



M.V. BEATTIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“ROAR” = Respect + Ownership + Attitude = Build Positive Relationships

Mission Statement

Together, M.V. Beattie is committed to creating a learning environment that is happy, safe and inclusive, where everyone is valued. We strive to provide meaningful experiences that develop creative and critical thinking in our diverse learners.

Wild CATS = Our mission is to encourage students to be Creative, Academic, Thoughtful and Successful.

School District Address:

School District #83
PO Box 129
220 Shuswap Street, N.E.
Salmon Arm, B.C.
V1E 4N2
Tel: 250 832-2157

School Address:

PO Box 249
1308 Sicamous
St.
Enderby, B.C.
V0E 1V0
Tel: 250 838-6434
Fax: 250 804-7790
Email: mvb@sd83.bc.ca

School Hours:

First Bell	8:06
Recess	9:40
Recess Ends	9:55
Lunch	11:25
Lunch Recess	11:45
Lunch Recess Ends	12:10
Dismissal	2:06

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
7:45 am – 2:20 pm

Student Name: _____

Division: _____

Teacher: _____

School Web Site: www.mvb.sd83.bc.ca

Welcome to M.V. Beattie Elementary

We are very honoured to be the principals of M. V. Beattie school. We are both grateful and humbled by the honour of working in such a caring and supportive community. We are looking forward to further strengthening connections and relationships with all the people who give life and personality to this school community. We appreciate the patience, support and the help everyone has so graciously given to our staff and most importantly our students.

Our ROAR values will guide us, provide a base from which to make strong decisions and develop our students into the best that they can be!

Thank you in advance for all your support from home. We look forward to working together and to a great year.

Mishel Quaal, Principal

Laura Tomlinson, Vice Principal

Welcome from PAC

M.V. Beattie is fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents involved with the Parent Advisory Council who are committed to helping staff make our school a fantastic place to learn and grow. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents and guardians of children at M.V. Beattie and a special welcome to all our new families. We value your thoughts and opinions and would love to see you at our meetings where you can learn more about how we support our school. We are very proud of our school. Please feel free to contact us with any ideas, thoughts or concerns.

<u>Index</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Index (cont'd)</u>	<u>Page</u>
Calendar	3	General Information/Policies	7-10
Parents	4	Extra-Curricular	10
Student Placement Information	5	School Goals	11
Support Services	5-6	Healthy Schools Nutrition	11
School Fees	6	Student Conduct/Rules	12-14

2025-2026 School Calendar



Sept. 03	School Opens – Half Day. Buses pick up 3 hours early
Sept. 12	Last Day of Gradual Entry for Kindergarten
Sept. 29	Pro-D Day
Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Oct. 13	Thanksgiving
Oct. 20	Teacher-Family conferences
Oct. 24	Pro-D Day
Nov. 10	Pro-D Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Dec. 19	Last Day prior to Winter Vacation (Dec. 22 – Jan. 02)
Jan. 05	School reopens
Feb. 13	Pro-D Day
Feb. 16	Family Day
Mar. 13	Last Day prior to Spring Vacation (Mar. 16 – Mar. 27)
Mar. 30	School Reopens
April 03	Good Friday
April 06	Easter Monday
April 20	Pro-D Day
May 08	Pro-D Day
May 18	Victoria Day
June 25	Last Day prior to Summer Vacation Half Day - Early Dismissal

My Class Beliefs Are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Parent Involvement:

Children's learning is always enhanced when parents take an active and sincere interest in what is happening. There are different ways that parents support their child's learning at M.V. Beattie School. Some of these are:

- reading to/with your child every day
- talking to children about what they are learning
- assisting in school activities, field trips, sport events, etc.
- providing a quiet place and time for homework
- keeping in touch with teachers through this student planner or email
- helping in the classroom
- supporting/participating in the Parent Advisory Committee



Parents' Roles at School:

We encourage parents to become involved in our school! Check out the display boards and the upcoming events board at the front of the school.

Please feel comfortable to drop in for a chat.

Visitors:

For student safety we ask that all visitors please report to the office, and those remaining at the school to please wear a visitor's pass. This does not apply to student drop off and pick up.

Safe Arrival:

We ask that parents phone the school, or email (mvb@sd83.bc.ca) if your child is going to be absent. The school will phone home when a student is unaccounted for to ensure our students are safe. Your phone call saves considerable time and effort.



