

Penhold Elementary School

~A Great Place to Learn~

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TOM-1R0

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Hello PES Families!

August 31, 2023

And just like that, summer is over and we are all set to start a new school year. Our team is very excited to be welcoming back our past students and looking forward to meeting our new students who are joining us. We are certain that this year will be a GREAT year for everyone. Please feel free to contact us through email or phone if you have any questions.

As many of our parents know, Lisa Baird, PES Principal, was off on maternity leave last year. Mrs. Baird is going to enjoy the first 6 weeks of our school year with her little ones and then she will be back in action. Until she returns, we are honoured to have Mrs. Jill Neilson joining our admin team as Acting Vice-Principal. Mrs. Neilson will continue to teach her Grade 6 class as well as helping to support Mrs. Giselle Meyer, Acting Principal, in the office. Welcome Mrs. Neilson!

The following is some information that we felt would be helpful to share with families in preparation for school to begin:

OPEN HOUSE

- We are excited to be doing our annual Open House BBQ to meet our students and families. This is a great opportunity for families to come and see their child's classroom, meet their teachers and drop off supplies to lighten the load of the first day. Our Open House BBQ is scheduled for **Friday, September 1st, 2023 from 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm.** Here is what you can expect when you come:
 - BBQ'd hotdogs and drinks will be outside our main doors to the school. Our Nutrition Coordinator, Mrs. Tindall, our Admin team and support staff will be outside to greet and serve you.
 - Please head inside our building through your child(s) boot room doors (see the map below) and head to your classroom. Your child(s)
 - While at our open house, please feel free to:
 - Meet your child's teacher and visit your child's classroom. Please limit your time in the classroom to under 10 minutes. This will make it possible for other families to come and visit our building in a timely manner, making sure our teachers can meet all of their families.
 - Bring your child's supplies to lighten the load on the first day of school.
 - All other school visits and tours are possible by calling the office and making an appointment.

RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS

- **It is essential that all families complete the re-enrollment forms that went out electronically from CESD last week. These forms are highly important to have completed BEFORE the first day of school. If you do not have this form, please call our office to have it sent back out to you.**

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

- Supply lists for all grades are on our school website under the parent section

BEFORE SEPTEMBER 5th

- For each of your children, we suggest you purchase a water bottle for daily use and label it with your child's name. We have a bottle filling station where students can fill up during the day as needed. Students will also need a backpack.
- Please label all clothing and supplies, simple initials on clothing tags and shoes will be sufficient.
- Please review with your children that patience and kindness will be necessary during the first few days of school. Students may have to take turns parking bikes or entering doors.

ILLNESS IN CESD

- It continues to be important that students and staff members remain at home if they are sick. If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. If they become sick at school, we will notify you to pick them up immediately.

PARKING/DROP OFF AND PICK UP AREAS

- Please arrange a meeting spot after school prior to the start of school. If older siblings are picking up or if siblings are meeting after school, please establish a meeting spot outside as well.
- If your child is arriving on the bus, they are asked to go and stand in their designated line up outside of their boot room door. Please refer to the boot room map to see where your child enters and exits the building. Staff will be outside to help students find their doors on the first days of school.
- If you are driving to school, please drop students off no earlier than 8:30 as the first bell rings at 8:40.
- Students arriving after the 8:40 bell should enter through the front doors and check-in with the office before they go to their class.
- There is no playing allowed on the playground before school starts. Please have students go directly to their designated lineup and wait for the bell.
- **Supervision on school property does not start until 8:30am**, so please do not have your child show up any earlier than this time.

LUNCH & NUTRITION PROGRAM

- Our classrooms do not have access to microwaves. Students will need to have a packed lunch consisting of ready-to-eat items.
- Our nutrition program (breakfast program) will be starting the first day of school.
- If your child has a severe allergy, please contact your child's teacher and let them know right away. We will do our best to accommodate the allergy or intolerance. We are a nut aware school which means that we ask all families to not send anything with nuts in it. Classrooms with severe allergies will have extra caution.

MORNING RECESS AND LUNCH RECESS

- Recess time allows the whole school to be outside at once. We have 3 supervisors on supervision at each recess, and they wear neon vests to be highly visible in case of incidents and emergencies.

SCHOOL WIDE ACTIVITIES

- A schoolwide assembly will take place each month to celebrate all the GREAT things taking place at Penhold Elementary. Parents/Guardians are encouraged and invited to attend.
- Watch our school newsletter for more information about activities like sports and clubs that will be going this year.
- The community use of schools is permitted. If you would like to rent our spaces, please contact the office.
- Teachers will be busy booking field trips for the fall and spring. More information and details will come from the teacher teams once plans are finalized.

TECHNOLOGY

- We have a large selection of chromebooks here at the school to ensure all of our students have access to a chromebook when needed, however, families are welcome to bring their own chromebooks if they prefer. Tablets such as Ipad are not recommended.

SCHOOL AGENDA FEES

- Each student needs to purchase a school agenda, the cost of the agenda is **\$8.50** which can be paid online.

SWIM FEES

- Grades four to six are scheduled for swim lessons at various times during the school year. Swim lesson fees have not been determined for the 2023/2024 school year however we anticipate they will cost around \$60 (includes lessons and bussing).

OPTION CLASS FEES

- To align with the Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) curriculum, all students at PES will participate in option classes. Option classes will start in the third week of September. Students will go through four rounds of options. A cost of \$40 will be added to all students accounts to cover the costs of the materials needed.

Once again, our PES Staff is looking forward to seeing your child(ren) on **September 5th for the first day of classes**, at 8:45 a.m. for another **GREAT** year of learning!

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Giselle Meyer - Acting Principal
Mrs. Jill Neilson - Acting Vice Principal

Please use the map attached as a guide to which entrance your child will be using during the school year. Please have them use their designated entrance for the Open House on Wednesday. Thank you!

