



# McDermid Community School

HONOR ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY

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## SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

### Welcome back everyone!

All staff at McDermid School are excited to have students return to for the 2021/22 year. As we begin our year, we continue to deal with COVID. We have many measures in place to keep the health and safety of students as a priority. We welcome back a number of students who are returning to in-school learning after spending all or part of last year enrolled in e-school. We are excited to start new initiatives such as Edsby, to introduce a few new staff members, and start the process that will lead to McDermid School being part of a new school build in our corner of the city. We have much to look forward to with anticipation of a positive school year.



### Wahkotowin

*Cree – “Kinship” – Interconnectedness – We are a Team*

The Cree word, “Wahkotowin” literally means kinship, and is one of the priorities in our Strategic Plan for the year. The theme of Wahkotowin helps us recognize that we are interconnected in our community, our land, and relationships with one another. We are a team with our school families and community. The success of our students depends on both the school and families working together.

### Ni Tipaymikawin

*Michif – “I Belong” – Belonging is part of the Circle of Courage*

We encourage you to get involved with opportunities like our SCC, and thank you for your continued support in focusing on safe health practices, and celebrating learning. Platforms like Edsby will be vital in staying connected with the school. We want to hear from you and ensure you are able to know and see what is happening in the school as much as possible. Please call or email the office if you have questions, and we encourage you to check out our page on Facebook (McDermid Community School) and our website – [www.mcdermid.rbe.sk.ca](http://www.mcdermid.rbe.sk.ca).

*Ms. April Howard*

Vice-Principal

*Mr. Bob Phillips*

Principal

### The COVID Virus – School Protocols

This year we will place the health and safety of students, families, and staff at the forefront, continuing many of the protocols we had in place last year.

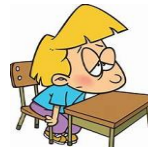
- All staff and students will continue wearing masks
- Medical grade masks will be provided for all students
- We will practice physical distancing and stay within our classroom cohorts
- Frequent hand sanitizing and washing take place each day
- Regular disinfection of classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas
- We ask that all children who have COVID like symptoms to stay home and consider getting tested for COVID. Students should stay home for 48 hours after symptoms are no longer present.
- We call home if a child becomes sick while at school

#### WEARING A MASK



#### Please check daily for these symptoms:

Dry Cough, Fever, Diarrhea, Fatigue, Shortness of Breath, Loss of Smell/Taste



By working together, we will continue to minimize the effects of the COVID virus at McDermid.

#### School Hours

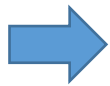
- 8:20 - Students are able to arrive for the free breakfast program
- 8:37 - Playground supervision begins
- 8:52 – First bell rings for students to begin school
- 11:45 – Kindergarten student pick up time
- 11:45–12:45 – Lunch break
- 12:45 - Afternoon classes begin
- 3:38 – All students dismissed

Do you have a child who is 3 or 4 years old?  
Registrations for Pre-K are still being accepted.  
Contact the office.

## Edsby – Our New Communication and Administration Tool



Edsby is a new platform that will be used by all students, families, and staff in Regina Public Schools. Edsby will be used for many things such as a communication link for messages between teachers, students and parents. It will also be used by teacher to take attendance and record grades. It will be a message board, class events calendar, and much more. It is a one stop shopping platform.



Parents are asked to complete the Edsby registration that allows you to log into Edsby and then sign/return the agreement form to share information on Edsby. Both these forms are attached to this newsletter.



Parents/Guardians are invited to get involved with the McDermid School Community Council (SCC). The first meeting for this school year will be held on **Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m.** This meeting will include the annual general meeting and election of officers.

Please watch for more information on the school webpage.

## WELCOME NEW STAFF!

We are very please to welcome these new staff members to our Maverick family.

- Ms. J. Parr - Grade 6/7 teacher
- Ms. R. Neilson - School Counsellor
- Ms. H. Witherspoon – Grade 6/7 Intern
- Mr. S. Barber – Grade 7/8 Intern
- Ms. K. Crawford – Itinerant Teacher, primary classes
- Ms. J. Shirley – Learning Resource Teacher



## Nutrition Program

A **free breakfast** is provided from 8:20-8:50. Students are welcome to enter the front doors and go straight to the nutrition room.

**Bag lunches** are available for \$2 every day. Students can bring money each day, or pre-pay for a number of lunches at a time.

**ALL Students who stay for lunch need to complete a registration form (form attached).**

**Snack** is provided daily for our Pre-K, K and Grade 1 & 2 students.

Proper nutrition is an important element of education. If your child stays for lunch, please provide a nutritious lunch to keep your child energized for their learning.

*A huge thank you to REACH and Breakfast Clubs of Canada for their financial support!*

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>: **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – Labour Day**

Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>: **Pre-Kindergarten's First Day**

Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>: **Green and White Day (Go Riders!)**

Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>: **Federal Election – McDermid is a polling station**

Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>: **Michif Language Program's First Day**

Friday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>: **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – Staff Professional Development Day**

Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>: **Orange Shirt Day** – Students are invited to wear orange. The school has shirts students can wear for the day. Classes will be spending the month learning about the importance of this day and working on individual classroom activities to recognize and honor this important time.

