

# THE RED HAWK REPORT

## River View Public School

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September 2023

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR! On behalf of the staff at River View, I would like to welcome back all our returning students and families. For our students and families new to River View, we are excited that you will be joining our 'Our Nest' this year. A new year is always filled with possibilities. At River View, we know that this year will be full of new learnings, new experiences, new opportunities, and new friendships. There is a great deal of information in this newsletter and I appreciate the time you are giving to reading all this information!

I encourage our families to visit the '[DSBN Welcome Back to school – Elementary Students](#)' webpage. You will find resources and answers to some questions you may have as you prepare for your child's return to school, including:

- a link to "[Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions](#)"
  - information about transportation
  - a link to the 2023/24 [Elementary School Year Calendar](#)

The first day of school brings life back to the building, such as seeing smiling students eager to share their summer tales and hearing excitement in the air as students settle into their new classrooms. Thank you to Ms. Foster and Ms. Konyi for the excellent job they have done this summer getting the school ready to greet our students.

Our amazing Riverview team of educators and support staff are here to keep our school safe as we begin our 2023-2024 'Learning Journey'! We are #Redhawksproud!

Ms. Sally Cocco and Mrs. Keely Martin

**DSBN School Year Calendar** – click on the [link](#) to access DSBN School Calendar.

As we start our school year, I invite you to share with me your family's most significant creed-based holiday(s). We will work together through the accommodation request process as Riverview Public School recognizes the importance of families celebrating their creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. The DSBN has created a [Family Guide: Recognizing and Respecting Creed Diversity](#) to support families in requesting accommodations. This guide has also been translated into the following languages; Arabic, French, Hungarian, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese, which can be viewed on the [DSBN Equity webpage](#). For a list of Days of Significance, please refer to the [Days of Significance Calendar](#).



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Date	Event
Aug. 28	School Office Opens
Sept. 4	Labour Day
Sept. 5	First Day of School
Sept. 19	Jr. Soccer Tournament
Sept. 22	Terry Fox Day <i>(wear red or Riverview School gear)</i>
Sept. 25	Cross Country Meet
Sept. 26	School Council Meeting
Sept. 27	Rowan's Law Day <i>(wear purple)</i> Int. Soccer Tournament
Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Gr. 7 Immunizations

### RIVERVIEW BELL TIMES

BELL TIMES	
8:50 – 9:10	Period 1
9:10 – 10:30	Period 2
10:30 – 11:10	Recess/Snack Break
11:10 – 12:00	Period 3
12:00 – 12:50	Period 4
12:50 – 1:30	Recess/Lunch Break
1:30 – 2:20	Period 5
2:20 – 3:10	Period 6
3:10	Dismissal

## MEET THE 2023-2024 RIVER VIEW STAFF

Ms. S. Cocco, Principal		Mrs. K. Martin, Vice-Principal	
Mrs. C. Lyndon, Secretary			
HOMEROOM TEACHERS		SUPPORT STAFF	
Kindergarten 1	Mrs. J. Bouchard Mrs. S. Pepin	Grade 6	Ms. L. Cook
Kindergarten 2	Mrs. K. Higgins Mrs. L. Schaefer	Grade 7/8	Mr. R. Machulla
Kindergarten 3	Ms. Keagan Mrs. Futino	Grade 7/8	Mrs. T. Benson
Grade 1	Ms. S. Newton	Grade 7/8	Ms. C. Rotella
Grade ½	Mrs. J. Hann	FSL	Mr. Z. Dekker Mrs. K. Bird
Grade 2	Ms. S. Gabriel	Prep Coverage	Ms. L. Derousie Mr. I. Kushniruk
Grade 2/3	Ms. S. Foster	LRT LRT-Intervention	Mr. VanLeeuwen Mrs. K. Friesen Mrs. Hallett
Grade 3	Mrs. D. Musgrave	Instructional Coach	Mr. J. Lambert
Grade 3/4	Ms. E. Bilon	Educational Assistants	Mrs. A. French Mr. A. Rjabokons Ms. K. Walker Mrs. L. Trim
Grade 4	Mrs. L. Hilborn	Youth Counselor	Ms. K. Welland
Grade 5	Mrs. K. Black	Social Workers	Mrs. J. Drury
Grade 5	Mr. R. Kitcher	Caretakers	Mrs. S. Foster Ms. J. Konyi Mr. O. Claros Castillo
Grade 6	Mr. A. Hall	Lunch Supervisors	Mr. D. Pester Mrs. C. Stonham

