

August 30th, 2023

Dear families,

We are excited to welcome students back for the 2023-24 school year. We are thrilled to see students, staff and families again. Each new year is a great new opportunity.

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**.

Here are some important points to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year:

Parent Portal

This tab is located on the HWDSB webpage and is accessible by all parents/caregivers who have children registered in the HWDSB. If you are having difficulty logging into the Portal, please message us at rosedale@hwdsb.on.ca for assistance. There are a number of services and forms located on the Portal that you will require over the course of the school year. Please use **School Messenger** to report any absences or late arrivals.

Forms to be completed in the Parent Portal (by September 17th please):

- Student Information Verification
- Early Closure and Emergency Evacuation Information
- Media and Internet Use Consent form
- Oral medication, anaphylaxis, or medical plan of care (if applicable)

Contact Information – it is of upmost importance that we have relevant and correct contact information for you and all emergency contacts. Please update any changes on the student information verification form in the portal. **If you are allowing anyone other than custodial parent/guardians to pick up your child we require notice in writing and the person (if unknown to the school) will be asked to show ID upon pick up.**

Water Bottles

Students are able to use the two hydration stations to fill water bottles. Fountains are also working. Please send your child with a **labelled reusable water bottle** so they stay hydrated.

Visiting our School

To support a productive, safe and healthy learning environment, we do limit visitors to school during instructional time. We ask families to call or email our school to supply information or contact a staff member. It is recommended that parents not drop off items during the school day. If this is absolutely necessary, please ring the door bell at the front entrance and we will collect the labelled item for your child. Please drop/pick up your child from the gates at the entrances to the playgrounds so as not to overcrowd the play area at entry/dismissal. If you do attend the

school **you must** go to the office – no one is to be walking the halls or visiting classes when teachers are teaching and school is in session.

Late Arrivals

Please **be on time** and ready to learn. It gets **very disruptive** to classes, and to the overall running of the school, when we have so many children coming in and entering school/classes at different times. **PLEASE remember there is no parking or stopping in front of the school. Do not block our neighbours' driveways.**

Volunteers

More information will be coming out about Home and School and Parent Council and how you can volunteer.

Elementary Reorganization

Each year at the end of September the HWDSB must undergo a 'reconciling' of enrollment numbers from the spring with actual attendance numbers in the fall. This can result in classes being added or deleted across the system. **In the event Rosedale is affected by re-organization, parents/caregivers can expect to be notified of a classroom change/teacher change before the end of September.**

Busing

Eligibility for busing is as follows:

- JK/SK must be greater than 1.2 KM away from the school
- Grade 1-5 must live greater than 1.6 KM away from the school

We are able to offer **limited** courtesy busing this year utilizing only existing bus stops. Courtesy will be granted based upon need due to medical reasons and to accommodate siblings. If you fall into one of the above categories you must complete a courtesy bussing form and await a decision. Courtesy is granted based upon space on the bus - if new children arrive that are entitled to busing and space is at a premium, courtesy seats could be lost. Thank you for your patience and understanding as our new drivers become familiar with our community. Go to www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca and click on the "Parent's Portal" on the Home page, OR "Bus Stop Finder" on the landing page.

Communication

We are committed to using effective communication practices. We will continue to send updates using postings on the webpage and School Messenger as appropriate. Your child's teacher will convey the preferred methods for communication for them. We do recommend subscribing to our school webpage for regular reminders/updates. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rosedale/>. **Any questions or concerns around classroom practice should be addressed first with the classroom teacher.**

Parent Council and Home and School

Please see below regarding the Parent Advisory Council for the 2023/2024 school year. This year we will be holding joint meetings with our Rosedale Home and School association. Meeting dates will be forthcoming shortly. Home and School will be starting meetings in October and more information will follow from the Chair, Mr. Dan Konior, shortly.

Supporting a Positive Return to School

HWDSB will continue to offer a wide variety of mental health supports for students, knowing that the pandemic has impacted student well-being. This is especially important during the return to school, which can be stressful for some students. Explore our [We Help web page](#) for more evidence-based and timely school-based mental health services and supports. The HWDSB Human Rights code explains clearly that it is **the duty of educators to prepare students for their role in society by learning to be responsible citizens**. We do this by providing equitable and inclusive environments that address discriminatory biases and barriers. We need to educate students about diversity and inclusion so they can be respectful and kind to everyone. Please see the policy section on the HWDSB website for all applicable policies.

Across HWDSB, we are also reintroducing a welcoming, inclusive initiative to help students as they return to school. Reimagining Wellness 3.0 is a series of activities and lessons which address socio-emotional health.

First Days of Kindergarten

All children **new** to kindergarten and/or the school have been invited for a short visit on Wednesday, September 6. The first day of kindergarten classes will be Thursday, September 7.

