



Winona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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June 28, 2021

Dear Winona Families,

The uncertainty in our world due to COVID-19 has affected all of us throughout this school year and it certainly has resulted in a very different end to our school year. Throughout the summer, you are encouraged to continue to listen for automated calls from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and to frequently check the HWDSB website for September school updates. At this point, we do not know exactly what school re-opening will look like in September. We are hoping for a more “normal” return to school this September but, as we have all seen throughout the past 17 months, things can change quickly. This fall, we will be welcoming many of our students back to Winona from last year’s remote school or from home instruction.

Term 2 Report Cards

Beginning today, the Term 2 Report Cards will be sent out through School Messenger. This report card will include data from the end of January up to the end of June. Some subjects and strands were not reported on as there was insufficient data due to the school closures. The password to access the report card link is your child’s date of birth formatted as MM/DD/YYYY (includes forward slashes /). The link for the report card will expire after 7 days but you will be able to download a copy of the PDF report card once you access the document.

Class Placements for September

Although most years it is usually our practice to publish class placements for September in the last couple of days in June, we want to let you know that there are still many things shifting in terms of staffing at Winona and classes at this point in time. As a result, we will not be publishing class placement information until later in August. Your child’s class placement information will be available in the Parent Portal later in the summer. This change in practice is due to changes in our staff allocation, for which staff hiring will occur in July, as well as the return of several hundred Winona students who were in the Remote school this past year. Both of these things are contributing to changes in our class lists at this time so things cannot be finalized.

As always, our educators work very hard behind-the-scenes, over many weeks, to try to create the most equitable, cohesive groups of students possible for all classes. We ask that you please respect this process as the educators know the school environment best and try to make the best school choices for your child.



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September Class Re-organization

Please note that even though student class placements will be published in August in the Parent Portal, the class structures and staff allocations will most likely change again as we enter the fall. Keep in mind that all schools are reviewed in September for enrollment shifts and then are re-organized. If student enrollment numbers have changed from our current projections, there will be further class changes/teacher changes at the end of September. Because of these unknowns, we will not be considering any class changes until that time. It is not possible to start switching classes, by specific parent requests, as this undermines the entire class make-up. Please do not call or email your child's teacher or the school office to request a class change once the placements are published in August.

Have a Restful Summer

Our children take their cues from their adult role models and so we encourage you, when you receive your child's Term 2 Report Card and their class placement in August, to take a positive stance. Be positive about their learning growth during such a difficult year and be positive with them about their class placement. Encourage them to also have a positive mindset as they move forward and as they continue to enjoy their summer holiday.

We want to wish all our Winona families a safe, restful and happy summer together.

Sincerely,

T. Illman
Principal

J. Adler
Vice Principal