

## Principal's Report 9/22/2021

Thank you for the warm welcome to the Buckhorn community. The staff are outstanding and have made all transitions seamless.

There has been a lot going on since start up. There is much to share but I know we have a thick agenda so I have prioritized 3 points below.

As we get to know one another, please do not hesitate to call, or ask any questions. If I have them ahead of time, I can report back to council at the next council meeting.

In partnership,

Rachelle Duffus

### A. Reorganization

Our projected registrations were 143. The first week of school we were up to 174 and have settled today at 161. The board has been very supportive and given us a new classroom taking us from 7 classes to 8. As we need a portable to do this, there are many pieces that need to come together before classes will be rearranged. Parents will be notified by their child's teacher of any changes. Grades 4, 5 and 6 classes will be in the portables and the library will move back into the school to accommodate a child who is in a wheelchair.

Staffing changes include:

1. Early Childhood Educator (to be placed after Thanksgiving). Currently Annabel James is in role supporting the class.
2. Cailey McCallum, Child and Youth Worker coordinating programming school wide.
3. Julia Harrison, Personal Care Assistant, working with a medically fragile year one student.
4. Matthew Cole, in a long-term maternity leave for Stacey Sova, grade 2/3.
5. Starting October 20, Rebecca Soden, in a long-term maternity leave for Victoria Wasson, grade 1.
6. New hire starting in our new grade 1/2 class as soon as furniture has been secured. We are targeting mid to end of next week.

### B. Connecting

We have sent an email out to all parents inviting them to connect with the school on these platforms.

1. EDSBY
2. Twitter
3. School Connects

4. School Cash Online
5. Use the School Absence Reporting Line

C. Supporting Staff and Students

Many thanks to Council for your work on the quotes for the primary playground. A request has been sent to the board office to have a point person coordinate with Council and move the project forward.

We are in the midst of ordering walkie talkies for staff to ensure communication is fluid and timely.

We are also in the midst of sorting out technology and look to provide each junior class with a minimum of 10 Chromebooks and each primary class with a tub of 5 iPads. The technology is a tool for educators to use as are manipulatives.

I have bought licenses for Raz Kids (language program) and IIXL math for each child attending Buckhorn. Accessing and utilizing these programs will be explicitly taught to each child and made available for use at school and home. It is one way we look to strengthen the home-school connection.