Right to Disconnect

Healthy work-life boundaries, including the ability for all employees to disconnect from work after hours, is an important part of maintaining one's health and well-being. HWDSB has implemented a [Right to Disconnect Procedure](#) to support educators, administrators and other HWDSB staff. While all urgent communication will continue to be shared after hours, please note that families communicating with educators and administrators **may receive a delay in response to all non-emergency inquiries received after hours**.

We know the return to school can be stressful for some students. We are here to support every student. If you think your child might struggle with school, please let us know.

Sincerely,

S. Neville – Principal Rosedale .S.

Rosedale Public School – Behaviour Expectations 2022/2023

A large part of any school principal/VP's job is to handle student discipline. School discipline has two main goals: (1) to ensure the safety of staff and students, and (2) to create an environment conducive to learning. Disruptions interrupt lessons for all students, and disruptive students lose even more learning time. For this reason I would like to share with you our policy on student discipline which is based upon the HWDSB's Code of Conduct Policy which can also be accessed here:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/aboutus/policies/#ss> (Policy #7.22 and Provincial Policy Memorandum (PPM) Directive PPM128), and the HWDSB's Progressive discipline (policy # 11.02 and PPM 145).

We try our very best at Rosedale to ensure that all pupils have a safe, caring and accepting school environment in order to maximize their learning potential and to ensure a positive school climate for all members of the school community. **It is important to remember that students are responsible for their own behaviour.** Please review the following rules and expectations with your child(ren):

Expectations of Student Behaviour: Respect, Responsibilities and Rights

We expect high standards of behaviour from all our students. We will not tolerate bullying, harassment or any other behaviour that makes students feel uncomfortable about being in school or prevents them from studying to their best level. The expectations apply to all students and not just in classrooms but in all areas of the school and outside of school – if it impacts the school environment.

However, bullying is a specific and pervasive behaviour and should not be mistaken for singular acts of agitation, upset, or aggression. I will be highlighting more information about bullying in each month's newsletters to promote a consistent understanding of this issue among all school stakeholders.

Rosedale Public School Expectations for Behaviour

- Arrive to class everyday on time and ready to learn
- Try your best in all assigned tasks
- Take an active role in the class ***without disrupting lessons***
- **Co-operate, respect** and communicate with **all** school staff and other students
- Follow the class rules agreed upon with your teacher
- No gum
- lockers are for storage, not for socializing – move quickly between classes
- do not leave school property without permission
- **NO SKATEBOARDS OR SCOOTERS**

Respect each other - this means that you:

- Are **polite** and do not use language that can offend others
- Will **never be violent, aggressive** or intimidate others. **If it looks like a fight, it will be treated like a fight - which is a suspensionable offense**
- **Will not bully or discriminate against others – bullying, personal or cyber, can lead to suspension or expulsion)**
- Listen to your teacher and other students and allow others to take part
- Look after the school environment and equipment
- Discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated – be tolerant of everyone's uniqueness

ALL OF THE ABOVE APPLIES ON THE BUS AS WELL AS IN SCHOOL

Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour

Although we strive to be consistent in both expectations and consequences for behaviour it is important that the board policies mentioned above are followed and each incident is investigated fully. We do ensure that all incidents reported to the office will be investigated fully and all parties spoken to before any decisions on consequences are made. Many **mitigating factors** impact our decisions and we are always happy to share our reasoning both with students and with their parents. ***However, due to all individuals' right to privacy please understand that we do not share the consequences for one child with the children or parents of another. Please also be aware that there are sometimes mitigating circumstances that we are mandated to consider that may or may not impact decisions.***

Examples of Possible Consequences

Detention
Calls home/behaviour form
Meetings with parents
Behaviour plan
Loss of privileges
Inability to play on sports teams (one game/all games)
Inability to attend trips
Temporary withdrawal
Suspension and/or Expulsion

Extra curricular, school teams, clubs, special event days, parties, etc. are a privilege and not a right. Thank you for support in keeping all our students happy, healthy, and safe.

Rosedale Bell Times 2023/2024

Time	
8:05am	Supervision on yard begins
8:20am	School Entry (Line up – no playing)
8:20am-9:20am(60)	Period 1
9:20am-10:00am(40)	Period 2
10:00am – 10:20am	First Nutrition Break – Eating
10:20am – 10:40am	First Nutrition Break – Outside
10:40am-11:30am(50)	Period 3
11:30am-12:20pm(50)	Period 4
12:20pm-12:40pm	Second Nutrition Break – Eating
12:40pm-1:00pm	Second Nutrition Break – Outside
1:00pm-2:00pm(60)	Period 5
2:00pm-2:40pm(40)	Period 6
2:40pm	Dismissal from school – students must leave school promptly

Please drop off and pick up your child **on time**.
