

## Beechy School Newsletter – September 5, 2023

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! We hope everyone has had a wonderful summer break. The school has been busy all summer long with our air system renovation, and in the high school end, it is still a work in progress. However, change can be a great thing, especially when it comes to improving air quality! While we may have to be patient and flexible as the work continues, we are ready and excited to begin a new school year at Beechy School.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Welcome Back Breakfast this morning, and to our SCC, who worked hard to put together a great meal to welcome back our Blazers!

As you'll see in the Student Handbook, the staff list is as follows:

Nicole Ulmer	Kindergarten, Elementary support, 3-9 electives
Lisa Grande	1-2 Homeroom, Elementary PeBL mentor
Ashton Buhr	Grade 3-4 Homeroom, Student Support
Jesse Siemens	Grade 5-6 Homeroom, 7-12 Arts Ed (co-teach/drama), SWTA President
Becky Dubasov	Grade 7-8 Homeroom/ELA, K-12 PE, 7-10 Science, Sun West Phys. Ed Mentor
Brianne Denning	Grade 11-12 Homeroom, Senior Math/Science, Social/History 7-10, PeBL Mentor
Leia Hey	Administrator, Grade 9-10 Homeroom, Grade 9-12 ELA
Char Dansereau	Grade 7-9 Careers, CWEX (Semester 1, Day 5), Grade 10 Portfolio
Kathy Redmond	Administrative Assistant
Chelsie Moebis	Librarian
Karen Baxter, Karen Rogness, Sarah Wiens	Educational Assistants
Sharron Snow	Caretaker
Marvin Sanderson	Driver's Education Instructor
Lindsay Smith	Child and Youth Counselor

We have changed the bell schedule slightly, so to allow all students to end their day at the same bell. As it states in the Student Handbook, here is our plan:

Students are not to arrive before **8:40 a.m.**, as this is when supervision begins. The first bell rings at 8:48 a.m, which will bring elementary students inside. The second bell, which rings at 8:50 a.m., is the starting bell for elementary students. High school students are welcome to be in the gym at this time for an early "recess", or just come on time for their start of day at 9:00 a.m. The third bell at 9:00 a.m., which is followed by *Oh Canada* and announcements, is the starting bell for high school students. Grade 7-12 students must be IN their classrooms, ready to work, by 9:00 a.m. The extra 10 minutes in the morning for elementary students will help keep our teaching minutes on par and allow ALL students will end their day at 3:20 p.m.

There are 6 classes per day with a 6 Day Cycle.

### Elementary Schedule

8:48	8:48	Warning Bell
8:50	10:40	Class Time
10:40	10:55	Morning Recess
10:55	11:55	Class Time
11:55	12:10	Lunch Time
12:10	12:40	Lunch Recess
12:40	2:20	Class Time
2:20	2:35	Afternoon Recess
2:35	3:20	Class Time

### High School Schedule

8:48	8:48	Warning Bell
9:00	9:55	Period 1
10:00	10:55	Period 2
11:00	11:55	Period 3
11:55	12:10	Lunch
12:10	12:40	Break
12:40	1:35	Period 4
1:40	2:30	Period 5
2:35	3:20	Period 6

Other information to start the year:

- Entrances and Parking:
  - o All elementary students will use the elementary door (west entrance). Grade 7-12 will use the north or south entrance.
  - o While dropping off/picking up students, please remember to park on the north side of the lot so not to interfere with bussing. Please ONLY use the

north entrance to the parking lot, as **the east entrance is BUS ONLY** during the school day.

- Although we stretched it out as long as we could, due to fire code regulations, there are **NO microwaves** in our school for student use. Our apologies – it is out of our control.
- Please see the handbook for our updated cell phone policy, including “parking lots” in classrooms, and **no cell phone** use if students have outstanding assignments/“pink sheets”. We know that changes may not be easy for students, but we are listening to concerns of parents and trying to optimize the learning environment for our students.
- Our aim is to have hot lunches twice monthly after the volleyball season ends.
- A big reminder that we are **PEANUT FREE** in Beechy School. Tree Nut products are still fine, but we ask parents to be diligent in their responsibility to keep peanut products (**including “may contain”**) out of the school. Thank you for helping our peanut-allergic students/visiting athletes, etc. to feel safe in our environment.
- Students will be allowed to wear hats/headgear on Fridays, and an option for donation will be available. These donations will go to worthy causes of the SLT’s choosing (i.e. STARS Air Ambulance) throughout the year.
- Please remember that we have a **“sign in/sign out” book** at the front office. Students will need to “sign in” if they arrive late, and we will ask that students who are leaving early, or during the day, for any reason, (i.e. doctor’s appointments, sporting events) will “sign out”. If we have students who are perpetually late, parents will receive a phone call from the office to discuss, and high school students will be required to “pay back” the time missed due to being late. Thank you for your support towards student attendance.
- The policy regarding \$2 million liability insurance for the transportation of students continues again this year. **We would ask that if your children are participating in classroom field trips and/or extra-curricular activities that you get this insurance so to help with the driving to events.** If you are a **new** driver of our students or will be volunteering in the school for the first time, you must also have a criminal records check. Please bring a copy of your CRC into the school if you have not already done so.
- There are many forms to be filled out at the beginning of every year. This year **some** of the forms will be again come to you via email using **Permission Click**. If you have previously registered your student (in years past) you are no longer required to fill in this form every year, as the information stays in the database. Please inform the school of any changes to your personal information that we need to be aware of. Parents of bus students, please check with your storm billet to make sure it is okay to continue using the same billet, if that is your intention. We appreciate the timely manner in which the forms are completed (and returned, if necessary), as students are restricted until their forms are in.
- The newsletter format will continue to be a larger document sent home in the second week of the month. We did find ourselves joining some of the shorter

months together (i.e. Nov/Dec) last year, and that will likely be the case again. We will continue to include information on exciting learning taking place in the building, initiatives (such as our School Learning Improvement Plan), school happenings, important dates to remember, and other information from the School Community Council.

- We are still using MySchoolSask (MSS) in Sun West School Division, but with the addition of the **Edsby platform**. This platform has proven to be much more teacher and parent friendly, including an **app** that can keep you informed! Information for parent logins will be sent to you shortly, and parent access is projected to begin on **October 1**, so to allow division set-up of all the correct settings and alerts. K-4 will continue to utilize SeeSaw for updates.
- We will be continuing the use of the "Alert" system. If you would like to update your contact information (i.e. so to receive text messages as well as emails), or if you did not receive these messages last year, please let us know! We will also continue to use Facebook and our website ("**This Week in Beechy School**" slide on the home page each week) to promote our school happenings and share documents with parents! Please bookmark our website for your use: <http://www.beechy.sunwestsd.ca/>
- Open lines of communication between home and school are vital to the success of our students. Please contact your child's teacher or me with any questions you may have. Please remember to discuss with your child's teacher before coming to me with classroom questions. The best times to call are before 9 a.m., during lunch break, or after school. If you happen to call when we are busy with students or in class teaching, you can certainly leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to a great year working with your children!

Mrs. Leia Hey (on behalf of Beechy School Staff)