## CLASS ORGANIZATION

Please note that should our student enrolment increase or decrease during the first week of school, we may need to reorganize our classrooms to meet the primary class size cap of 20 students per classroom. It may be possible that your child may (or may not be) in the same classroom that they were assigned on the first day of school. I will keep you informed if student enrolment changes will result in a reorganization. I understand that this can cause some disruption and is a difficult process, but we will do our best to make the transition as smooth as possible. **Changes in class placements will only occur should a reorganization be necessary.**

## HOME TO SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

River View will be utilizing agendas again this year for students in Grades 1-6 to support communication between home and school. Our Intermediate students in Grades 7 and 8 will be using Google Classroom for assignments and reminders. Electronic communication through email or class platforms such as Google Classroom or D2L is encouraged. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher, parents are welcome to call the school to arrange a time to connect with the classroom teacher.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL?

We understand that many families like to purchase school supplies. As always, you are welcome to do this but please keep it simple (pencils, erasers, pencil crayons or markers, scissors, and a calculator for our students in Grade 6-8). However, the school will provide all necessary learning materials. If you need these items, many of our community partners will be providing schools with supplies. Please let the office know.

Please label all items with your child's name to ensure any lost items are returned to their owner.

Kindergarten	Grades 1-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A <b>BACKPACK</b> that is large enough to carry their lunch bag.</li> <li>○ <b>LUNCH</b> - Consider packing food in containers that can be easily opened by your child. Healthy snacks are encouraged.</li> <li>○ <b>REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE</b></li> <li>○ <b>HEADPHONES</b> to use with technology. Headphones that cover the ears work best. Place headphones in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc).</li> <li>○ <b>INDOOR RUNNING SHOES</b> that will be kept at school. (e.g. Velcro and slip on shoes preferred to encourage independence)</li> <li>○ <b>OUTER CLOTHING</b> (e.g., jacket, snow pants, etc.) appropriate for the weather.</li> <li>○ A <b>CHANGE OF CLOTHES</b> that will be kept in their locker. Place clothes in a labeled bag (e.g., a large Ziploc bag).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>OUTDOOR CLOTHING</b> - In addition to fitness breaks, a portion of your child's day will include outdoor learning and breaks for mask relief. Please send your child to school dressed for the weather.</li> <li>○ <b>PAIR OF INDOOR SHOES</b></li> <li>○ <b>REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE</b></li> <li>○ <b>LUNCH</b></li> <li>○ <b>BACKPACK</b></li> <li>○ <b>HAT AND SUNSCREEN</b></li> <li>○ You may choose to provide your child with some basic <b>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</b>; however, the school will supply all necessary learning materials.</li> <li>○ <b>HEADPHONES</b> to use with technology, in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Things my child should not bring to school from home:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Toys or stuffed animals</li> <li>● Any food containing any nut or nut product (please see <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b> information in the newsletter)</li> <li>● Shared foods (e.g., cupcakes, Timbits due to dietary restrictions)</li> <li>● Perfume or cologne products (please see <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b> information in the newsletter)</li> </ul>	

## MENTAL HEALTH FAMILY SUPPORTS

As the return to school approaches, most students typically experience a variety of emotions; some may be excited, others may be nervous or worried, and most will have mixed feelings. There are many ways that parents and caregivers can help prepare students for a mentally healthy return to school. The DSBN has compiled some high-quality, current resources, which are available on our website at [www.dsbn.org/programs-services/well-being/](http://www.dsbn.org/programs-services/well-being/). We encourage our families to visit the Parent Resources page frequently throughout the school year to access updated information.

