



Principal's Message:



Welcome Baxter Families to the 2021-2022 school year. The team here at the school would like to welcome everyone back. We continue to operate a school under the guidelines of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and the provincial government's health guidelines. I hope you have taken the time to review the Simcoe County District School Board's Return to Learning Plan. It can be accessed at this address: <https://scdsb.on.ca/covid-19>. Please visit this site for updates.

The school is in great shape. The custodial team has worked hard over the past few months to prepare the building for you. Although you may have no access to the building at this time, it is spotless. The teachers have prepared learning environments that will best suit the needs of the learners as we continue to work through the pandemic.

Our enrolment numbers are very tight this year. We will monitor numbers over the first few days of the school year. As has happened in previous years, the Board will review our enrolment and adjust staffing as needed. Because of this the teacher your child has in the first week of school may not be the teacher he/she has for the remainder of the school year. Because of this we cannot honour requests for class changes during this transition period.

Finally, I am very pleased to be the replacement principal for Mrs. Ross for a few weeks. Unfortunately, she is dealing with a bereavement in her family. She will remain home supporting her extended family for the next few weeks. I am a retired principal of the Board. I am very eager to support Mrs. Ross and the Baxter school families in the meantime. I was previously an administrator for 15 years in 5 different schools. I look forward to my time in this school.

On behalf of the entire staff of Baxter Central, welcome back! Thank you for your support as we try our best to offer only the best learning experiences within a pandemic.

Yours in Education,
Peter McKenna

CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Caring - we show kindness towards each other.

More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

SELF-ASSESSMENT

All students and staff will be required to complete the daily COVID-19 self-assessment prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings, using the provincial self-assessment tool. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Bell Times

9:20 am—Entrance Bell

11:00 am—Nutrition Break 1

1:20 pm—Nutrition Break 2

3:40 pm —Dismissal for walking students

SAFETY MEASURES IN SCHOOLS

We want to assure you that the health and well-being of our students and staff remains our top priority. We are in regular contact with our local health authority, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), and we continue to take their direction on all matters related to COVID-19. Please visit the COVID-19 Return to School page on the SMDHU website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for additional information.

The following health and safety measures will be implemented in our schools.

Masking:

Students from Kindergarten (JK and SK) through Grade 12 will be required to wear masks while indoors. Staff will be required to wear masks while indoors.

Enhanced Health and Safety Protocols:

Hand sanitizer will be provided in each classroom for student and teacher use. Students will receive training on proper hand hygiene including instructions on hand washing and sanitizing.

Ventilation

Standalone high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter units will be placed in all schools without mechanical ventilation. HEPA filter units will be placed in all standalone Kindergarten classrooms.

Enhanced Cleaning:

Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting at least twice a day of frequently touched surfaces and shared resources such as doorknobs, light switches, toilets and faucet handles. Buses will be sanitized twice daily with frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces.

Physical Distancing:

Directional arrows and signage will be utilized in schools to support physical distancing measures. Schools will have designated entry and exit doors and staggered entry and exit times. Acrylic shielding will remain installed in school offices.

NO VISITOR ACCESS

As we transition into the return to school routine this fall, following the direction from our local health authority, the SMDHU, visitors are not permitted within SCDSB schools at this time. Parents/guardians may ring the doorbell at elementary schools to receive assistance. Parents/guardians will be asked to call the school's main office at secondary schools to receive assistance. School main office phone numbers will be posted on the doors of school buildings.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WHEN CHILDREN BECOME SICK AT SCHOOL

Parents/guardians will be asked to provide multiple contacts who will be available to pick up their child(ren) in the event that they become ill while at school. Children who become ill while at school will not be able to travel on a bus home for the protection of the other riders.

TRANSPORTATION:

- Transportation Consortium will provide the school with a seating plan for each bus based on family or grade/classroom cohort. If you have concerns, please contact us here at the school. (705 424 9992)
- Busses will disembark one at a time in the morning.
- The busses will be loaded one class at a time at the end of the day
- Children **walking** to school need to arrive as close to the entry bell as possible.
- Children who are driven to school need to exit the car and make their way to the yard. **Parents (except those with kindergarten students) shall not accompany them onto the yard.**
- Kindergarten parents/guardians who drive their child to school will use the loop at the south end of the parking lot as a kiss and ride. There will be a staff member there to escort your child from your car and guide them to the kindergarten yard. Parent remain in the car.
- Parents/guardians need to refrain from remaining on school grounds and/or gathering

SCHOOL BUS 'BUS TAG' PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL SAFELY

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's Bus Tag program supports safety for JK/SK and other school-identified students. The program helps match students to their assigned afternoon school bus and identifies that they must be met by a parent/guardian at their afternoon bus stop.

