

Bjorkdale School

“Where every student has the opportunity to succeed!”



Parent Handbook

Bjorkdale School
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Bjorkdale, Sask
S0E0E0
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Website: <http://bjorkdale.nesd.ca>

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This document is an abbreviated version of the school handbook, for parents. Please read the material as it explains the divisions’ grading system and our behavior expectations and discipline guidelines. For further information please go on our website or please contact the school.

School Staff

- Alicia Orosz-K-1-2
- Colleen Currey-3-4
- Bailey Thiessen- 5-6
- Jordann Kovach- K-9 PE, Math
- Penny Mohr- Science 7-12, Math
- Geoff Goldsworthy- ELA 7-12, Principal
- Sherry Fredsberg- Admin assistant
- Helen Babcock- Custodian
- Sherman Babcock- Custodian

Visiting the School

Bjorkdale School is an open and welcoming environment so family and community members are encouraged to visit our school and our classrooms at any time, but please report to the library upon entering the building so that we can maintain a safe and secure environment.

Important information

- Please make sure to contact the school if your child needs to stay in the building after school hours. NESD requires all students under the age of 18 to have adult supervision when they are in the school. Most days it is easy for us to accommodate this request, but occasionally we cannot, so please check with the school in advance, so that we do not have students in the building without adequate supervision.
- If your child is travelling to another student’s house by bus or is being picked up by someone else besides a parent or guardian, please send us a written note or an email. The school would also prefer an accompanying phone call for clarification purposes.

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- Only employees, parents or guardians can transport students to extra-curricular activities. Students who have their driver’s license can transport themselves to these activities, but they cannot transport other students.
- If you need to contact your child please contact them during a break on their cell phone, or by phoning the school directly. Please refrain from texting or phoning your child on their mobile device while in class. This is very distracting not only for your child, but also other children in the room.
- Bjorkdale School encourages the use of technology in the learning environment, this includes personal mobile devices, but if the device is being used inappropriately or causing a distraction to the learning environment, then the device may be confiscated until the end of the day. If the problem persists, the device will not be given back until a parent/guardian can come in and pick it up.

Class schedule:

	Middle Years/High School	Elementary
Warning Bell	8:55am	8:55am
Period 1	9:00am-10:02am	
Break	10:02am-10:09am	10:30am-10:45am
Period 2	10:09am-11:11am	
Break	11:11am-11:18am	
Period 3	11:18am-12:20pm	
Lunch	12:20pm-1:10pm	12:20pm-1:00pm
Warning Bell	1:05pm	12:55pm
Period 4	1:10pm-2:12pm	1:00pm
Break	2:12pm-2:17pm	2:02pm-2:17pm
Period 5	2:17pm-3:19pm	

Conflict Resolution

- If conflict does arise between staff and students/parents that cannot be solved by direct communication (phone call), then we expect the following protocol will be followed:
- An appointment should be made outside of school hours for a meeting between all those involved.

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- We recognize that conflicts may arise throughout the school year, but also understand that by dealing with the conflicts from a problem-solving perspective, can ensure that all parties involved will come away from the process feeling like they have created a successful solution.

Understanding the Four point grading system

- Grades 1-8 will receive grades on the following four-point scale



- Think of the grading scale like learning to ride a bike:
 - **NY: Beginning:** You are starting to learn about the bike, but you still cannot reach the pedals, and you need support to sit properly on the bike.
 - **MM: Approaching:** You can ride the bike for short periods of time on your own, but most of the time, you require training wheels or other types of supports in order to be successful.
 - **FM: Proficient:** You can successfully ride your bike without any supports or assistance. You are an independent bike rider.
 - **EU: Mastery:** You can catwalk your bike, ride with no hands and do all kinds of tricks. You are a master bike rider.
- Students in grades 1-3 will spend most of the year in the **Not Yet** or **Mostly Meeting** category. That is because they have to get to certain levels before they can be considered **Fully Meeting**.
 - Example: a **Fully Meeting** reader in grade one can successfully read at level 10 or higher by the end of the year. Most grade one students will begin the year at level one or below, so for most of the year they will not have a **Fully Meeting** on their report card.
- Bjorkdale School’s goal for every year is that all students will be **Fully Meeting** or higher in every subject by the end of the year.
- The four point grading system can be difficult to understand, so in order to ensure clarity it is important that both teachers and parents are in constant communication with one another.

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- Becoming a Fully Meeting student is difficult and requires a team approach to learning. It is necessary that students are learning and practicing skills at school and at home. The most successful students work at home as well as at school.

Parent’s role in the learning process

- To communicate openly and honestly with staff
- To reinforce basic skills (reading/writing/math) on a daily basis or as frequently as possible with children outside of school hours.
- To help hold students accountable