



MEATH PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2021

ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

Mr. Matt Gray, Principal

Mrs. Sheri Gunville, Vice Principal

Hello Parents, Guardians, Students, and Families

Are you excited? I am. Another September is upon us and our teachers have been working for the past two weeks getting ready for our students to return to us. Yes, we have lots of changes and the Covid cloud just won't seem to stop hanging over us. All of these can cause anxiety and worry, but I am so excited for a more "normal" school year. We will see a return to extra-curricular sports and clubs, intramurals flexible classroom environments, and class trips. Visitors are welcome to the building again, and after a year I can't wait to put faces to the names I've been speaking to, and community groups can once again use our facilities.

We will still ask anyone entering the building, and when taking the bus, to wear their mask and visitors please sign in at the office.

I want to take a moment and welcome the new staff we have this year. Ms. Erin Winterton will be teaching our senior Science, Mr. Corbin Walberg is our new elementary PE/grade 5/6 teacher, Ms. Brandy Hoda is our new grade 1/2 teacher, and Mrs. Bonnie Bassingthwaight joins our awesome crew of Educational Associate's. Mr. Aries Aquino is our new night time caretaker and Mrs. Sheri Gunville joins me in the office as our new Vice Principal.

Please write a note on September the 15th as we will be hosting a meet the staff evening that night, details will follow.

Can't wait to see you there!

M. Gray, Principal



SCHOOL NEWS

Visitors Entering the School

Due to health concerns, our front entrance door is remaining locked at this time. If you are needing to enter the school, please ring the front door bell and be wearing a mask.

If you are here to pick up your child early, please telephone the office at 306-929-2131. Thanks.

Registration Package

Included in the registration package is a blank Registration Form. The registration form needs to be returned to the school as soon as possible to keep our student/family information accurate. Remember to complete both sides of the form and sign the bottom section of back page. Thank you.

Bell Schedule

Please see our new bell schedule

8:55 a.m.	Classes Begin
12:10 p.m.	Lunch Break
12:55 p.m.	Classes Begin
3:10 p.m.	Final Bell

School Parking Lot

The school parking lot and adjacent street to the school are very busy areas after school. We have a lot of parent vehicles and student vehicles leaving the parking lot at the same time students are crossing the street or that the busses are leaving the parking lot. We would please ask that when leaving the parking lot that you pay very special attention to students crossing the road. Please drive the appropriate speed limit and follow all traffic laws. Thanks in helping keeping our students safe.

Student Fees

Every year we ask for families to support school programming through Student Fees. This helps us pay for extra trips in the classroom, supplies need to provide a robust experience for our students, and in some cases project supplies that fall outside of our budgetary demands.

We thank all of our families who support us by paying the school their fees. Unpaid fees, remain on an account at the school, and are tracked from year to year. Moving forward we will ask that families pay any accrued student fees before their student is allowed to participate in our yearly graduation ceremonies.

Should you be concerned about the accrued amount, please contact the school and we will be more than willing to discuss a payment plan, or how we can support you in the balancing of your account.

Online Cash Payment

For your convenience, Saskatchewan Rivers School Division has begun an online payment system for you to use. We, of course, will still be offering the traditional cash and cheques payments as well. Please see the attached letter for how to enroll in the online payment system.

Yearbooks

Last year was a year that we will all remember as a year that didn't provide as many of the moments that leave positive, lasting memories as other years have provided. However, last year did see many smiles, laughter and enjoyable experiences. They may have been different from past years, but all in all, we had a great year.

Much of that was due to the positive attitude our families, and mostly our students, had throughout last year. As a way to say thank you, we have ordered a yearbook for every family in our school last year. Please look in the coming week for the yearbook to be given to the youngest member in each household.

Canteen

We will once again be offering a canteen this year. It will need to be organized differently than we have in past years, but we aim to have it open for the beginning of October.