## ENTRY AND DISMISSAL ROUTINES

Arrival to school	Kindergarten Entry and Dismissal
<p>Your child's safety is very important to the staff of River View Public School. Please note that morning supervision begins at <b>8:35</b> before school. <u>PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY</u>. We will be busy preparing for student arrivals. Parents will say goodbye at the school designated drop off area and staff will direct students to their class designated area. Teachers will be greeting their class communities outside at their class area every morning.</p> <p>For the safety and security of all students within our class communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision staff are on duty</li> <li>Students must be on time and follow all routines that support the well-being of the whole school.</li> <li>Parents are asked to say good-bye to their children at the school yard gates and allow them to enter the school yard to join their friends with the support and guidance of their teachers.</li> <li>The drop off area for Grade 1-8 students will be the gate close to the main entrance of the school. Kindergarten students will be dropped off in the gated area at the front of the school.</li> </ul>	<p>Our Kindergarten classes will be using the doors near the Kindergarten gate (Higgins/Keagan) or at the side of the building (Bouchard). If Kindergarten students arrive after the bell, parents will be asked to say good-bye to their child at the front doors and your child will be brought to their classroom by a staff member. In order to minimize direct and indirect contacts with staff and other students, parents will not be able to walk their child to class. If your Kindergarten child arrives by bus, they will be greeted at the bus stop by a staff member and brought to the Kindergarten staff.</p> <p>At the end of the day, students will be dismissed from the same doors as entry directly to parents/ guardians one at a time and when the teacher makes direct visual contact with each parent. Bus students will be directly guided to their waiting location by school staff and be monitored until they board the bus, where they will sit in their assigned seat.</p>
Grade 1-8 Dismissal	Attendance
<p>All students in Grade 1-8 will be escorted by their teacher for dismissal. Bus students are supervised at 3:10 p.m. until they have boarded their buses for home. Bus students will be supervised and will be meeting at our bus loading area. Staff will escort bus students to the loading zone and to the bus. Please note that our parking lot can get crowded during dismissal time. We encourage students that are eligible for transportation to take the bus. This helps to limit the amount of traffic in our parking lot during dismissal. If you do need to pick up your child, please exercise patience!</p>	<p>Attendance is taken twice daily. Please help us to ensure the safety of our students by reporting your child's absence or if they will be arriving late to school. Your co-operation in calling will assist our secretary immensely. If we do not hear from you, we will call you either at home, on your cell, your place of employment and your emergency contacts. Students who arrive late to school (morning or afternoon) must report to the office. In order to minimize classroom disruptions and to honour the learning in the classroom, parents will not be able to escort their child to their classroom. A staff member will meet the child at the front door and will ensure the child gets safely to their class.</p> <p>How can I report my child's absence or late arrival? Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. Using the <a href="#">Safe Arrival</a> system, parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call toll-free before bell time: 1-866-606-5567</li> <li>2. Logging on to the web portal (<a href="https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login">https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login</a>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.</li> <li>3. Using your smart phone or tablet. Simply <a href="#">download the SchoolMessenger app</a>. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.</li> </ol> <p>Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://dsbn.org/safearrival/">https://dsbn.org/safearrival/</a></p> <p>Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://dsbn.org/safearrival/">https://dsbn.org/safearrival/</a></p> <p>If you are changing your child's pick-up time, the office must know by 2:30 pm as it gets busy near the end of the day and some classes may be extending their learning outside at that time.</p>
Fitness and Nutrition Breaks	
<p>All students will have two 40-minute breaks each day, consisting of a 20-minute fitness and 20-minute nutrition break, supervised by staff. Break times are the following 10:30-11:10am and 12:50-1:30pm. Supervised by a staff member, students in grades 1-8 will have a 20-minute nutrition break to eat lunch. Due to a variety of dietary restrictions within our community, we ask that students not share food. More information will follow about pizza days and our milk program.</p> <p>During their fitness break, students will engage in 20-minutes of outdoor time. Primary and Junior/Intermediate students will have staggered fitness and nutrition breaks to allow for appropriate supervision on the school yard.</p>	

## MAP OF ENTRY AND DISMISSAL GATES



## SEPTEMBER SPIRIT DAYS

Our Red Hawks will be recognizing the following dates with some special activities. We encourage all our students to participate. For our spirit days, we love creativity!

