



Welcome Back To School September 2, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians

Aanii, and welcome to the 2014/2015 school year! My name is Mackenzie Sayers and once again I will be the acting principal here at Pontiac. I look forward to another great school year. I would like to welcome to Pontiac School staff Marie Ann Enosse who will be joining our team as an Educational Assistant. I have a few reminders to ensure that we have a safe and successful school year.

Food Allergies

Anaphylaxis: Means a student has a potentially life-threatening allergy. We currently have students who have food allergies. Therefore all schools are "**nut free zones**" (*i.e. peanut butter, nutella, etc.*).

Please inform the school if your child has any allergies and complete an allergy information form.

There will be **NO PIZZA DAYS** this year so please ensure your child has a nutritious lunch every day of the week.

Agendas

Agendas are given to each student and are a valuable asset to their success. Teachers utilize it to communicate to parents/guardians. They also hold a copy of the Parent/Student handbook and other useful information. Please check their agendas daily!

Fall Fair

This year the Wikwemikong Fall Fair is the weekend of September 12-14 and our classes will be entering group exhibits.

PICTURE DAY is September 26, 2014

Scheduling

School begins at 8:50 am with the following times for nutrition breaks:

10:40 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Recess

11:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. - Nutrition break

1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. - Nutrition break

1:20 p.m. to 1:40 p.m. - Recess

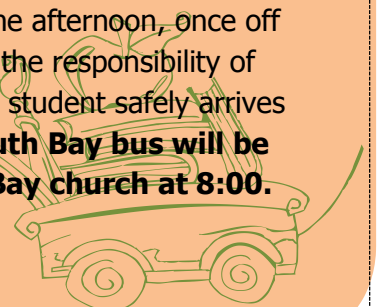
If deliveries of food are made during the day they must be dropped off at the main office. Please ensure that food dropped off at the office is labeled with your child's name. This procedure is necessary to minimize disruptions to the classroom and to ensure your child's security during the day; **all visitors are to report to the office upon entering the school.**

There remains an early dismissal on the first Wednesday of every month. On this day the nutrition break is from 12:00 to 12:20 p.m. Classes are done at 2:00 p.m. every first Wednesday of the month.

Dismissal for the bus students is 3:35 p.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs., and Friday with the walking students to follow. Dismissal on Wednesday is 3:00 p.m.

Bussing

For our bus students, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure your child safely waits for their bus. In the afternoon, once off the bus, it is once again the responsibility of the parent to ensure the student safely arrives at home. ****NEW** South Bay bus will be departing the South Bay church at 8:00.**



ATTENDANCE

Please call the school (705) 859-3133 if your child is going to be absent or late. Wasse Abin Pontiac School follows guidelines from the Wikwemikong Board of Education on "Safe Arrivals", and "Attendance Policy". Please contact the school if your child will be absent from school by 9:30 a.m. To confirm safe arrival the school will be contacting parents if the school has not been informed of an absence.

Being late for school seems harmless enough, but if it happens often, it can become a serious problem. Being late for school can become a habit. Any habit is very difficult to break. The mornings are the most important part of the day at both schools and it is vital that students are in class on time and ready to learn.

Regular attendance is expected from all students. Coming to school every day will have a positive impact on their educational development and well being.

Unexcused and prolonged absences are of great concern to us. Should we not be able to contact you if your child misses school for more than 5 days in a row – a home visit will be made by our School Social Counselor. Should we still not hear from you or continued prolonged absences occur, we are legally obligated to contact Child Welfare officials.

Non-Educational Items

As stated in our Parent/Student handbook these types of items can be distracting to students. We are asking parents to assist in ensuring these items are not taken to school. Any or all items will be confiscated and will be returned only to the parent/guardian. The school will not assume responsibility should items be lost and/or damaged. Personal electronic devices are the responsibility of the student and if brought to school, students must adhere to individual classroom rules regarding electronics.



Parents/Guardians please keep the school up to date on custody orders, change of addresses and phone numbers.

To insure that student's instructional time is free of interruption, we discourage parents/guardians from calling and sending messages to students via phone. We make every effort not to disturb class time except if it is an emergency. Please ensure arrangements have been made with your child before they come to school.

Jump start will commence on the first day of second week, Monday, September 8, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. Students participating in this program must be at the school no later than 8:30 a.m.

You can now follow Pontiac on Twitter @pontiacschool for daily updates on what is going on here at school!

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Mackenzie Sayers
Acting Principal