Reporting to Parents:

Teachers will formally report to parents about their child's progress 3 times during the school year beginning with our "Goal Setting Conference" in October. At least 2 other less formal contacts will be made during the year. Regular report cards will be sent home in November, February and June.



Parent/Teacher Interviews:

Interviews are available upon request after each reporting period. Teachers are available during the school year to discuss your child's progress. Please feel welcome to phone the school to set up an appointment.

Planners:

All gr. 1-6 students are expected to bring their planner to school and home every day. This enables students, teachers and parents to communicate effectively daily. We ask parents to check and sign the planner each day.



Student Placement:

While we do not take placement requests from families, the placement of each child is carefully discussed by a group comprised of the child's present teacher, other teachers who have been involved in the student's learning, along with the administrative staff. The resulting placement will consider the whole child.

The following factors are considered when grouping students. •

- Class composition including special needs/requirements
- Class size
- Social/cultural/behavioural issues
- Diversity in development (academic, social, emotional)
- Physical/social maturation
- Siblings and relations
- Instructional groupings



Parents with *specific educational concerns* that may require a special placement for their child should request a meeting with the principal in late May.

The final decision regarding student placement rests with the school principal.

Support Services:

The Learning Resource Program's goal is to meet the needs of children who have learning differences, including those with gifted abilities. Students may be assisted on a regular basis or for a short period of time either in the Learning Resource Room or in the classroom. Usually, concerns are identified by classroom teacher(s) and a referral is made to the Learning Resource Teacher after consent is received from the parent.

We also have Itinerant staff who offer the following services upon the school's request:

- Counselling
- Speech and Language Pathology • Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support
- English as a Second Dialect.

Should you feel your child requires any of these services, please speak to the classroom teacher or the Learning Resource Teacher.

Indigenous Education Program:

We are proud of our Indigenous Education program, students and activities. Our Indigenous Education support staff provides educational, social and cultural support to our Indigenous students. We have an Indigenous Education room that provides a place for students to work and participate in various cultural activities.

Breakfast Program:

Fifteen minutes before morning bell students will find breakfast in the NOL room. Students enter from back door on blacktop and enjoy a healthy selection of breakfast foods.



Student Activity Fees:

While school fees are not mandatory, when we surveyed parents at M.V. Beattie 80% voted in favour of having student activity fees to support the many activities that go on at our school such as: cultural performances, cross country meets (entry fees), swimming, gymnastics, dance lessons, agenda books, special events (symphony, art fair, etc.). We will provide as many opportunities as

we can for all students based on what we collect and can afford from voluntary student fees. Our school activity fee is \$20 per student.

Agenda Books:

All students in grade 1-6 require a M.V. Beattie Agenda Book at a cost of \$10 (this fee is permitted by legislation).

Supply Fees:

Our supply fee is \$35 per student (these fees are also permitted by legislation) and have been supported by parents due to being so cost effective. Teacher will purchase and distribute supplies to students for their use.

Field Trips:

Throughout the year, teachers may ask for a fee for a field trip. Our policy is that all students should have equal opportunity for field trips. However, whether the individual classes can support a field trip will be based on the collection of voluntary fees. If a family is experiencing financial hardship, please contact the principal for alternative arrangements.

Student Property:

Where possible, all student property should be clearly marked with the owner's name. This practice simplifies the recovery of lost items. We request parents' support in keeping unnecessary personal belongings, items of value, or unnecessary amounts of money away from the school. Considerable distress is caused due to the loss of personal property, and it can also lead the loss of a lot of valuable teaching and learning in the search to recover such articles. Parents' co-operation in this matter is vital since school is unable to accept responsibility for personal belongings that are damaged or go missing.

Lost and Found:

Over the course of each term, we accumulate numerous items of lost clothing. The lost and found boxes are in the hallway by the front entrance. Students and parents can view the contents at any time. At the end of each term, clothing will be displayed to all students and parents. Any unclaimed items will be sent to *Twice But Nice*.



Newsletters:

A newsletter comes out once a month and is emailed to each home (please ensure we have your home email address). It can also be found on our website. If your child is involved in community sports/activities, please consider sending us a photo and description to include in our "Wildcats in the Community" section. We welcome and encourage submissions.



Indoor Footwear:

Outdoor footwear is not permitted in the school building. In order to keep our school clean, students are asked to have a pair of indoor shoes available to wear inside the building. Running shoes are suitable for this. For safety and health reasons, stocking feet are not permitted.

