



Northdale Public School

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Christine Kramer, Principal Julie Pulley, Vice-Principal
Dennis Wright, Superintendent Barb Yeo / Bill MacKinnon – Trustees



Staffing Update

We are excited to be welcoming additional Noon Hour Supervisors and Greeters to our STAR staff. Jenny Fenske and Lindsay Panchal. We do anticipate adding a few more over the coming weeks as they complete their COVID training.

We welcome Jen Carriere as part of our Education Assistant team for afternoons only, while Ms. Elliott is away.

School Council News

Our first meeting was held virtually on Thursday, September 17th @6:30pm. I am happy to introduce your new School Council Executive:

Sean Noon – Chairperson

Tricia Friesen – Vice-Chairperson

Ariel Noon – Treasurer

Andera Waters – Secretary

Penny Nowak – Communication Coordinator

Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 5th @6:30pm. We are required to have a minimum of 4 meetings a year. More information to come after our October meeting.

Safe Arrival and Pick up Procedure

Safety of our children is always our guiding principle when making any school community decisions. This year is no exception but there are many additional protocols that are in place that we must all abide by.

All schools are required to lock their exterior doors as there is limited access to the building, as directed by the Ministry of Education. All visitors to the building are asked to come to the front entrance. You will notice that we have signs at our front door with our school phone number 519-537-5761 and we now have a doorbell to alert office staff.

We will have 3 drop off and pick up locations around the school for those students who are accompanied by parents/guardians. The fenced in playground area is for students and staff ONLY. No parents/visitors are permitted onto the school playground during school operating hours (8:45am-3:40pm). If your student is not ready to come to school, please feel free to keep them with you at the gate. We recommend coming as close to 9am if you or your student are anxious about this transition time. Gates will be open, and the playground will be supervised, starting at 8:45-9am and again at pickup from 3:30-3:40pm. Please support us in our efforts to follow the public health unit protocols of social distancing and contact tracing. We recommend parents wear their masks and keep social distanced. Thank you!

Please note that our students will be lined up alphabetically by last name for both entry and exit. For primary students, teachers may assign students a number to assist with this process.

1. Kindergarten students (students in Mrs. McLeod/Mrs. Ykema, Ms. Thomas/Mrs. Robblee, or Mrs. Hicks class) will be dropped off and picked up at the gate on the west side of the building closest to the front doors of the school. Mrs. Hicks class will be picked up at the set of doors to the left of the front door of the school.
2. Primary students (students in grades 1-3) will be dropped off and picked up at the gate on the southside of the playground that faces onto Brant Street.
3. Junior/Intermediate students (students in grades 4-8) will be dropped off and picked up at the gate to the north side of the school and walk onto the fenced in playground area.
4. If your student is biking/walking or scootering they are permitted to enter the playground area on the northside of the school by the doors (not within the fenced area). They are asked to park their bike or walk their scooter once they are on school property.

Student Transportation Services (STS) shared this great map of our school community to show how long it would take to arrive safely at our school if walking. I am also including 2 graphics that were shared on safety for students who are walking to school.

NORTHDAL PS (WDSK)

Walk-A-Block Map



Let's make the school zone safer for all students by reducing the vehicle traffic at the school. Know a friend who lives inside the circles? Meet them at their house, and walk or roll to school together. Or, find a spot inside the circles where parking is permitted to leave your vehicle and travel from there.

SAFER SCHOOLS START WITH YOU!

SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

Steps you can take to increase your child's safety walking to school

Steps you can take to increase your child's safety walking to school



1
DISCUSS POSSIBLE ROUTES AND CHOOSE THE SAFEST AND MOST DIRECT



2
IDENTIFY POSSIBLE ROAD DANGERS SUCH AS CROSSWALKS AND RAILROAD TRACKS



7
STAY OFF THE ROAD AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE



8
CROSS THE STREET AT CROSSWALKS AND INTERSECTIONS



3
TEACH CHILD ABOUT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT AN EARLY AGE



4
PLAN AHEAD AND SET ENOUGH TIME TO WALK TO SCHOOL



9
IDENTIFY SAFE HOUSES AND LOCATIONS ALONG THE ROUTE



10
BRING A PHONE IN CASE CHILD NEEDS TO CALL FOR HELP



5
PRACTICE THE ROUTE TOGETHER UNTIL CHILD IS COMFORTABLE



6
WALK WITH A BUDDY



11
STAY ALERT AND REMOVE DISTRACTIONS



@ELMO_ASRTS
@ELMO_ASRTS
@ELMOASRTS

active:1safe
routes to school

active:1safe
routes to school

@ELMO_ASRTS
@ELMO_ASRTS
@ELMOASRTS

MASKS and LUNCH ROUTINES

It is a requirement for students in Grades 4-8 to wear masks; it is also suggested for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. The mask should cover the wearer's mouth and nose to prevent the spread of the wearer's droplets, bodily fluids from entering the classroom environment. Students are also encouraged to stay for lunch and eat in their classroom. The following masking routines will be followed:

- Students will clean their hands either with school provided hand sanitizer or soap/water.
- They will remove their mask. (Practice having students put on and remove their mask by the elastic loops, following good hand hygiene before and after.)
- Students must clean their hands after eating, and put on their mask after eating, and then the mask can be removed once outside.

Removal of mask is permitted once students are outside for recess or outside activities with their class. Please discuss with your student where/how they will store their mask while playing outside as they must have it on before entering the building. Plans are being discussed in consultation with the public health unit to assist our kindergarten and primary students.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Students will require an already filled labeled water bottle each day. **The water fountains are closed.** Students will also require a labelled lunch pail, backpack and we suggest 2 masks. Masks worn by staff and students must cover their nose and mouth. We will be provided with a supply of student masks if a student needs a mask (eg. lost or forgotten at home). All personal belongings for students should be

limited and taken home each day. Some exceptions may apply for personal hygiene needs. Students will be instructed to remove their items daily. Please do not send any toys (lego, soft sided items) to school with your student. **UPDATE:** Public Health has given permission for students to bring balls to come to school for recess purposes.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Every year, schools are required to complete three fire drills, one severe weather/tornado drill and a code red drill in the fall and then again in the spring. This fall, our fire drills will be September 29th, October 7th and October 20th. The severe weather/tornado drill will be October 1st. The drills will run a little differently this year to follow new COVID protocols and procedures. The classes have been divided into three groups. Each group will have its own time to practice the drill on the dates stated. Please note, in the event of an actual emergency, the safety of staff and students takes priority over COVID protocols and all groups will follow the emergency plan at the same time. At this time, we are holding off on the code red procedure until we get further direction about how the drill will look within the new protocols and procedures this year. An update will be sent when this dated has been decided.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sept. 21st-25th Train Track Crossing Safety Week

September 29th Fire drill #1

September 30th Orange Shirt Day

October 1st Sever Weather /Tornado Drill

October 1st Women's History Month/ Islamic History Month

October 7th Fire drill #2

October 10th World Mental Health Day

October 12th Thanksgiving Holiday / No School

October 16th Deadline for submission to Mrs. Kramer to change Mode of Learning

October 20th Fire drill #3

October 21st Life Picture Day – Tentative booking

October 26th-30th Media Literacy Week