



Richard Beasley ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Richard Beasley Families!

October 2017 Newsletter

We're off to a great start here at Richard Beasley for 2017/2018 and have definitely hit the ground running! As a staff we have begun to set targets for student achievement for the current year and to develop our School Annual Learning Plan (our 'CLI:' or 'Continuous Learning and Improvement' plan).

An important focus here at the school has become working to support students in their ability to develop and build positive social skills and 'mindfulness'. The daily reminders that we share during our morning announcements (and that we refer to as our 'Richard Beasley Reminders') are for everyone to;

- ✓ 'Do what's right.'
- ✓ 'Do your best'
- ✓ 'Treat others how you wish to be treated.'

Our intention is also that these 'simple rules' become part of consistent classroom conversation and instruction.

1. We have decided to try offering another 'special lunch' opportunity for interested families. Students will be able to pre-order a 'Subway' sandwich for Friday, October 13th and will be able to pre-order 'Pita Pit' for Friday, October 27th. Forms for each will go home prior to the dates and order forms with cash must simply be returned to the school.

2. Students in Grades 3, 4 and 5 have had the opportunity in recent weeks to try out for the school Cross Country team that will be competing at the upcoming HWDSB meet on Thursday, October 12th. Thank you Mrs. Machida and Ms. Tessaro for all your hard work in preparing students and good luck to all of our Richard Beasley competitors! We know that you'll represent the school well.

3. Richard Beasley students and staff will be treated to an anti-bullying presentation this month by the 'NED Show', a travelling yo-yo trick performer with a powerful message of positivity. This performance will be held for students on October 11th.

4. Also this month, and thanks to the efforts of our School Council members, we have been able to access a 'PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grant' to cover the cost of an evening performance of 'Find Your Magic'. 'Find Your Magic' is a performance with a message relating to positivity, self-esteem and anti-bullying. The show is planned for the evening of Tuesday, October 17th and there will be more information coming home soon with students.

5. **Volunteering at the school ... please consider!** Initiatives that we often mention here (such as the morning healthy snack program, pizza lunches and so on) are fantastic and both loved and appreciated by Richard Beasley students and families. Our ability to continue offering such programs depends on **parent volunteers (!)** so, if you have a bit of time to spare, and would be interested in volunteering at the school in some capacity, please let us know! Volunteering could be working in classrooms with students or helping with various school based initiatives. If you are interested, please see the office for details! School Board policy requires that a 'Volunteer Agreement Package' (available at the office) be completed and a current Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS) 'Police check' be confirmed (see office for details). **Thank you in advance for your consideration!**

6. Our next **School Council meeting** is Monday, October 23rd @ 5:30 in the school library for any interested caregivers who would like to come out and join us. Come out to learn more about what's happening here at RB!

7. **Students arriving late and/or leaving early ...** we will continue to use 'late slips' and 'excusal slips' in the office for the purpose of accurate attendance tracking. Students arriving late, or requiring to leave early will need to get the appropriate 'slip' from the office. One copy (of the duplicate slips) will be given to the teacher and one copy will be retained by the office for record keeping. This replaces the use of the former student 'sign in/out' book. **Adults who need to be in the building for any reason will continue to sign in/sign out at the office.**

8. **Safe Schools Policy** ... parents often have questions related to, or included in the Board's 'Safe School Policy'. A couple of reminders;

- ✓ Adults in schools ... **any adults entering the school are required to check in at the office and are not permitted to simply 'walk down to classrooms/lockers' and/or accompany children through the school.** Of course parents/guardians are welcome to assist their children with any needs (while at the office) and for our younger students, and/or if any assistance is required, we will always make arrangements for staff to help where necessary. Adults volunteering in the school check in at the office, sign in/sign out, and receive 'identification tags' to wear while in the building.

Please see the accompanying October Calendar for additional events and dates to remember.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me directly or make arrangements to come in and talk ... thank you for the continued help and support in making Richard Beasley School safe and a great place to be!

Mr. David Thorne and the staff of Richard Beasley School.