



September 2020

## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to a new school year! We are very excited to welcome our students back to school. While there will be many differences in the way the school day unfolds this year, the one thing that has not changed is our enthusiasm for spending time with our students. The excitement in the building has been growing over the last couple of weeks as teachers have prepared their classrooms and their lessons in anticipation of the young people who will be returning to work with us. We are excited too, to meet and get to know those families who are joining us for the very first time.

All of the staff at Bloomsburg P. S. have been working hard to prepare the school for the safe and happy return of all of our students. As well as preparing classrooms, the teachers have been participating in professional development on the topics of Health and Safety, Mental Health and Well Being, Safe Schools and the new Mathematics curriculum.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

**September 10 – Students with last names A-L begin school**

**September 11 – Students with last names M-Z begin school**

**September 14 - Students with last names A-L attend**

**September 15 - Students with last names M-Z attend**

**September 16 – All students attend**



## **Arrival Routines**

With the safety concerns that Covid 19 present, we are doing things differently at Bloomsburg P. S. this year. We are making every effort to keep students safely distanced from each other at school. This includes on the yard as well as in the hallways and in the classrooms.

When students arrive at school on the bus, they will get off the buses and walk, distancing themselves to their specific area on the school yard. Walkers should go directly to their classroom cohort area. Parents who are walking their child to the “dumpster line” for drop-off will need to ensure they are maintaining 2 metre physical distance from staff and other parents/students and wearing a mask. Non-bused students should arrive between 8:35-8:45am.

**\*\*On your child’s first day, all staff will be outside helping your child find their teacher.**

## **Dismissal Routines**



Students will be dismissed at 3:05 p.m. For students who do not ride the bus, students will be exiting via the east doors. Parents of “pick- ups” can wait at the “dumpster line” and staff of primary students will ensure pick up directly to parents. Please be prompt. But also, please be patient as this may take a little extra time while staff learn to recognize you with a mask on. Please don’t be offended if we ask for ID if staff are unsure of who you are – we are simply trying to ensure our students’ safety. Remember not to park in the bus driveways or staff parking lot. **Parents are reminded about maintaining social distancing and wearing a mask when they pick up their children.** Walkers must leave at dismissal time.

## **New Procedure**

Our primary focus is to ensure the safety of staff and children attending. Additional health and safety precautions have been put in place to minimize the risk of COVID-19 while participating at school. In order to provide the highest level of care and safety, Bloomsburg will follow guidelines set out by our Health and Safety Committee and the local Health Unit. We ask that you thoroughly read and strictly adhere to these guidelines to assist us in minimizing risks.

In order to minimize physical contact between children and staff and encourage physical distancing, it is imperative that your child is responsible enough to strictly adhere to the guidelines outlined below when attending school. We ask that parents discuss these guidelines with their child prior to attending to help them understand

what COVID is, why it is important to follow these guidelines, and to help prepare them for school.

### **Screening**

Parents will be expected to screen their child daily prior to attending school. Is/has your child or anyone in your family:

1. Showing signs or symptoms of respiratory infection, such as cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
2. Experiencing a fever with a temperature of 38C or higher, or taken any fever reducing medications in the last 12 hours?
3. Experiencing any flu-like symptoms including diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
4. Travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?
5. Been in contact with anyone that has displayed symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

**Student are not to come to school if they are experiencing any of the above symptoms and or do not pass the online COVID screening. (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>)**

### **PERSONAL ITEMS AT SCHOOL**

Students are reminded that we discourage bringing personal items to school that have personal or monetary value. Particularly during this time, we discourage any extra possessions being brought to school. Students will be keeping all of their belongings at their desks/tables so we need to have only the minimum required brought to school.

### **Attendance**

Please advise the school by 9:00 a.m. if your child will be late or absent. Phone messages can be left at any time, day or night, at **519-426-0942**.

Students who are late arriving will need be buzzed in the main doors, use hand sanitizer (while supervised) and a staff member will escort young students to their class. Parents can verbally "sign them in" when they buzz the door.

### **School closed to non-essential persons**

At this time parents/guardians, volunteers and non-essential persons are not able to enter our school. If you need to pick up your child early, please call the school office. We will have your child waiting for you at the front doors. Please call to let us know you

are here. If you do not have a cell phone, please use the buzzer at the main doors to let Mrs. Hyde-Dawson know you are here. We will dismiss your child out the front doors. Students will use hand sanitizer prior to leaving.

### **NEW!!!! Bloomsburg Public School Daily Schedule**

**8:45**-10:25 Instructional Block One  
10:25 Break  
11:05-12:45 Instructional Block Two  
12:45 Break  
1:25-3:05 Instructional Block Three  
**3:05** Dismissal  
3:05 Bus Cohort Recess and Bus Loading



### **HARASSMENT POLICY STATEMENT**

The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free of harassment, which supports productivity and the personal goals of dignity and self-esteem of every individual. The Board expects all students, staff and visitors to behave in a respectful, courteous and appropriate manner at all times. The Board will not tolerate any forms of harassment. The Board will respond to all forms of unacceptable behaviour in a manner consistent with the Board policy and Procedure on Harassment and the response will be appropriate to the harassment incident. To view this policy/procedure, please visit the Board's website at [www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca), select the drop-down menu titled 'Board', the 'Bylaws, Policies and Procedures', then 'Policies' and finally 'HR5'.

### **Accident Insurance Requirements for Students**

Student accident coverage is recommended and voluntary for parents to consider for their child. It is important for parents to understand that the Board does not provide insurance for students against any accidental death, disability, dismemberment or medical expenses that might occur as a result of accident during school activities, including sporting events and field trips.

*Insure My Kids* protection plan is made available to parents, at low cost, to provide benefits for dental injuries and other accidents which may occur through participating in high-risk activities. In fact, there are options in the package for coverage outside of school hours including holidays and weekends. Please see the brochure for information or visit [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

Many parents may have accidental coverage as part of their employers benefit plan. It's important for parents to review their plans to make sure they have the necessary coverage for high-risk activities. Parents may want to consider purchasing additional personal coverage to reduce the anxiety associated from an injury to their child.

**Regardless of your choice, a form will be sent home with EVERY student. It must be signed and returned to the school.**



## Allergies and Sensitivities



Please be aware that we have students and staff with allergies and/or sensitivities to peanuts and scents. Please respect our need to keep everyone safe at school, and do not send peanut products to school. **Peanut butter substitutes, including Wow Butter are also prohibited within our school.** In addition, please leave scented products at home when you are coming to our school. We very much appreciate your cooperation with these policies.

## Student Information Updates

Student information forms will be sent home early in September. Please update the form using a **red or coloured pen** and send it in to the school promptly so we have current information pertaining to your child. We would like an accurate e-mail address in which to reach you throughout the year with timely information, in an effort to reduce paper usage in our school.



## School Cash Online

### **ONLINE PAYMENTS AVAILABLE NOW !!!**

For safety and efficiency, Hot Lunch and Milk is being offered exclusively through Cash Online. Come to the office should you need any assistance.

### **Parents please register NOW!**

#### **Here's how:**

**Step 1:** Go to this website: <https://bloomsburg.schoolcashionline.com>

**Step 2:** Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps

**Step 3:** After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

