimes invited special guests.

Elections are held at each October monthly meeting.

**ALL parents and caregivers of students at Graminia School are welcome to attend any or all School Council meetings.** The more involvement we have, the better we can work together to make our school an amazing place for our children.



# School Council - When are meetings?

All meetings take place in the School Library. Council meetings start at 6:30pm and are immediately followed by Foundation meetings at 8pm. The two groups meet separately in January; both of those meetings start at 6:30pm.

We understand that sometimes childcare is hard to manage, especially for busy parents! If you wish to attend an evening School Council meeting but have no childcare available, your children will be welcome.

- September 20, 2023
- October 11, 2023
- November 8, 2023
- December 6, 2023
- January 17, 2024 (Council only)
- January 24, 2024 (Foundation only)
- February 21, 2024
- March 13, 2024
- April 10, 2024
- May 8, 2024
- June 12, 2024

*Have an idea for a meeting topic? Is there something you would like to learn more about at our school? Please let one of our executive know!*



# COSC - Council of School Councils

Graminia School Council is part of COSC which is an alliance of all the school councils within Parkland School Division. Each school council (including Graminia) sends a representative to collaborate with trustees, principals, and members of the PSD Senior Executive Team

<https://www.psd.ca/schools/school-councils>

# ASCA - Alberta School Councils Association

By law, the Alberta government requires school councils in every school operated by a school board in Alberta. The Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) provides support and resources, including knowledge and skill development, consultation and learning opportunities.

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>



# Graminia Foundation - What is it?

The Graminia Community School Foundation is a registered society that hosts a variety of fundraising activities throughout the school year. Our fundraising efforts help support the Graminia School initiatives that enhance the experience for educational learning and student wellness.

The Foundation is comprised of an active group of parent volunteers that seek fundraising opportunities to contribute to the successes of the school by working closely with the Principal on educational goals, school improvement plans and other education initiatives. The school Foundation works to support these programs by funding technology, teaching aids, physical literacy, facility improvements, outdoor maintenance & improvements and cultural events for the school.

The Foundation is an integral part of the school, raising funds that benefit everyone. In the 2022-2023 school year, the Graminia Foundation was able to give \$67,951.00 to Graminia School.

All parents and guardians of children attending Graminia School are welcome to attend Council & Foundation meetings.



## School Foundation - Who is on it?

The foundation is comprised of any parent or guardian who would like to attend. The following positions are voted in each January.

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary as well as a bingo director, grants director, hot lunch director and communications director. There is also room for up to 5 directors at large.



# Fundraisers

For the 2023-2024 school year we will be offering the following,

Farm to School, Purdys, Waterpark, Learnathon, Spring Flowers and Write On.

Hot lunch and the vending machine are also fundraisers for us.

Our goal is to provide a variety of ways to support the foundation so that families may pick as few or as many work for them.

New ideas are welcomed each April and voted on each May for the following school year.