The program provides a colour coded bus tag with the assigned p.m. route number, to be attached to the student's backpack, and a colour-coded route card with route number in the windows of the school bus that the bus tag is matched to. The program can also provide tags for students who are walkers and/or who remain at an on-site child-care centre to make sure they don't get on a bus in error.

For more information, visit main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and click on the 'Safety' tab.

STUDENT PICK UP DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- As always, let us know in advance that you are picking up your child for an appointment etc.
- Only SCDSB staff and students are permitted in the school building, therefore, please ring the door-bell and let us know how we can help you. We will have your child/ren meet you outside the front door.
- Office staff will note the pickup in lieu of "signing out" (reduces touch points)
- Students are not able to go home for lunch

STUDENT BELONGINGS

- Please minimize the number of items sent with the student
- Toys, balls and games are not to be brought from home
- Please consider providing a garbage free boomerang lunch and snacks for your child. A Ziploc baggie could be placed in the lunch bag for 'soggy' items such as empty yogurt cups and fruit cores and skins

KEEP CONNECTED WITH OUR SCHOOL AND WITH THE SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at our school and at the SCDSB. Here are some ways to do that:

Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at http://***.scdsb.on.ca. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It is easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.

Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca. Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb). *(also include your school social media account information here if you have active accounts)*

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's website at main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

PROCEDURES HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below;
- reminding them that emergencies are rare; and,
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations.

Parents/guardians should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

Shelter in place is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off temporarily.

A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all exterior doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Interior doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents/guardians do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media.

All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents/guardians will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.

When parents/guardians are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents/guardians may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent/guardian care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

Please note the following:

- Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** and wait for assistance. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, so please be patient.**
- Staff must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents/guardians to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.
- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All SCDSB schools have **Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

FOOD ALLERGIES

To ensure a safe environment for all students, please do not send any peanut or nut products to school. Read ingredients carefully and check with the teachers before sending treats for any special occasions. Please be aware that there may be different allergies in a classroom which might mean other items may not be brought in. Your classroom teacher will make you aware if this is the case. Many schools implement 'Reduce the Risk' programs to support students with potentially life-threatening food allergies. Your Co-operation is essential and greatly appreciated.

SAFETY DURING MORNING ARRIVAL

Compliance connected to the parking lot and kiss and ride are critical to the safety of all the community members.

The Kiss and Ride program allows parents/guardians the opportunity to drive through the side loop in order to safely drop off their children. This is very important as it significantly reduces the congestion of vehicles alongside the buses and the dangers of students potentially getting hit by a vehicle exiting their vehicle in moving traffic. This will alleviate many safety issues.

The Kiss and Ride can be a safe and effective way of allowing children to enter school property providing that it is used properly. To facilitate the safe arrival of students and to alleviate congestion in the parking lot, please adhere to the following:

- 1. Enter the parking lot slowly and in single file**
- 2. Proceed to the designated Kiss and Ride**
- 3. Remain in your vehicle while your children get into or out of the vehicle**
- 4. Proceed slowly and safely out of the parking lot alongside the buses (no stopping zone)**

Please do not stop in the Kiss and Ride any longer than it takes for your children to get into or out of your vehicle. If you need to assist your child getting into or out of your vehicle, or need to meet them on the yard/at the door, please park in a designated parking spot.

We appreciate your support and cooperation in helping to keep our students safe.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Students are expected to respect the guidelines when dressing for school. Our school is a safe space. We work to be equitable and inclusive, and understand that students may choose to express themselves through their clothing choices. Student clothing cannot pose a safety concern or conceal identity. Exceptions are granted to students who wear head coverings or other garments/objects for the purposes of religious observance, medical or sensory needs, or other reasons protected by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The SCDSB dress code is available in the student agenda and online at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/dress_code. If you have questions about the dress code, you can contact your school principal.

STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS

Student Information Verification and Permission and Acknowledgement Forms were sent home with each child in your family. This is the most current information we have on file. Please check the form carefully, make any necessary changes, sign it and RETURN IT PROMPTLY (even if it is correct) with your signature in the required places. For families attending online this term, these forms have been mailed to your home address. It is equally important for you to complete and return them ASAP.

Also, please return any Student Medical Forms that were sent home. We need these in case of an emergency to support the health and well being of all students.

Thank you. This is VERY IMPORTANT!

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Please follow this link for this year's digital student handbook.

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/UserFiles/Servers/Server_210898/File/Elementary/Parent/SCDSB-Student-Handbook.pdf
Please be sure to read the student handbook for important information from the Simcoe County District School Board. And mandatory for all students in SCDSB.

