

# THE BEACON

December 2020



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Students and Guardians...

November was a super busy month and there is a lot happening in December as well...

- Virtual Parent Teacher Interviews were very busy and thanks to all of the parents who came out.
- Report Cards went home Friday, November 27th.
- Winter is here and please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the cold weather.
- We continue with our Literacy and Numeracy initiatives as one of our major school related goals.
- The last week of school before the holidays will be a theme week: December 14th is Red and Green Day; December 15th Holiday Hat/Hair Day; December 16th is Festive Sweater Day; and December 17th is PJ Day.
- Look for a virtual Christmas Concert-Greeting from the staff and students in the last week of school.
- Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the staff!
- The school has done well with our AHS guidelines and students have been busy and engaged in learning activities.

Our Parent Council and Parent Plus Association always need more members. Feel free to join us for our monthly meetings which for the time being will be virtual. Both councils are composed of the same dedicated few; whose members have families and also work. Parents can and do make a great difference and our students, your children, benefit from your efforts!

Thank you to all the families of Beacon Hill Public School for all of the support we receive throughout the year and as always.

Beacon Hill School based re-entry plan is posted on the school website:

<https://beaconhill.fmpsdschools.ca/>

FMPSD usual links for re-entry.

<https://sites.google.com/fmpsd.ab.ca/fmpsdschoolre-entryinfo/home>

Continue to look for updated information on school re-entry as it is released by the school division. Some useful links to access regarding Covid 19 and School re-entry are:

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17212.aspx>

<https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx>

Happy Holidays!

Graham Abbott  
Principal

## **Helpful Hints for Parents**

1. Encourage your child to develop a positive outlook toward school.
2. Stay in regular contact with your child's teachers.
3. Attend parent-teacher interview virtual meetings.
4. Inform the school in advance of your child's absence from school.
5. Contact school staff when an incident arises in school involving your child.
6. Cooperate with the school when solving issues involving your child.
7. Watch for changes in your child's mood or behavior that might suggest problems at school.
8. Inform teachers of issues that might affect your child's progress or behavior.
9. Review your child's homework and assignments, and sign their agendas.
10. Read at home and help out with school work if possible.
11. Regularly check all communications from the school (includes social media sites)

## **Please Remember**

1. Polite cooperation with all school personnel is essential.
2. All visitors must sign in and out at the main office according to Covid19 AHS protocols.
3. All students have the right to attend school without being afraid or intimidated.
4. Harassment of any type (sexual, verbal or physical) and bullying (physical, verbal or via social media) will not be tolerated and dealt with accordingly.
5. Clothing, book bags, etc. that display inappropriate language,

slogans, pictures or symbols, or anything that might be considered offensive will not be permitted.

6. Cell Phones are not to be used in the school during class times and must be kept in backpacks.
7. Bikes and scooters must be locked in the bike racks.
8. Please remember to drive slowly in the school zone.
9. Please remember to not drop off students in the bus lanes.
10. Staff supervision of students starts at 7:55am and ends at 3:05pm.

### **Beacon Hill School Schedule**

8:10am: First Bell

8:15am: am Bell

10:00am to 10:15am: Div 2 Recess

10:15am to 10:30am: Div 1 Recess

10:30am: Recess End bell

11:36am to 12:24pm: Lunch - Lunch Recess

11:36am to 12:00pm: Div 2 Recess - Div 1 Lunch

12:00am to 12:24pm: Div 1 Recess - Div 2 Lunch

2:50pm: School End

### **ECDP and Kindergarten**

8:15am to 11:01am

12:04pm to 2:50pm

## **Parent and Visitors to the School**

Parents will be advised to stay outside or in their vehicles for daily pick up and drop off. Students are assigned specific doors for school entry and exit. Parents are reminded to drop off their children as near to the school start time of 8:10am as possible.

During times of inclement weather students will enter the school through the front door and assemble in their cohorts in designated areas in the gymnasium.

Parents who need to enter the building for a meeting or to see the office staff must book an appointment. Upon entering the school visitor/parent/guardian will be asked to sanitize, wear a mask, and complete an Alberta Health Daily Checklist (COVID-19 Screening). If you check yes on any of the questions, we have the right to deny entry. Only staff and students are permitted beyond the main doors without an appointment.

All safety protocols are posted in all entrances of the building.

Everyone entering the building must wear a mask. Visitors will be closely tracked for contact tracing purposes and visitor movement within the school will be limited as much as possible.

Visitors are required to follow the school policies and practice strict physical distancing

and hand hygiene.

People who have business at the school or who are dropping off items must do so at the main office. The occupancy in the main office at any one time will be limited to two families to a maximum of six visitors. Thank you for your understanding.

## **LEADER IN ME**

This is our second year as a Leader In Me school and we have set our school wide focus on developing a student advisory lighthouse team involving our students in more leadership activities and decision making.

### **Habit #1**

#### **Highly Effective Practices**

**Be Proactive:** You are in charge: Pause and respond based on principles and desired results; use proactive language; focus on your Circle of Influence; become a Transition Person.

### **Habit #2**

#### **Begin with the End in Mind**

**Have a Plan:** I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision. I look for ways to be a good citizen.



## **Parents and Bullying**

Bullying Defined

"A student is being bullied or victimized when he or she is exposed repeatedly and overtime to negative actions on the part of one or more students..."

