

## WELCOME BACK!

We would like to wish a warm welcome back to all Staff, students and their families and a special welcome to all those Staff, students and families who are new and returning to Riverview School. We welcome the Grade 3-8 students and their families from McCrosson-Tovell who have joined Riverview. It has been a fantastic start to a new school year with many new faces!

We welcome returning teaching staff: Hillary Nordberg, Kim Nussbaumer, Sarah McInerney, Morgan Haw, and Melissa Jensen. Leslie Johnson will be joining us this year to support the Grade 8 room, Julie Indian will be joining us to support the Grade 5 /6 room and the Grade 7 room, and Melanie Bragg will also be joining us to support the Kindergarten room. We welcome Pam Pearson, who will be returning to Riverview. Our administration team returning is Kelly Agar, Principal of RHS, myself, Kari-Lynn Beckett, Principal of Riverview/McCrosson-Tovell and Donna Osadchuk, Vice-Principal, supporting all three schools.

We have been busy preparing our school and classrooms to provide a safe and inviting environment. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We value your input and are looking forward to a great year!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Mrs. Beckett and Mrs. Osadchuk**

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

When your child is absent from school, please call 852-3561 or text 271-0787 to let us know the reason for late or absence and the length of their absence. If you do not call the school and your child has been marked absent, you will be called at your contact phone numbers in order to ensure your child is home.

## Upcoming Events:

School Council Meeting	Sept 18 @ 4:30pm
Picture Day	Sept 20
Gr 7/8 Immunization Clinic	Sept 21
Terry Fox Run	Sept 22
Open House	Sept 26 @ 4:30-6:00pm
Rowan's Law Day	Sept 27
Orange Shirt Day	Sept 29
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Sept 30



## Our Staff

Principal	Kari Lynn Beckett
Vice Principal	Donna Osadchuk
Secretary	Madeline Hartnell
Grade JK/SK	Melissa Nordin
Kindergarten ECE	Gabe Langlais
Grade 1/2/3	Melissa Jensen
Grade 4/5	Hillary Nordberg
Grade 5/6	Morgan Haw
Grade 7	Bev Arpin
Grade 8	Michelle Van Beek
French/Prep	Kim Nussbaumer
Spec. Ed/Prep	Sarah McInerney
Library	Alicia Anderson
Communication	Heather Anderson
EA	Pam Pearson
EA	Sherri Kreger
EA	Shelley McDonald
EA	Marilyn Cole
EA	Lisa Lundgren
EA	Leslie Johnson
EA	Dawn Beyak
EA	Julie Indian
EA	Melanie Bragg
Autism Support Person	Marlee Zappitelli
RRDSB Counsellor	Selene LeBlanc
Custodian	Clint Jensen
Custodian	Claudette Scott
Custodian	Benji Dobransky

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## Breakfast Program

Once again this year we are offering the Breakfast Program. The free breakfast will be offered every morning. Ms. Kreger is our lead in that program along with Mrs. Kreger who volunteers daily to come and help. As with any program it takes dedicated people to make it happen. If you would be willing to volunteer to help out please let Mrs. Beckett know. Many thanks.

## Microwaves

Each classroom has one microwave for students to heat or reheat lunch items. **We would ask that parents do not give students full microwaveable meals that take more than 1 minute to cook as it does not allow time for everyone to use the microwave.** It should be used for short duration, only. We also ask that you only send food items that students are able to open themselves and do not require assistance.



## Safe Welcome

The Safe Welcome Program supports a welcoming learning environment by ensuring that parents and other authorized visitors can access elementary schools while keeping students and staff safe.

The aim of the Safe Welcome Program is to increase safety for both staff and students by locking the front door of the school during the day. Visitors will be required to press a buzzer to request access. Staff in the main office will be able to see and speak to the visitor, and release the door lock to provide access. We continue to ask visitors to sign in at the school's office.

We recognize that many parents come to pick up their children at the end of the day and ask that you remain outside until the bell rings at 3:15pm.

Thank you for your continued support for the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff in our school.

## No Shellfish, Cashews, & Pistachio Products

We have updated our fish & Nut policy to reflect the allergies of staff and students within our school. Students are able to bring peanut butter to school but we ask that all parents, guardians and students be mindful to check all labels to ensure it does not contain cashew or pistachio products of any kind. We thank you for your continued support of all staff and students health.

## CELL PHONES

For the students' well-being we are encouraging parents not to send PEDs (Personal Electronic Devices) from home, like iPhones, because they will not be allowed during the instructional day. The RRDSB provides all students devices to use during the school day as the teacher deems necessary. Our goal is to have them engaged in the lessons during class so they can experience success. During recess, we want them active for their well-being. We also want to protect your child(ren) from having someone take pictures of them. **Should they have the cell phones on during school the following steps will be taken.**

- 1st time—friendly reminder to put it away
- 2nd time—taken away and returned to student at the end of the day
- 3rd time—brought to the office, student can collect at the end of the day
- 4th time—brought to the office, parents must collect from the office

**Thanks so much for your support!**

## SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

School Councils play an important role in student success. We encourage a strong partnership between the school and your family. School Councils help parents become actively involved in the education of their children. School Councils help good schools become better. Information related to connecting to the meeting will be posted on the school webpage. Please stay tuned for the first School Council meeting date shortly.

