

## Who and What is FAMS?

FAMS, or Friends of Alix-MAC Fundraising Society, is a fund raising group that provides financial assistance to **enhance the curriculum and activities for students of Alix-MAC School**. FAMS does not fund basic supplies, equipment or staffing (text books, salaries, etc.)

The major fund raising source is running a casino in Red Deer. The last casino was June 2009 and the next will not be until the winter/spring of 2011-2012.

The group was formed several years ago to purchase a bus for extra curricular sports and educational field trips. At that time funding for these activities was cut and costs were to be “user pay” making extremely high fees for the students and parents to pay. The FAMS group purchased a surplus bus from the Wolf Creek School Division. The bus now in use is the third one purchased. The School Division Transportation Department regularly inspects and services the bus. FAMS pays for maintenance, drivers and fuel. Riders are charged a fee for use to help cover fuel and driver costs.

FAMS also receives proposals from teachers/staff for events and field trips that would enhance the students’ education. Activities which are and have been sponsored by FAMS include:

- ASAA athletic fees
- Grade 1-6 swimming program
- Purchasing of books for the Library to help with our Accelerated Reader program
- Field Trips for groups and/or individual classrooms
- Motivational speakers and presentations
- Subsidization of costs for school activities such as Meet the Teacher Night, Grade 6-11 Awards Night
- Bringing in of travelling art exhibits
- Alix-MAC Band workshops at Red Deer College
- Alberta Opera

FAMS is always accepting of new people who would like to join and get involved with helping make Alix-MAC a great place for staff and students. This also allows parents to come in and have a voice as to how are funds are being spent. FAMS works together with the School Council and meeting follow the School Council meetings. For further information, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Executive. Contact information can be found on the FAMS link within the Alix-MAC website or on the parent bulletin board in the front hallway.