PAA Fees

Parents, normally you would have paid an extra fee for our Construction and Food Studies classes. These fees help us paying for materials and food supplies for those classes. This year we are still asking you to help pay for those supplies, but rather than Construction and Food Studies, these fees will be under the name "PAA".

School Photo Day

Lifetouch photographers will be at our school on Friday, September 10th to take school photos. Information forms will be sent home with all students. Please review this form. All students will be photographed individually. There will be no class group photo. Proofs will be sent home for you to preview the images before you buy. Photo Retake Day will be Tuesday, November 9th.



Terry Fox Run



Meath Park Public School will celebrate the Terry Fox Run on Wednesday, September 29th in period six. All students are asked to bring a "Toonie for Terry". Donations can be turned in to homeroom teachers. More information will be sent home with your student.

Sharing the Road with School Buses

School bus drivers have a difficult job. There are plenty of distractions inside the bus. Knowing this, you should make extra allowances, and be aware of the possibility that the bus driver may not see you or your signals. Rear-end collisions are the most frequent type of crash involving school buses and are usually caused by another driver failing to stop while the bus is loading or unloading passengers.



When approaching a school bus, begin to slow down as soon as the flashing stop lamps come on, so the bus driver can see that you are going to stop. **If you are behind the bus you may not pass once the flashing lights are activated. If you are approaching the bus from the opposite direction and you are too close to stop, you may pass the bus if you do so before the stop arm is extended.** The single greatest threat to the safety of children who ride school buses is motorists who pass when children who ride school buses are loading or unloading.

When approaching a bus that has its stop arm out and its flashing lights activated, as a driver:

- **You must stop no closer than 5 m (15 feet) from the front or back of the bus.**
- **You must not advance your vehicle until the bus driver turns off the flashing red stop lamps and deactivates the stop arm.**
- **Before moving, check to see that all children have safely crossed the roadway.**

Passing a school bus with flashing lights is a serious offence and will result in a minimum fine of \$335.00. You do not have to stop for a school bus if you are travelling in the opposite direction on a divided highway. Some cities, towns and villages may have a bylaw prohibiting the use of flashing red stop lamps and stop arms on school buses. In those communities you are allowed to pass the bus. Drivers are not required to stop for buses displaying four-way hazard lamps, **however, use caution, go slowly and always watch for children crossing.**

Nut Alert Reduce the Risk

The Saskatchewan Rivers School Division and the Prince Albert Parkland Health Region recommend that all Prince Albert and Area School communities work to "reduce the



risk" for all students with life threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) by taking the strong initiative and commitment to become *Nut Alert*. Please read the *Nut Alert information below* that provides the rationale for this initiative. Meath Park School will continue their school-wide campaign to provide the safest environment possible for children with life threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) immediately. For more information contact me, the school principal, or a public health nurse.

What are peanut butter substitutes?

Peanut butter substitutes are peanut and tree-nut free spreads that look and taste like peanut butter. They are made from roasted soybeans, brown peas, sunflower seeds or pumpkin seeds. Examples include soy nut, pea and sunflower seed butters.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Thursday, September 2nd - Gr. 1 - 12 Students Begin
- Friday, September 3rd - Kindergarten Group A Attends
- Monday, September 6th - No Classes - Labour Day
- Wednesday, September 8th - Kindergarten Group B Attends
- Friday, September 10th - All Kindergarten Students Attend
- Individual SCHOOL PHOTOS
- Wednesday, September 15th - WELCOME BACK EVENT
- Monday, September 20th - Federal Election
- Wednesday, September 29th - TERRY FOX RUN 
- Thursday, September 30th - ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Fees: K-12 Student Fee = \$20
Gr. 7 - 9 PAA Fees = \$25
Gr. 10 - 12 PAA Fees = \$25
Caution Fee = \$25
Gr. 10 - 12 Art Fee = \$10

Please pay your fees, as soon as possible.

Fees can be paid in monthly installments.