Homework: In Primary grades, formal homework is only occasionally assigned, except for nightly home reading. Research has shown the children who excel in school are those who have been exposed to books in their early years (aged 0 to 12). Establishing a daily/nightly story time with your child is one of the most valuable learning situations you can provide. Intermediate students should spend up to 10 -30 minutes a day on weekdays, completing homework. This time may be spent completing formal assignments or practicing an existing skill. Parents may wish to encourage the following:

- reading for fun
- practicing arithmetic facts
- studying spelling words
- practicing penmanship

Part of our homework policy is that parents are informed through the planner of formal homework assignments.

We ask that parents sign the planners each night to indicate that they are aware of the homework assigned. If you feel that your child is unable to complete homework assignments within a reasonable time, we ask that you notify the teacher through the planner.

Phone Pass Policy:

Students are asked to use the school phone for **emergencies only**. Forgotten homework is not considered an emergency. Arrangements to visit friends should be done before arriving at school. Parents can assist by ensuring that there are notes in planners if a child's plan for after school is different than the usual plan. Students should ask their teacher for a phone pass if there is an emergency.

Phone Messages:

We have a telephone answering machine which is in use when no one is available in the office. It is checked regularly during the day for messages, especially at Recess, lunch and just prior to afternoon dismissal. Please know that messages left after 1:45 pm may not get to the students.

Bicycles, Scooters, Skateboards:

Students who bring bikes, scooters to school must keep them locked up in the bike stand during school hours. By law, all students must wear a helmet. Students are not Permitted to ride bikes/scooters or skateboards on school grounds during the school day.

Cold Weather Policy:

Students stay healthier and learn better if they go outside for fresh air during play times and before and after school. Students are expected to play outside during their breaks if the weather permits. In winter months it is important that children are dressed in gloves, toques, winter boots and warm coats. If the temperature is below minus 10°C, or if it is excessively wet or windy, students will be permitted to stay in during break times. The principal will decide whether conditions dictate that students should stay indoors. **Please do not send notes asking students to stay inside because they are sick.** If students are too sick to go outside, they should remain at home until they are healthy.



Computer Policy:

Students at M.V. Beattie Elementary have access to Chromebooks and iPads as well as a Smartboard in each classroom. All computers have access to the Internet. Students primarily use the school computers for word processing, reinforcing education activities, researching projects and creating slide shows.

1. Students are NOT PERMITTED to use personal devices at school. (ipods,ipads phones, etc).
2. Students may not access Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, or other social media sites.
3. Students should only print out material that their teacher has requested them to print.
4. Students are not to touch the back of computers, open printers, etc. The hardware is very sensitive and is maintained by a district computer technician.
5. Parents must give permission for Microsoft Outlook, in order for students to use a district sanctioned email as part of their communication with teachers.



School Web Site:

M.V. Beattie continues to update its web site. You can keep up to date at www.mvb.sd83.bc.ca. You can find research information, PAC information, upcoming events information and M.V. Beattie information and history.



Medication:

Staff are not permitted to administer medication to students without parents completing the appropriate forms at the school office. Please see office for support.

Bus Schedule:

Our school is served by two bus runs. Parents are asked to contact the school or transportation office 250 832-9415 for information on bus routes and schedules.

Bus Policy:

To ensure passenger safety, the School District has strict guidelines for behaviour on busses. Students are provided transportation courtesy of our School Board. This privilege shou not be taken lightly. It is a privilege, NOT a right.

- Only **registered** students may ride the bus.
- The Bus Driver's first concern is safety. They must be always obeyed.
- Students are expected to **sit quietly** while riding on the bus. (No swearing, shouting, or throwing things-no feet in the aisles.)
- Eating is not allowed of the school bus.
- A student **must** bring a note from home or the school office if they wish to get off at a different stop.
- Kindergarten students **must** be met by a parent/guardian/designate at their stop. For their own safety, or the student will be returned to the school.



Animals on School Property Policy:

<https://sd83.bc.ca/board-policies/>

Visiting animals for show-and-tell, small pets kept in the classroom under the supervision and care of a teacher, or animals used in a demonstration, or a school assembly will be welcome, given that parents and staff have provided informed consent.