"A repeated and chronic instance of aggression and intimidation that targets a specific individual is bullying."

Types of Bullying: Physical, Verbal, Social and Cyberbullying.

Why students bully: to have power or control over another; to bring someone down they are jealous of; to relieve boredom; to get revenge; to impress others and increase their status; and to get attention. Fact: many bullies have been bullied themselves or they come from families where there is violence or abuse.

How can you help?

Be proactive and listen to and support your child; monitor internet and cell phone use; teach your child to respect others and to be tolerant of those with different opinions, beliefs and backgrounds; encourage your child to be confident, to stand up tall, use body language that shows they are strong; and be a good listener and report any concerns to the school officials.

Beacon Hill School will participate in **Pink Shirt Day** activities to show that we are all working together to prevent bullying in our schools, in our communities and online. Our Lac and counsellor did in class anti-bullying presentations with all classes during the month of October and November.

Classroom teachers remind students on a regular basis about proper playground and classroom etiquette and about "no hands on" with other students. The main office deals appropriately with incidents of misbehavior and the school promotes acceptable and positive behavior.



## Beacon Hill School Council

**School Council** meets once a month during the school year to discuss items concerning our school – working collaboratively with the Principal, Teachers and Administration to ensure that our students receive the highest quality of education. Opportunities are available for parents to have input at the school, district and provincial levels.

Some of the items that have been discussed in the past include:

- Suggestions for introduction of new programs – ie. Leader in Me
- Bus Transportation
- Input & Discussion into ACSA Resolutions

- Discussion of School Activities/Programming

At each monthly meeting, the Principal will always provide a report regarding the school's activities, programs and direction regarding education. Networks Representatives will provide a report regarding discussions that have occurred at a district level.

All parents and guardians are members of the school council, so please join us so that your voice can be heard. For more information, please contact any of the executives below.

The School Council held it's elections last month for our executive positions, and it was great to see some new faces around the monitor!!! We have the following executive in place for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year:

Wendy MacMillan – Chairperson  
Jina Clarke – Vice Chairperson  
Stacy MacDonald – Secretary  
Katrina Jaycox – Networks Representative

Big thank you to these ladies for taking on these roles!! Our next meeting will be held on January 12, 2021 – no meeting in December. Looking forward to seeing everyone then – have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Wendy MacMillan

## **Beacon Hill Parents Plus December Report**

Happy December from your Parents Plus Advisory Association! We hope you have enjoyed the last month being back at school!

Your 2020/21 Executive members are:

Jina Clarke - Chairperson  
Katrina Jaycox - Vice Chairperson  
Donna Wilson - Secretary  
Nola Nippard - Treasurer  
Stacy McNally - Social Media Coordinator

Congratulations to those elected and thank you for taking on important rolls in our association!

Hello Beacon Hill Families!

Your Parents Plus Advisory Association held our last meeting of 2020 in November. Thanks to everyone who joined us, and it was particularly nice to see some new faces! Here's a little recap of what we discussed:

- Dieleman's fundraiser brought in \$1248.22! Thank you to all who supported

our fundraiser in the fall!

- Growing Smiles fundraiser went out to parents - delivery happening early December! Enjoy your holiday arrangements.
- Hot Lunch - it is possible that we will bring a hot lunch option back to our students mid-late January or February; we will discuss again at our next meeting. If it's a go ahead, we will require a volunteer or two to help our hot lunch run smoothly.
- Future fundraising - we need your help! We would like to run a couple more fundraises in the spring! If you have any ideas for fundraising, please contact us! We'd love to hear your thoughts!
- Our next meeting will be held on January 21, 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and all the best for the new year!

Jina Clarke

Chairperson

## **Christmas Concert - Greeting**

Our annual Christmas Concert - Greeting to be published virtually the last week of school prior to the Christmas Break.



## **Christmas Theme Days**

The last week of school before the holidays will be a Holiday theme week: December 14th is Red and Green Day; December 15th Holiday Hat/Hair Day; December 16th is Festive Sweater Day; and December 17th is PJ Day.



# **APPLE SCHOOLS: Health and Wellness Guidelines**

Students in APPLE Schools take ownership of their own health and demonstrate:

## **INCREASED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY 1, 2, 3**

- 35% increase in physical activity
- 2-3 times more steps taken per day
- Increases in physical activity during school hours, after school hours, and on weekends

## **IMPROVED DIETARY HABITS 3, 4**

- Students eat 10% more fruits and vegetables and consume 237 fewer calories per day

## **IMPROVEMENTS IN LEARNING OUTCOMES 5, 6**

- Students show improved quality of life, leadership abilities, productivity and learning outcomes

## **IMPROVEMENTS IN HEALTH FOR ALL STUDENTS 1**

- Increases in physical activity are seen across all students, regardless of whether they were active or not beforehand
- Children with the lowest starting levels of activity benefit the most





## Calendar of Events

December 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 PLF #5	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Spirit Week ----->	14 Red and Green Day	15 Holiday Hair/Hat Day	16 Festive Sweater Day	17 Pajama Day	18 PLF #6	19
20	21 -----	22 CHRISTMAS	23 BREAK	24 -----	25 -----	26
27	28	29	30	31		