

BAYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
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PRINCIPAL
Mr. PAT LASKEY

VICE PRINCIPAL
MR. MARK PHINNEY

The Bronco Bulletin- September 2017

Greetings: Welcome to the 2017-18 school year! On Tuesday, September 5th, we welcomed over 170 Grade 6 students, and on Wednesday, September 6th, our Grade 7s and 8s arrived. It's great to see all of our returning students, and we are especially happy to meet all of our new children. We are currently at 546 students. We are one of the largest middle schools in the Anglophone South School District and the Province of New Brunswick.

Newsletter Distribution: Please be aware that in order to be environmentally friendly, our monthly newsletters are not sent out en masse, in paper form. All newsletters will be available on our school's website. A talk mail will be sent to notify families as to when they are posted. If you still prefer a paper copy, please contact your child's homeroom teacher and arrangements will be made.

STOMP: Bayside will continue with our Positive Behavior Intervention Strategy (PBIS) called STOMP. Students will be reminded of the expectations for everyone for classrooms and public spaces. Rather than dwelling on the negative behaviors of a few students, the vast majority of those who meet expectations will be rewarded. The program was an overwhelming success over the last two years and many of our students received rewards of some sort. Each of the letters in STOMP are components of this plan:

S= Success
T= Team Player
O= Own It
M= Motivated
P= Prepared

Building Changes: Over the summer, a few maintenance projects were completed on campus to enhance the safety of staff and students. Ten of our classrooms have received new windows to combat leaking during heavy rainfall. Many of our cracked tiles were replaced to reduce the risks of tripping. Overall, the building looks great!

New Staff: We welcome the following staff members to Bayside: Mme. Griffin (Grade 6 FI). She replaced Mme. Little toward the end of the last school year, and we're pleased to have her for the full year. Ms. Hickey (Grade 8 PIF and Science) is now at Bayside fulltime after being here part-time last year. Mr. Kyle joins us on a temporary basis until our staffing is finalized. He is teaching Grade 7 Language Arts and Science. We have two new part-time teachers currently on staff: Ms. Dobbin will teach Grades 6 and 7 PIF and Ms. Power will teach Grade 7 PIF and Health. We also welcome our new EAs: Mrs. McNamee, Ms. Reardon, and Ms. Newman. Congratulations to Mme. Clark (formerly Mme. Gagnon) on getting married over the summer.

Attendance Matters: With the start of the 2017-2018 school year, the District will be continuing an awareness campaign, "Attendance Matters". Our Superintendent, Zoe Watson, called for a working group to study student attendance in response to a heightened awareness/concern expressed by administrators, teachers, and District Office personnel and by members of the PSSCs and the DEC. Being present and on time impacts positively on learning from Kindergarten to grade 12. Good attendance also helps to build habits that will last a lifetime and transfer to life beyond public education. There is a strong correlation between academic success and good attendance. For more information, check the Anglophone South website (www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca) and our school website www.bayside.nbed.nb.ca .

Student Fees: Each year, the school collects a fee from families to support our positive learning environment and enrichment activities. The \$25.00 school fee pays for student IDs, locker fees, and a yearbook. It also helps offset costs associated with the many activities we are proud to offer at Bayside.

Privacy Act- Your child was given a form to take home which outlines the *School's Privacy Act*. Please take the time to complete this and send it back to the school. There are many events where your child's name or picture may appear on the school website, yearbook, social media, etc. By completing this form, it will give or deny permission to use pictures and names for school purposes. Please contact the school if you need more information.

Dropping Off and Picking up Students: **Please note the following change!** Morning buses will continue to unload at the gym doors. If you are driving your child, you will no longer be able to drop them off at the front doors facing Bayside Drive. We request parents drop students off at the corner of the school and continue driving on to Courtney Avenue. Please remember that students should not be dropped off before 7:50 am, as supervision does not start until that time. Students will have to remain outside until 7:50am, if they arrive early. Walking students will follow the same procedure. After school, buses will load in front of the school. If your child is being picked up, please make arrangements to meet him/her either on Courtenay Avenue or in the front parking area at the edge of Bayside Drive.

Meet the Teacher & PSSC Elections: The evening to meet our teaching staff and to volunteer for the Parent School Support Committee is Thursday, September 14th. Parents are asked to meet in the auditorium at 6:30 pm. A representative from the District will offering a brief presentation on the new home reports. This will be followed by a meeting with your child's teachers in their classrooms. Please realize that this is a *meet and greet* opportunity only as it is impossible for teachers to discuss individual students during the allotted time frame. Those who wish to serve on the PSSC will be asked to contact Mr. Laskey. The evening will conclude at 8:00 pm.

New Middle School Home Reports- Your child has been given information about the new home reports being issued in November, March, and June. These reports will be much more detailed and informative than the ones offered in the past. Please become familiar with this new system of assessment and do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you require more information.

School Calendars- Please make note that there are new additions to the school calendar. The Ministry for Education and Early Childhood Development has initiated changes for teacher professional learning. The following Wednesdays will see lunch hour dismissal so that teachers can develop professionally: September 20th, October 25, December 6th, January 17th, and April 25th. The Province will also be introducing Family Day on February 19th, 2018. This is a provincial holiday.