Wildcat Nation: Cell Phones and a Focused Learning Environment

Wildcat Nation is fortunate to have so many valuable learning experiences! Our dedicated staff work hard to organize and support these opportunities, ensuring the best for our students. However, we have encountered challenges related to social drama, code of conduct concerns, and event disruptions due to cell phone misuse. To maintain a positive environment, we kindly request that all cell phones remain at home during field trips and school-organized outings. To further promote focused learning at MVB, please look to Ministerial Order 89/2024 and Policy 122 Digital Citizenship:

Thank you for your support in creating a safe and focused learning environment!

Personal digital devices will be restricted at school for the purpose of promoting online safety and focused learning environments. “Personal Digital Device” means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone, tablet, smart watch, and IoT (Internet of Things) devices. All use of personal digital devices must be in compliance with Ministerial Order 89/2024 and Policy 122 Digital Citizenship whereby:

- Use of student personal digital devices are intended for instructional purposes and to support equitable learning outcomes during hours of instruction, appropriate to a student’s age and developmental stage.*
- In elementary schools, students are encouraged to leave all personal digital devices at home. Any personal digital devices brought to an elementary school must be stored in a secure location, not on their person, not visible, and not used during school hours.*
- Personal digital devices may be used to support students with diverse abilities as outlined in students’ support plans and Individual Education Plans to address accessibility and accommodation needs.*
- Personal digital devices may be approved to support medical necessities.*

Recreational Activities:

M.V. Beattie offers several activities for students to learn and experience. We are fortunate to have our PAC’s financial support so that our kids are able to try so many life long recreational activities.

Winter Recreation Program:

In the winter, all students Grades 4, 5, and 6 are strongly encouraged to participate in our Winter Recreation Program (snowboarding, skiing, skating). Fees will be requested to support this activity.

Ice Skating Program:

All Kindergarten to Grade 3 classes will have the opportunity to go skating 3-4 times (usually in November or January) on dates which will be circulated in a newsletter. Parent volunteers are much appreciated for these sessions to assist with skate tying! We ask that everyone (students and parents) wear a helmet for safety and role model reasons. Skating aides are not allowed on the ice for safety reasons.



Swim Program:

All classes have the opportunity to go swimming and receive swim instruction for four-five days in May or June.



Extra-Curricular Activities:

Sports: M.V. Beattie actively participates in all School District #83 sporting events, and has a Proud history of athletic excellence and sportsmanship. The following are the seasons and sports:

- September-November -Volleyball
- December-February -Basketball
- April -Cross Country Running
- May -Track and Field

In addition, on a year-by-year basis, staff and students organize many extra-curricular activities such as intramural floor hockey, football, mountain biking, golf, talent show, sewing clubs, art club, dance club, spirit days, recycling etc.

Healthy Schools Nutrition Policy:

M.V. Beattie uses the Ministry of Education's Guidelines to determine which foods and beverages are available to students and under what circumstances. The policy will include hot lunch days, food for fundraising, breakfast and lunch programs, sporting events or other school sponsored events and food used as a reward.

M.V. Beattie Elementary School is pleased to announce that we will be participating in a pilot expansion of the Souper Meals program. This program is funded by Wildcat Families, Feeding Futures (government funding for school food programs) and donations to Shuswap Food Action Society (SFAS). It operates on the principle that everyone is welcome, and no one will be turned away, even if you are not able to contribute. **A suggested donation of \$20/month, or \$3/meal, can be made via e-transfer, or cheque/cash to office.**

<https://my.charitableimpact.com/groups/soupermeals>

School Goals:

As a school community we meet each year to develop our school goals. For the 2025-2026 school year, we will continue to focus on improving literacy and numeracy at all grade levels. Of course, we will continue to maintain our efforts on all subject area as well. Watch our newsletters and class notes about the many reading initiatives we will be using in the coming months.



M.V. Beattie Elementary Code of Conduct

This applies while at school, at school-related activities, and in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on our school environment.

At M.V. Beattie we believe: * Be Respectful

- * Be Responsible
- * Be Safe



The B.C. Human Rights Code:

M.V. Beattie Elementary School promotes the values expressed in the B.C. Human Rights Code respecting the rights of individuals in accordance with the law-prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation- in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment. The school will treat seriously any behaviour or communication that discriminates.

Discipline -for inappropriate behaviour

This progressive process starts in the classroom with an individual conversation or correction by the classroom teacher. If the behaviour continues, the classroom teacher will contact home and discuss the situation with the parent. Having tried the above procedures for behaviour management, the student will be referred to the school administration and be dealt with as follows:



First referral:

A talk with the principal and possible documentation filled out by the student and the teacher. Think sheet may come home for caregiver signature.