Date	Spirit Day	Purpose of the Day
Friday, September 22	Terry Fox Day – River View Spirit Day	We will honour Terry Fox and support cancer research through our annual Terry Fox walk which will take place on the school grounds. We challenge all students to wear their River View colours (red, black and/or white) on this day. <a href="#">If you would like to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation, please click here and you can donate on behalf of our Woodland Wolves.</a>
Wednesday, September 27	Rowan's Law Day - Wear Purple	<p>Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers, or coaches.</p> <p>Rowan's Law and Rowan's Law Day were established to honour her memory and bring awareness to concussions and concussion safety. We wear purple on this day as this was Rowan's favourite colour.</p>
Friday, September 29	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation  Wear Orange	<p>National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of Residential School survivor Phyllis Webstad's account of having her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. The initiative calls for every Canadian to wear an orange shirt in the spirit of healing and reconciliation. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes and placed in residential schools, and because it provides an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year.</p> <p>On Friday, September 29, please join our school staff in wearing an orange shirt. We hope to see all of our students and many community members wearing orange on September 29.</p>



Parents' Corner	
Important Forms to Sign	School Cash Online
<p>Most of our very important back to school forms will be sent home the first day of school. The back-to-school forms that are required to be returned include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Student Verification Information Form (please see below)</li> <li>✓ Permission to Participate – DSBN Curricular (Physical Education) Athletic Program form</li> <li>✓ an “Information Technology Digital Citizenship Agreement” which must be signed in order for students to use technology within the school.</li> </ul> <p>The student verification form is a printout of your child’s information on file. Please check this and make any changes, fill in any missing information and return it to the school promptly. In the interest of health and safety, it is important that students’ medical and personal information is updated each year.</p>	<p>We know that you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect your valuable time, we’d like to make it a little easier and less time consuming for you to connect with our school. With <a href="#">School Cash Online</a>, you will be able to approve permission forms and make payments for any of these items online. Understanding that we’re quickly becoming a cashless society, we know it can sometimes be a challenge to find exact change for items and then send it to school through your child’s backpack. Using <a href="#">School Cash Online</a>, you’ll be able to use your debit, credit card or cheque to make quick and easy payments online. It will also allow you to track payments made and receive an invoice for your purchases. As we are trying to minimize papers travelling between school and home, we encourage all families to register for <a href="#">School Cash Online</a>. We will be using this platform to send out important beginning of the year information that you can approve with the click of a button!</p> <p><a href="#">School Cash Online</a> is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. The system is already active. You are able to gain access through the <a href="#">School Cash</a> button which has been placed on our <a href="#">school website</a>. We are asking that you click on the button and follow the simple instructions to register. Registration should take less than five minutes. If you registered last year, you do not need to register again! If you require some assistance registering for <a href="#">School Cash Online</a>, please visit the office and we will be happy to help get you set-up and ready to go!</p>
School Advisory Council – Let Your Voices be Heard	
<p>We understand that the partnership between home and school is vital to your child’s success. We would love to have you join our River View School Advisory Council. Over the past year, our school council meetings have taken place virtually. We are excited to be able to meet in person moving forward. Our first meeting will be happening on <b>Tuesday, September 26 at 5:30pm</b>. <a href="#">Please fill in the following google form</a> if you are interested in joining us and if you are interested in any of the elected positions. We are required to have a minimum of 4 meetings per school year but may schedule additional meetings depending on the needs of council. Meetings are usually held on a Tuesday evening. We would love to have as many parents participate as possible! Also, if you are interested in a position on the school council, the nomination form can be completed through this survey as well. Elections for positions will be held during the meeting on September 26, 2023.</p>	
Prevalent Medical Condition	Anaphylaxis – Be Nut Aware!
<p>If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to complete a Plan of Care and submit to the school. These forms will be sent home with children during the first week of school for parents to review and send back to the school. For more information, please contact the school.</p>	<p>Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing peanuts or other nut products with your child.</p>

## SO MANY WAYS TO STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE** – <https://riverview.dsbnsd.org/>

Please take some time to visit the River View Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times.

### **SCHOOL MESSENGER**

Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive emails with reminders and important information or reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information.

**SOCIAL MEDIA** - Please follow us on these social media platforms ([Instagram](#)) to see updates on exciting events. All posts and tweets will be updated on our school website as well. We are #riverviewschoolchippawa