Food Allergies: Please be aware that we have students and staff in our school with severe allergies to nuts and nut products (peanuts, peanut butter, hazelnuts, walnuts, pecans, cashews, almonds, nut oils, etc.). Any minimal contact with these foods may cause a serious allergic reaction and unconsciousness within a matter of minutes. These allergies may even be life threatening. In this regard, Bayside will attempt to make the school as allergy safe as possible. Please do not send these foods to school. This policy is in effect in all ASD-S schools.

Scent Free School: We are asking families to be sensitive to students and staff who are affected by strong scents. Students are not to wear cologne, perfume, hair products, etc. which emit a strong scent. These scents can also trigger a severe allergic reaction. Use of these products by students will result in disciplinary action.

Cafeteria: Bayside Middle School has a full service cafeteria and provides space for students who bring lunches from home. Staff is working on completing menus, and they will be posted on our website when completed. Menus should also be available for Meet the Teacher Evening on September 14th. Please remember that our school is a closed campus at lunch. Students are not permitted to go to stores and fast food establishments at lunchtime unless they are signed out and accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Communication with Staff: Although staff members attempt to be as accommodating and accessible as possible, there are times when administrators and teachers may not be available to speak to you immediately (especially first thing in the morning). We ask that you book an appointment by calling the school at 658-5331 or by e-mailing the person you wish to contact. We appreciate your cooperation with this.

School Dance: Our first school dance will be on Thursday, September 21st, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Please make sure that your child is picked up by or before 8:30 pm. Cost is \$5.00. There is a strict dance policy, and an information sheet will be sent home outlining this. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for a middle school function.

Auditorium Seat Sponsorship: Limited seats are still available for sponsorship. Please consider making a donation of \$100.00 which will see a plaque placed on a seat with your chosen message. Please contact Pat Laskey at patrick.laskey@nbed.nb.ca for more information.

Children's Wish Foundation: Our 16th annual Children's Wish Foundation fundraiser will begin at the end of September. In total, over the past 16 years, we have raised in excess of \$334,000. Fundraising will take place between October 6th and October 17th with the walk being held on October 19th. We are known nationally for our generosity and are hoping to once again lead the country in pride and giving!

Immunization Program – Public Health is holding an immunization clinic at Bayside for Grade 7 students on October 26th. All grade 7 students will be offered a booster vaccine that protects against Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Whooping Cough, if they have not received one in the last 5 years. All Grade 7 boys and girls will also be offered a vaccine that protects against HPV. This vaccine is the first of two which will be given throughout the school year. Immunization consent brochures will be sent home. We ask that all consent forms be completed and returned indicating yes or no whether the student will receive the vaccine with parent signature. Please return all consents to the school by October 7th.

Fine Arts:

Beginner Band- Information packets were sent home with all Grade 6 students on the first day. Any Grade 6s who are interested in joining beginner band should return their interest forms to Miss Lucy in the music room downstairs, by September 11th. Grade 7 or 8 students interested in joining beginner band to learn an instrument should see Miss Lucy for an information packet.

Senior Band- Senior Band rehearsals will be on Mondays from 3:00 to 4:45 pm this year. Please return the commitment form and \$25.00 yearly fee to Miss Lucy. We will begin regular rehearsals on Monday, September 25th.

Musical- This year we are getting started early!! The show is *Shrek Jr.* Don't miss out. We will have a meeting on Wednesday, September 13th at 12:15 in the Auditorium for all students interested in joining the show this year. Information packages will be given out to all who attended by the end of the week.

Fine Arts Night/Talent Show- Is your child a budding comedian, a juggler, a dancer? Do they like to do skits with friends? The first talent show of the year will be held in December and we look forward to seeing a great variety of talents. Students could start thinking about and practicing an act they would like to do now!

Bronco Best Buddies – Best Buddies Canada operates in schools across Canada to create one-to-one friendships, based on mutual interest between student volunteers and children with different abilities. Bayside is an inclusive school and we have formed a Best Buddies chapter to further improve the social interaction of our differently able students with their peers. We will meet twice a month and share fun activities, to help promote an inclusive environment, create awareness, promote empathy and character development and have fun. Mr. Moore and Mrs. Pelletier will be facilitators for this group.

German Club & Café Français- These two cultural clubs will be offered beginning in October. Please contact Mme. Mannelle for more details.

Snack Bins- We understand that some children come to school without having breakfast. Bayside offers a snack bin program for those who missed breakfast for one reason or another. We have a limited budget to purchase items such as granola bars, juice-boxes, puddings, cheese and crackers, etc. but we need your help. Please consider donating any of the listed items. We monitor this program very carefully to ensure those needing the food get it. Please contact Mrs. Godreau-McCarthy for more details.

Art Sketchbook- Please be aware that students need a sketchbook for Art. This was omitted from our school supply list. We regret the error.

Bayside Celebrates

Kings Church- on September 5th, this group donated the funds necessary to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for Bayside Middle School. Research shows that the more AEDs are available, the more lives are saved as a result. We appreciate the generosity of our partners at Kings Church and their Every Child Initiative.

Brilliant Labs- we now have a 3D printer due a donation made by Brilliant Labs. This is the first step to creating a full Maker Space to enhance STEM (Science, Tech, Engineering, and Technology) at Bayside Middle School.