IMPORTANT—Permission forms

The 2021-2022 Standard Acknowledgment and Permission Form and Student Information Computing Technology Appropriate Use Agreement are required forms for all Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students. The forms have been made available electronically through School Cash Online. School Cash Online is our preferred method for forms. If you are unable to submit these forms electronically, please contact the office.

SCHOOL CASH

Payments for school activities and most permission forms are through the SchoolCash Online program. We have made it easy for parents to make their school purchases from the convenience of their own home. Whether it's lunch days, field trips or school wear, we have it online for you!

Follow these three steps to get started:

1. Go to simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.com or visit our school website and click on "Pay Fees".
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account.
3. View and purchase items through bank transfer or credit card.

SCHOOL COUNCIL—First meeting is MONDAY OCTOBER 4TH at 6PM via Zoom

With a new school year comes the time to nominate and elect members for school council positions. The council membership consists of parent/guardians from the school, a teacher representative, Principal / Vice Principal and a community representative. Members serve a one year term. The council consists of voting members which include, Chair / Co-chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Members act as an advisory group to the school and assist with fundraising, special events and other initiatives.

For more information—https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/school_councils

ELEMENTARY REPORTING AND 5 DAY CYCLE
SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2021-2022

SEPTEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 EP	3 EP	4
5	6 H	7 1	8 2	9 3	10 4	11
12	13 5	14 1	15 2	16 3	17 4	18
19	20 5	21 1	22 2	23 3	24 4	25
26	27 5	28 ETD 1	29 2	30 3		

OCTOBER 2021						
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10	11 H	12 5	13 1	14 2	15 3	16
17	18 4	19 5	20 1	21 2	22 EP	23
24	25 3	26 4	27 5	28 1	29 2	30

NOVEMBER 2021						
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21	22 2	23 3	24 4	25 5	26 1	27
28	29 2	30 3				

DECEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			4	5	1	4
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12	13 2	14 3	15 4	16 5	17 1	18
19	20 H	21 H	22 H	23 H	24 H	25
26	27 H	28 H	29 H	30 H	31 H	

JANUARY 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17 2	18 3	19 4	20 5	21 1	22
23	24 2	25 3	26 4	27 5	28 EP	29
30	31 1					

FEBRUARY 2022						
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13	14 1	15 2	16 3	17 4	18 RC 5	19
20	21 H	22 1	23 2	24 3	25 4	26
27	28 5					

MARCH 2022						
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13	14 H	15 H	16 H	17 H	18 H	19
20	21 5	22 1	23 2	24 3	25 4	26
27	28 5	29 1	30 2	31 3		

APRIL 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11 5	12 1	13 2	14 3	15 H	16
17	18 H	19 4	20 5	21 1	22 2	23
24	25 3	26 4	27 5	28 1	29 2	30

MAY 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9 3	10 4	11 5	12 1	13 2	14
15	16 3	17 4	18 5	19 1	20 2	21
22	23 3	24 4	25 5	26 1	27 2	28
29	30 2	31 3				

JUNE 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 4	2 5	3 EP	4
5	6 1	7 2	8 3	9 4	10 5	11
12	13 1	14 2	15 3	16 4	17 5	18
19	20 1	21 2	22 3	23 4	24 RC 5	25
26	27 1	28 2	29 EP	30		

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 - 5 DAY CYCLE CALENDAR	
S	First Day of School September 7, 2021
ETD	Elementary Turnaround Day Tuesday, September 28, 2021
RC	Elementary Report Card Days November 4, 2021, February 18, 2022, June 24, 2022
EP	Elementary Professional Activity Days 2021: September 2, September 3, October 22, November 12 2022: January 28, June 3, June 29
H	Holidays 2021: September 6, October 11, December 20-31 2022: February 21, March 14-18, April 15-18, May 23

SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENT/GUARDIAN CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM**Nominations are due to school administration by:**

_____ (time) on _____ (date)

School Name

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____ (name and date of birth)
who is currently registered at this school.I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the
school council. I understand the role and responsibilities of a member of the school council as
described on the reverse side of this form.I understand that as a school council member, my contact information including email address will
be shared with school council members for the sole purpose of open and transparent
communication amongst council members and that it shall not be used for any other purpose.I understand that employees of the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) cannot run as
parent/guardian representatives for school councils if they are employed at the school. If they are
employed elsewhere in the board, they can run providing they inform their school community of
their employment.

Candidate's Signature _____ Date _____

Received by _____ Time _____ Date _____

Nomination Form Receipt

The nomination form for parent/guardian representative on the School Council for

_____ has been received.
*School*_____
*School Official*_____
Date