

September 2016

# Pontiac School

Our school, our community, our responsibility

<https://wbe-education.ca/schools/pontiac/> T: 705-859-3133

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Aanii, and welcome to the 2016/17 school year! My name is Ms. Mackenzie Sayers and once again I will be acting principal here at Pontiac. We look forward to another great school year at Pontiac filled with hands on learning and experiences our students will find meaningful. We welcome the grade four students and their teachers, Ms. Dawn Wemigwans and Mr. Howard Ominika. We also welcome Ms. Yvette Manitowabi and Ms. Zoe McGrath to our staff. Ms. Manitowabi will be teaching grade seven and Ms. McGrath will be teaching grade eight. Our first newsletter provides you with a few reminders to ensure that we have a safe and successful school year.

## Scheduling & Nutrition

School begins at 8:50 a.m. with the following times for nutrition breaks:

**10:40 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – 4/5/6 Recess & 7/8 Nutrition**

**11:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. – 4/5/6 Nutrition & 7/8 Recess**

**1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. – 4/5/6 Recess & 7/8 Nutrition**

**1:20 p.m. to 1:40 p.m. – 4/5/6 Nutrition & 7/8 Recess**

Our first nutrition break for all students provides them with a healthy snack from at least three of the four food groups. This snack is filling and allows you to pack a smaller snack (if needed) for the first break and a more filling snack for the second nutrition break. 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 and their teacher's name. This procedure is necessary to minimize disruptions to the classroom



## Upcoming Events

### September 10

Wikwemikong Fall Fair

### September 27

Meet & Greet Teachers

Three Pitch Tournament

### October 3

Parent Council Meeting

## MEET & GREET THE TEACHERS

WHERE: PONTIAC SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

WHEN: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 @ 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

WHO: Students bring your parents to meet your teachers!

Join us on Twitter @pontiacschool

and to ensure your child's security during the day; **all visitors are to report to the office upon entering the school.**

At Pontiac school we do not have **PIZZA DAYS** so please ensure your child has a nutritious lunch every day of the week.

Our nutrition program will commence on **Monday, September 12, 2016**. Students can expect to have a healthy snack at the first nutrition break. Our goal is to provide a hearty snack that encompasses at least three of the four food groups.

### **Dismissal**

There remains an early dismissal on the first Wednesday of every month. On this day the nutrition/recess breaks are from 12:00 to 12:20 p.m. and 12:20 to 12:40. Classes are done at 2:00 p.m. every first Wednesday of the month.

Dismissal for the students is 3:35 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Dismissal on Wednesday is 3:00 p.m. If you pick up your child at the end of the day, we are requesting that you wait for the bell and park in the front of the school (flag pole; not in the bus loading areas) or across the street in the arena parking lot.

### **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.**

### **Attendance**

Please call the school (705) 859-3133 if your child is going to be absent or late. Wikwemikong Pontiac School follows guidelines from the Wikwemikong Board of Education on "Safe Arrivals", "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

## **More important information**

### **Registration Information**

Please keep the school up to date on custody orders, change of addresses and phone numbers by handing in your Student Registration Forms (distributed to all students).

### **Bussing**

For our bus students, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure your child safely waits for the 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.

### **Visitors**

Parents/guardians who come in to see their child are being asked to wait in the office for their student to be called down from the classroom. This ensures student safety and minimal disruptions to class time. The same rule will apply to visitors who seek to meet with a teacher.

Parents are always welcome to come into the school to sit in their child's class to observe but are required to check in with the office prior to heading down the hallway to their child's respective class.

are the most important part of the day at school and it is vital that students are in class on time and ready to learn.

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 five 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.

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## Circles and Restorative Practices

At Pontiac School we are continually learning of practices to support our students. Restorative practices evolved from restorative justice that has the “potential to positively influence human behavior and strengthen civil society” ([www.iirp.edu](http://www.iirp.edu)). It is our school's hope to ensure all are responsible for creating a safe environment and bringing school community members together to resolve issues that may create a hostile environment.

Students may take part in “circles” within the classroom or during various activities that are occurring in the school. These may take the format of learning circles, check in/out circles (where we see how our students are doing), etc.

## Parent Council Invite

Parents are encouraged to become a part of the 2016/2017 Parent Council. Meetings will occur on Monday evenings with the first occurring **Monday, October 3, 2016 @ 4:30 p.m.**

Parent council members will assist in creating learning opportunities for the school community (lunch and learns on important topics that support our families), fundraising initiatives for school wide activities and provide insight into the creating of goals for the 2016/2017 school year.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please do not hesitate to contact the school for further information or attend our first meeting (as indicated above).

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Ms. Mackenzie Sayers, A.Principal

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### 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 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.

### Jump Start

Jump Start will commence on the first day of the second week, **Monday, September 12, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.**

Students participating in this program must be at the school no later than 8:30 a.m.

### Agendas

Agendas are given to each grade 4/5/6 student. Teachers utilize it to communicate with home. Please check agendas daily!

# FASD AWARENESS DAY

-ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE-

## WHEN

September 9, 2016

6pm-9pm

## WHERE

Thunderbird Park

## DETAILS

This event is **FREE** to the community so come on out and enjoy the show!

Bring: Lawn chairs, snacks, drinks, cameras and friends & family!

Rain Venue: TBD

Also, New FASD Billboard Unveiling @ 5:00pm

**WE HAPPILY WELCOME THE RETURN OF...**



## PERFORMANCES BY

BRITTANY  
MANITOWABI



JW STEVENS



PAT PELTIER



LEAH BELLE



## FOR MORE INFO:

Contact—Shanna Peltier

1 (705) 859-3164 ex. 299

shaanspeltier@live.ca

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