## MEDICATION INFORMATION CHANGE

The school cannot administer medication to a student without a signed authorization from parents/ guardians and the prescribing doctor. If your child needs to be given medication during the school day contact the school to access the necessary forms. A reminder that staff members cannot administer any medication that is not prescribed by a medical practitioner

## Riverview School Handbook

Please review our School Code of Conduct for all other school information on our website and here:

[RIV code of conduct 2023-2024.pdf \(sharpschool.com\)](https://www.riverviewschool.com/riv-code-of-conduct-2023-2024.pdf)



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# LIFE PROMOTION INTERVENTION PROCESS



**Active suicide attempts are medical emergencies.  
In the event you are responding to an active suicide attempt:  
Take the following steps immediately:**

- ✓ Call 911
- ✓ Remove the means of self-harm if it is safe to do so
- ✓ Do not leave the student alone
- ✓ Notify the Principal or person in charge

## RECOGNIZE & REPORT RISK

- When the immediate safety of student or others is uncertain: **call 911.**
- Warning signs for suicide are present or student explicitly states thoughts of suicide.
- The student remains in the presence of a caring adult.
- The school Principal, Vice Principal or Person-in-Charge is notified.

## DETERMINE ACTIONS

- When more information is needed: speak with the student.
- When suicide risk is present: notify parent/guardians and, between the two, make a decision of whether to contact Children's Mental Health.
- The parent/guardian or the school to contact the Children's Mental Health receptionist who will forward the call to the Clinician scheduled for suicide risk assessment coverage that day. **(1-800-465-1100)**

## CONTACT PARENTS

- Parents/guardians are contacted and notified about suicide risk concern.
- Information is provided to parent/guardians regarding possible next steps and/or steps already taken to help keep their child safe.
- Parent/guardian agrees to school arranging for a suicide risk assessment or takes over care of their child.
- If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the school will act in parentis locum.

## REVIEW RISK & SAFETY PLAN

- Student meets with someone trained in suicide intervention (i.e. KRRCSF/Weechi-it-te-win), risk is reviewed and a safety plan is made **OR** parents take charge of the child.
- When necessary, a student may receive immediate care through their family doctor or by attending a hospital emergency department.
- Clinician liaises with parents/guardians and the school to complete "Suicide Intervention Documentation Form."

## FOLLOW UP

- "Suicide Intervention Documentation Form" is securely stored in the Administrator's office and a copy shared with Mental Health Leader.
- School completes "Student Support & Safety Plan" and monitors progress.
- School Administration continues communication with parent/guardians and other appropriate caregivers (i.e. children's mental health facility).
- Repeat sequence if the student returns to thoughts of suicide.

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# Mental Health Memo

## Coping With Back to School Anxiety



Anxious feelings are normal and expected in children and teens when returning to school, changing schools, or for those starting Kindergarten. Transition back to school can be stressful and disruptive for the entire family.

Common things that anxious children and teens worry about related to school include, teachers, friends, fitting in, and/or being away from their parents.

Consider these 5 steps to deal with back-to-school worries:

- Take care of the basics- ensure your child gets enough sleep, eats healthy foods, and exercises regularly.
- Provide empathy- listen to their worries and why they expect these things to happen.
- Problem solve- help them to plan how they can cope with difficult situations.
- Focus on the positive- re-direct your child to those things they are looking forward to about school.
- Pay attention to your own behaviour- model calm and confidence.

While worrying about back-to-school is normal, it is important to ensure your child attends regularly. Skipping school will actually increase their fears because they miss the opportunities to dispel their worries and the chance for success and mastery of academic and social skills.

Check out the 12-step back to school checklist for parents from Anxiety Canada:

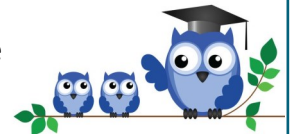
<https://www.anxietycanada.com/articles/our-12-step-back-to-school-checklist-for-parents/>

For more information, please contact the RRDSB Mental Health Leader: [tracey.idle@rrdsb.com](mailto:tracey.idle@rrdsb.com)

### The School Day

**8:30 Supervision Begins**  
**8:40 Warning Bell to Come In**  
**8:45 Classes start 1<sup>st</sup> block**  
**10:25 Start 1<sup>st</sup> Nutrition Break**  
**11:10 Second Block**  
**12:50 2<sup>nd</sup> Nutrition Break**  
**1:35 Classes begin 3<sup>rd</sup> block**  
**3:15 Dismissal**

Student Verification Forms will be coming home with students. It is very important that these are completed as soon as possible. Not only does it ensure that our school office has the correct information on file for your child, but it also provides consent for students to have their photos taken. As school pictures are taken at the beginning of the school year, schools must receive this consent. The verification form can be completed using the PowerSchool Parent Portal or by filling in and signing the paper copy. If you need help creating an account on the portal, please contact the school office.



## September 2023 Riverview School Newsletter Draw

My/our child(ren) (please list childrens' names)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, brought home this newsletter.

1. Why don't we want students to have cell phones in class and recess ? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What day is the Terry Fox Run for Riverview? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What time does supervision start in the morning? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

*Please cut off the bottom and return to the office or email your answers to [madeline.hartnell@rrdsb.com](mailto:madeline.hartnell@rrdsb.com) by Friday, September 22nd to be eligible for the draw.  
This publication is available in accessible formats upon request.*

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