

September 2021

BOYNE RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL

117 John W. Taylor Avenue, Alliston, ON L9R 0E7

Phone: 705-435-4639 www.byrschools.on.ca

Principal: Stephanie Jacklin



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Vice Principal: Lynne Stewart



From the desk of Ms. Jacklin...

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year Coyotes!

We would like start by welcoming several new staff members to our team. In the office, Ms. Kyle will be helping Ms. Hollingshead while Ms. Bornino is on a temporary leave. We have several new classroom teachers this year. We welcome Nicole Graham who is teaching Grade 7/8 and Ms. Mackenzie who will be teaching Grade 4 Learn@Home. We welcome back Ms. Hogarth in grade 3, Ms. Glass in grade 1 and Ms. Navarro who will be teaching French until Mme. McNab's return. In Kindergarten, Ms. Martin will be working with Ms. Shane and Ms. Downey-Oriano and Ms. Deng will join us adding a 7th kindergarten class until turnaround. Ms. Davidson has joined us in the Learning Centre and Ms. Noel has returned after taking a leave last school year. Ms. Cap will also be helping out our Special Education team. We are excited to add to our incredibly dedicated and talented team at Boyne River.

We are once again committed to a safe return to school for our students. We will maintain most of our protocols from last year including daily screening for all staff, mask wearing indoors, hand hygiene and as much physical distancing as possible. Students will remain in cohorts and we will maximize outdoor learning opportunities. A change this year is that cohorts are permitted to use the gym and library spaces. We will continue to have virtual field trips and assemblies. We are maintaining cleaning protocols including more frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces. HEPA filter units have been added to our kindergarten classrooms. Visitors and volunteers are not permitted into the school to reduce contact with our students and staff. We will continue our close partnership with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to support the newly released contact tracing protocols. We know that families and students are eager to experience face to face learning and social interaction and we are committed to making the return to school as safe as possible.

On September 2 and 3, school staff were busy in the school preparing for the year. We held synchronous and asynchronous learning sessions highlighting important areas of focus this year including Health and Safety, Mental Health, Literacy, Numeracy and Assessment. I can't thank Ms. Hollingshead and Ms. Kyle enough as they worked so hard this week with ongoing registrations to ensure that classes were ready for start-up. Our custodial staff have worked hard to prepare all areas of the school so that classrooms and common areas were ready to welcome students. We thank you, our Boyne River families, for your ongoing support and flexibility as we prioritize safety and mental health while also working to support student achievement this school year.

Stephanie Jacklin
Principal



Dates to Remember

Thanksgiving: Oct 11



Safe Arrival

Please ensure that you call the safe arrival phone line even when students are doing remote learning (705-435-4639, press 1) if your student(s) is/are absent or will be late.

Make certain that you ring the doorbell upon arrival to sign your child in/out with the office to ensure your child's whereabouts is communicated clearly! We will be calling all contacts for students with an unexplained absences.



September 2021 Bell Time Change

Each year the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) and Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) review the transportation services provided to SCDSB students in order to ensure the safe, efficient and cost-effective delivery of transportation services, bus routes and school start and end times.

As a result of this annual review, the SCSTC, the independent organization responsible for the delivery of transportation services in Simcoe County, recently recommended changes to bell times for several Simcoe County schools. Changing the start and end times for the school day enables the SCSTC to create efficiencies and cost-savings. Beginning in September 2021, Boyne River start and end times will be changing. Our first bell will ring at 9:25 a.m. and school will dismiss at 3:45 p.m. Students eligible for transportation will receive letters in the spring through the school from the SCSTC, indicating their new pick-up and drop-off times. Our 2021-2022 school day schedule will be updated to reflect these changes. These changes have been made in accordance with SCDSB Policy 2410, Transportation of



Safety measures in schools

We want to assure you that the health and well-being of our students and staff remains our top priority. We are in regular contact with our local health authority, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), and we continue to take their direction on all matters related to COVID-19. Please visit the COVID-19 Return to School page on the SMDHU website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for additional information.

The following health and safety measures will be implemented in our schools.

Masking:

-Students from Kindergarten (JK and SK) through Grade 12 will be required to wear masks while indoors.

-Staff will be required to wear masks while indoors.

Enhanced Health and Safety Protocols:

-Hand sanitizer will be provided in each classroom for student and teacher use.

-Students will receive training on proper hand hygiene including instructions on hand washing and sanitizing.

Ventilation

-Standalone high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter units will be placed in all schools without mechanical ventilation.

-HEPA filter units will be placed in all standalone Kindergarten classrooms.

Enhanced Cleaning:

-Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting at least twice a day of frequently touched surfaces and shared resources such as doorknobs, light switches, toilets and faucet handles.

-Buses will be sanitized twice daily with frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces.

Physical Distancing:

-Directional arrows and signage will be utilized in schools to support physical distancing measures.

-Schools will have designated entry and exit doors and staggered entry and exit times.



Self-assessment

All students and staff will be required to complete the daily COVID-19 self-assessment prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings, using the provincial self-assessment tool. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>.

Character Attribute for the month of September

Caring:

We show kindness towards each other. More information about Character Education can be found here:
www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education



No visitor access

As we transition into the return to school routine this fall, following the direction from our local health authority, the SMDHU, visitors are not permitted within SCDSB schools at this time. Parents/guardians may ring the doorbell at elementary schools to receive assistance.

Instructions for when children become sick at school

Parents/guardians will be asked to provide multiple contacts who will be available to pick up their child(ren) in the event that they become ill while at school.

Children who become ill while at school will not be able to travel on a bus home for the protection of the other riders

Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at our school and at the SCDSB. Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at http://***.scdsb.on.ca. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It is easy to subscribe –visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe.' A message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb). (also include your school social media account information here if you have active accounts) For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's website at main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at simcoecountyschoolbus.caf or bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days

Procedures help keep our school safe

We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below;
- reminding them that emergencies are rare; and,
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations.

Parents/guardians should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

•**Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off temporarily.

•A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all exterior doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

•A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Interior doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents/guardians do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media. •

All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents/guardians will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.

When parents/guardians are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents/guardians may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent/guardian care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. Please note the following:

•Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** and wait for assistance. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, so please be patient.**

•Staff must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students. •

We ask parents/guardians to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.

•At least two staff members in every school are trained in first aid and CPR. All SCDSB schools have **Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

