



# Bellview Public School

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April 27, 2020

## Message from the Principal

As you know, the Minister of Education announced the extension to May 31, 2020 for all publically funded schools in Ontario to remain closed to students, and staff. As we continue with teacher-led learning online, through email or with work packages, I wanted to check-in with you and provide some helpful information.

Classroom teachers and school staff continue with learning materials provided for our students using Brightspace, emails, or through weekly work packages. Thanks to the supportive efforts of both parents and staff, we have been able to maintain regular contact with most of our Bellview students. I recognize that as we navigate this unprecedented way of delivering learning at home and remotely, there will be challenges, disruptions, and frustration. The staff commit to doing our best each day, to support our students and families in their learning at home, accessing materials and by providing tasks that are manageable, and relevant.

### Privacy:

The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to the protection of personal information to which it is entrusted, and to the individuals' right to privacy regarding personal information that is collected, used, disclosed, and retained in the school system. Along with this message, you will find an attachment entitled "*Supporting and Securing Students Online at Home,*" which provides further information on privacy during distance learning.

### Educator-Student Interaction in Distance Education:

Interactions during distance learning are expected to be courteous, respectful and will uphold the same expectations for Code of Conduct for students, staff and parents/guardians, as those while we are in attendance at school. All Distance Learning entails technical skills, device functionality, professional judgement of educators, and digital citizenship (attached) of students. These expectations are outlined in *Policy SO12-Code of Conduct*, and extend to Distance Education and involve interactions between educators, students and parents during school closures. When communicating with classroom staff, please consider how we can engage in supportive conversations that promote student achievement and well-being. Please communicate questions, comments or concerns through the regular mode of communication you have pre-arranged in consultation with the classroom teacher.

To help with balancing work and home responsibilities for our families and staff, I ask that communication with school staff take place during regular school hours, Monday to Friday, unless there are emergency situations that arise.



SUCCESS for Every Student

*Student Transitions:*

The Ontario Ministry of Education will be providing direction to school boards regarding special education processes, timelines and student transition planning shortly. With the extension to May 31-20 for school closures, please rest assured that we will be sure to communicate the school's transition plan for students with special education needs who are moving grades and panels (Elementary to Secondary), before the end of June 2020.

*Comings and Goings:*

Mrs. Kelly Tully-Herron (Grade 1 / 2) will be moving to a new school starting on May 1, 2020. We wish her all the very best in her new position, and know that she will be missed at Bellview. Starting on May 1, 2020, we welcome Ms. Kimberly Wilhelm to Bellview as our Grade 1/2 classroom teacher. She has been working closely with Ms. Tully to transition to her new role, so as to avoid any interruptions to student learning.

Please don't hesitate to communicate with the classroom teacher, or call the school office and leave us a message to let us know if there is anything we can do to support you and your family during this challenging time. With the advice and approval of the Medical Officer of Health, Mrs. Malby and I are in the school for short-periods of time each week to organize materials for home use, check-in with families, and to support school staff, students and parents. Please feel free to call the school phone number, (519) 752-7414 and leave us a message. We are collecting our messages a few times a week, and will be happy to call you back as soon as we can.

In the meantime, continue to connect, be well, and stay safe!

Sincerely,

Mrs. J. Marry

Principal



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