Second referral:

Parent involvement: Think sheet signature, email and/or a phone call home or possibly a meeting with parents/guardians.

Third referral or more:

Possibly an in-school suspension. The student will have a different break and lunch break if on in-school suspension. Possibly a School Based Team meeting referral to develop a behaviour plan.

Each referral is dealt with on a case-by-case basis depending on the type of referral. If a student has three good months in a row, they can start at #1 if referred for inappropriate routine classroom behaviour. If the problems persist, we will devise additional plans including conferences with parents in the evening, behaviour plans, out of school suspensions, classroom moves and referral to our Bridge Program

May include any of the following depending on circumstances:

- * Restitution natural and logical consequences
- * Parent/Teacher/Principal/Student Meeting
- * In-school Suspension/Out-of-school suspension
- * School Based Team Meeting

M.V. Beattie Elementary Code of Conduct

Majors: These behaviours are immediately referred to the Principal.

Office Referral form completed by student and/or staff. Attending adult notifies the principal. Gather information via all sources including the student. An opportunity is provided for the student to take ownership of their behaviour.

A reminder to the student of the expected appropriate behaviour.

Administration team determines with those involved (including the student and his/her parent/guardian when appropriate) the course of action to best support the student and our mission statement.

Appropriate staff and home informed.

'May' include any of the following depending on circumstances:

- * Restitution natural and logical consequences
- * Parent/Teacher/Principal/Student Meeting
- * In-school suspension/Out-of-school suspension
- * School Based Team Meeting referral
- * Suspended to district Hearing

Bottom Lines:

Weapons

Defined as anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death, injury or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person. Examples: Knives, Lighters, Laser Pens.

Immediate suspension and referral to district.

Drugs & Alcohol

Possession of or under the influence.

Consequences:

-up to 5 days for first incident

-up to 10 months for a second incident

Violence

☐ Violence is not tolerated

☐ Harassment, intimidation & bullying may be considered acts of violence

Direct Defiance

Students are expected to follow "clear and reasonable" requests from any adult in the school.

Stealing and Vandalism

If it doesn't belong to you, leave it alone.

When students are referred to the office for "Bottom Line" rules, School district No.83 policy will be followed. Special consideration may apply to students with special needs, if they are unable to comply with this Code of Conduct due to having a disability of intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature.

Dress Code:

The board of education of School district No. 83 (Kwsaltktnéws ne Secwepemcúl'ecw) recognizes that a student's choice of dress can form an important part of their self-identity. The guiding principle regarding suitable student dress is that which fosters inclusivity and respect for others. Students must not wear clothing which undermines the District's commitment to safe and inclusive learning environments. This includes:

- Clothing that depicts the use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol, cannabis, or any other age restricted substance;
- Clothing that advocates illegal activity;
- The wearing of clothing, insignias, symbols or adornments that denigrate or depict hatred of a person or persons, including, but not limited to, clothing that denigrates or depicts hate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or age;
- Clothing which contains profanity, pornography, or obscene images.

Students Must Remain on School Grounds:

Due to the city location of our school, students sometimes want to go to local stores, etc. We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all our students. For this reason, no elementary students at our school (or in the district) are permitted off school grounds. Parents often write notes asking for their children to go to the local store for lunch, etc. We cannot honour these requests for safety reasons. Students who regularly go home for lunch may do so (parents should make these arrangements known to the school principal).

Restitution:

Our school believes in the philosophy of restitution which recognizes that all people make mistakes. We work with students to identify the mistakes they have made, identify the reasons, and to find ways to 'fix' their mistake or to make it better. This does not mean that there are not consequences for behaviour, but it is about students accepting responsibility and making it right. The key for restitution lies in each student accepting responsibility for their own actions. This is successful when supported at home.

Student conduct Policies & Parents/Caregivers:

We recognize the importance of you as parents/caregivers/guardian in your child's education and the teaching of appropriate behaviour. We welcome your input to the above policies (via the PAC, or in direct consultation with the school principal).

Please ensure that you have reviewed the Guidelines for School Conduct, discipline and Homework information as outlined in this handbook with your child.

I have discussed these guidelines with my child.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Child's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Caregiver and Parent Communication Guidelines

I have reviewed the SD83 Communication Guidelines
<https://sd83.bc.ca/parent-concerns/>

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____