



Dundas Central Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

73 Melville Street
Dundas, Ontario L9H2A2
Phone: 905.627.3521
Fax: 905.627.3522

EMAIL: dundascentral@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: L. Bartkiw
www.hwdsb.on.ca/dundascentral

September 01, 2023.

Dear Dundas Central Families,

Welcome back to school. We hope you had a wonderful time this summer. Staff have been working in their learning spaces preparing for the first day of school. Please look for communication from your child's teacher in the near future, and please reach out to your child's teacher with specific questions about their daily routines.

The first day of school will be **Wednesday September 6, 2022 for Grades 1-8**. SK students begin on Thursday, September 7th.

Bell Times are 8:40 am and 3:00 p.m. It is important that all students begin their day on time and in line with their classmates. We thank you for having your child here on time and ready to learn.

Attendance – Approved absences, lates, and early departures are recorded through the School Messenger system by parents and guardians. Access is 24/7. See the attached support document for more information.

Entry and Exit Routines – Students and staff members will be on the yard. Please remain behind the pilons on the primary side of the school and behind the school fence on the junior/intermediate side of the school at arrival and departure times. If you need to speak to a staff member they will come to you. Students will be dismissed from their class line at the end of the day.

Nutrition Breaks are at 10:20 am and 1:00 pm. Please provide nutrition for both of these eating times. Grade 6 to 8 students are permitted, with a note, to lunch off site on Fridays during the second nutrition break only.

Visitors accessing HWDSB schools are required to enter at the front doors and check in at the office. Our office administrator Mrs. McGuire will be able to assist you upon your arrival.

School Agenda- All students in Grades 1 to 8 will receive a school agenda. The agenda is a preferred communication tool between home and school. Agendas will be provided to each student free of charge and are expected to be delivered to our school next week.



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All other **Parent Communication** with the school and staff is arranged through a phone call or email with school staff. Please phone the school or send an email to arrange a time to meet.

Bus loading and unloading occurs on Elgin Street. This area must be kept clear for busses before and after school.

The **Staff Parking Lot** is designated for staff only. Active transportation (walk/bike) is encouraged to reduce the amount of traffic at the start/end of the day. Parents driving their children to school are encouraged to park and walk their child to the fence avoiding Elgin Street.

Pets on school property are not permitted between 8:00- 8:40 am and 3:00-3:30 pm. Thank you kindly for keeping your pet on the sidewalk and under your care.

Student Belongings and Valuables – Please be sure all valuables remain at home. We are not responsible for any articles that go missing or are damaged. This includes items such as electronic devices, toys, and trading cards.

Cell phone use – Please refer to the school agenda regarding cell phone use in HWDSB.

Clubs and Extra Curriculars – Many extra curriculars are offered throughout the year. We encourage all students to participate in their area of interest and to explore new ones. Available opportunities are announced over the PA system each morning.

Nutrition Program- We do not have a nutrition program available for students at this time. Please pack enough food for your child to last the day. Water filling stations are available for student use at any time. We aim to have the healthy snack program commence in late September.

Birthday Celebrations – Cakes, cookies, candy, cupcakes or other confections are not permitted in classrooms for birthday celebrations. If you wish to celebrate your child's special day with his or her class, we encourage non-edibles such as stickers, craft items etc. Please speak to your child's teacher who may have some creative ideas for you that support the needs of the classroom.



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School Council – We look forward to our elections and first meeting on **September 21**. More information will follow regarding the elections process. You do not have to be an elected member to attend monthly meetings. All are welcome to join our monthly discussions.

Volunteering – A vulnerable sector screening (police check) is required every three years. If your last police check was in 2020/2021, you will need to renew your police check this school year. Please check the Volunteer Tab on our School and Board Website for links to the police check/vulnerable sector screen and Volunteer Information Forms required in order to Volunteer in any HWDSB school.

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/get-involved/volunteers-in-schools/>

Medication and Plans of Care – Please contact Mrs. Mcguire in the office if your child requires a medical plan of care or if your current plan of care has changed. Any medications administered throughout the school day require documentation from your doctor. Students who are currently with a plan of care are asked to return the paperwork sent home in June along with any new updates.

Footwear: Running shoes are needed every day at school. DPA (Daily Physical Activity), physical education class and two outdoor breaks all require safe and proper footwear to be worn.

School Reorganization: Each school year, the school board takes a snapshot of enrollment at the end of the second week of school. All classes must be in compliance with Ministry of Education class size caps. Enrollment numbers will be populated by the HWDSB into a Ministry software program, and if deemed necessary a revised school organization will be implemented by the HWDSB. Please be aware that your child may move classes at the end of September if this is the case. We want to be sure all families are aware of this possibility each school year. If our school is reorganized and your child is affected you will be contacted prior to the switch date which typically occurs just prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Upcoming Dates:

- Tryouts for **cross country and senior baseball teams** will occur in the coming days
- **September 21** -School Council Elections and First Meeting
- **October 12** – School Picture Day
- **October 19** – Meet the Teacher Event from 4:30-6:00 pm * information to come

Have a wonderful long week end and see you next week.



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Laura Bartkiw, Principal & The Dundas Central School Staff

Dundas Central School Bell Times

Time
Yard Supervision 8:25-8:40
Period 1 8:40-9:40 60 min
Period 2 9:40-10:20 40 min
Nutrition Break 1 10:20-10:40 10:40-11:00
Period 3 11:00-11:40 40 min
Period 4 11:40-12:20 40 min
Period 5 12:20-1:00 40 min
Nutrition Break 2 1:00-1:20 1:20-1:40
Period 6 1:40-2:20 40 min
Period 7 2:20-3:00 40 min
Dismissal Yard Supervision 3:00-3:15