

***BAYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL***  
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**PRINCIPAL**  
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MRS. AMY MCCLURE

The Bronco Bulletin- September 2020

Greetings: After being away from school for close to 6 months, we were finally able to welcome students back to Bayside. On Tuesday, September 8th, we welcomed over 200 Grade 6 students, and on Wednesday, September 9th, our Grade 7s arrived and Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, our Grade 8s returned. As of Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, all students are expected to report every day. Our staff has worked hard to create an operational plan for the safe return to school and the first few days of school were devoted to presenting this plan to staff and students. This plan was created and approved by the District and follows the suggested guidelines established by Public Health. You are welcome to view this document on our school website. We currently have over 600 students enrolled at Bayside and continue to grow! We are one of the largest middle schools in the Anglophone South School District and the Province of New Brunswick. A special welcome to all of our newly registered international students.

Newsletter Distribution: Please be aware that in order to be environmentally friendly and keeping in mind Covid-19, 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 and email will be sent to notify families as to when they are posted.

Electronics Policy: Bayside students are not permitted to bring personal electronic devices to school. Research has shown that these devices (Cellphones, gaming systems, I-Pads, MP3 players, Smart watches, etc.) pose a major form of distraction in a school setting. Although we recognize Social Media can have good uses, there are many cases where it is pervasive and unhealthy. Students who have been assigned assistive technology will continue using this to support their learning.

Means of Communication: Check out our school website (<http://bayside.nbed.nb.ca>) to read updated daily announcements. You can also follow us on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/bayside\\_broncos](http://www.twitter.com/bayside_broncos))

**STOMP:** Despite our students learning in “bubbles”, Bayside will continue with our Positive Behavior Intervention Strategy (PBIS) called STOMP. Students will be reminded of the expectations for everyone in classrooms and public spaces (this is more important than ever before!). 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 five 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 health & safety of our students and staff. Our school is currently seeing an upgrade in the drainage system to eliminate flooding. Lead pipes dating back to the 1950s are being replaced with larger plastic pipes. Many of our windows have been replaced and new siding installed to combat leaks. These projects will end mid/late September and will cause minimal distraction to staff and students.

**New Staff:** We welcome the following staff members to Bayside: Mme. Perkins (Grade 8 FI), Mme. Briggs (Grade 6), Mr. Jorgensen (Grade 8), Ms. McDermott (Art), and Mr. Byrne (Grade 7 FI). Welcome back to Mr. McNutt who was on assignment with the District last year. He returns to Grade 7. We have one part-time teacher on staff. Mr. Bacon will be here on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings teaching Phys. Ed. We also welcome our new EAs: Ms. Furlong, Mrs. Bennett, Ms. Godsoe, Ms. Scott, Ms. McCollum, Ms. Boudreau, Ms. Dryden, and Ms. Steele. Mr. Creamer has joined our staff as the School Intervention Worker.

**Attendance Matters:** 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. However, we are asking parents to be diligent in their screening of their children prior to making the decision to send them to school. Information has been sent to you about the screening process. There will be occasions where it is in the best interest of your child, other students and staff to keep a symptomatic child home. For more information, check the Anglophone South website ([www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca)) and our school website [www.bayside.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.bayside.nbed.nb.ca) .

**Student Fees and Yearbooks:** Each year, the school collects a fee from families to support our positive learning environment and enrichment activities. The \$20.00 school fee pays for student IDs and helps supplement enrichment and field trip costs. Hopefully, we will be able to have a yearbook again this year. The cost of these books will be a separate charge of \$20.00. We offer a service called *Cashless Schools*. This is a convenient service that parents can use to pay for various school expenses. Please check out our website to register. We also accept cash and cheques.

Privacy Act- Your child was/will be 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: Morning buses unload at the gym doors. If you are driving your child or if he/she walks, they are to use the door facing Courtenay Avenue until 8:20 am. We request students being driven are dropped off and parents turn right directly on to Courtenay Avenue. Students are not to arrive to school 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. Any student arriving after 8:20 am will use the front door and proceed directly to his/her homeroom bubble. 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: Due the inability to guarantee physical distancing, our annual evening to meet our teaching staff has been cancelled for this school year. Those who wish to serve on the PSSC (Parent-School Support Committee) are asked to contact Mr. Laskey. We have 5 spots available.

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.

Policy 711: Policy 711 is the provincial policy regarding healthy eating habits at school. Our operational plan sees students eating in their classroom bubbles. This policy will apply to what is served in the cafeteria. Our cafeteria service, Chartwell's, will begin operations on October 5<sup>th</sup>. They will be taking orders on-line and items will be delivered to the classroom bubbles. We have cancelled our vending machines service due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Scent and Latex Free School: We are asking families to be sensitive to students and staff who are affected by strong scents and latex allergies. 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. Also, the residue from latex can lead to severe reactions.

Closed Campus: 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.

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](mailto:patrick.laskey@nbed.nb.ca) for more information.

Picture Day: Harvey Studios will be at Bayside on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> for Picture Day. All students will be invited to participate in their bubbles to have pictures taken. Harvey's has presented their Operational Plan to us to outline how they will conduct this day in a safe and orderly fashion.

School Sports and Other Activities- All co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are on hold for the time being. Our current focus is getting students familiar with routines to keep them safe and healthy during the regular school day. We will be reviewing the status of these activities on a frequent basis.

Final Thoughts: - I'm sure it goes without saying, please keep in mind that we are under the direction of NB Public Health because we continue to be in a pandemic situation. Schools will remain open as long as we all follow the very strict guidelines they have developed. In middle school, wearing of masks outside of bubbles is deemed mandatory and non-negotiable. Guidelines for physical distancing and washing/sanitizing hands have been explained. The screening process to be done at home is expected of all families. The reason why New Brunswickers are the envy of the world is because we are doing what is required to fight this virus. If we all work together, we will continue with this success!