



Principal's Message - Ms. Hofer

Welcome to the 2022 - 2023 school year at Rapid City School!

I hope everyone had a happy, healthy, and fun summer vacation - it is so good to see students and staff back in our building once again!

I want to acknowledge and thank our staff for the hard work they put in over summer vacation to get our school and classrooms ready for another school year. We have a fantastic, caring, hard-working staff at Rapid City School - and I wish to acknowledge and thank them for going above and beyond for our students each day.

I am excited to be working alongside our school's Parent Group once again this year. Our school is so very fortunate to have an active and dedicated Parent Group. They volunteer their time to ensure our students have hot lunches once a month, fundraise to help cover the costs of K-8 field trips, and they often make donations of special items to our classrooms. If you are interested in joining our Parent Group, please email

rcparentgroup@gmail.com

Thank you to our caregivers - moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends who are like family - thank you for sending your children every day with weather-appropriate clothing, lunch, snacks, water bottles, homework, home reading, permission slips, and any and all else needed to make their experience at school complete and as best it can be. We see you and recognize your very important contributions to your child(ren)'s school experience.

I want to take this time to welcome a few new faces to our staff. Mrs. Walker is our new Grade 5/6 teacher. Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. Fleury are our new Educational Assistants. We are also welcoming Mrs. Belisle back from her maternity leave. Please help me give them a warm welcome to our school community.

Our school is a busy place, with lots of comings-and-goings - but the best part of each day is always seeing your kids and their smiling faces. I speak on behalf of all staff when I say that we are so looking forward to this year, and helping your children grow academically, socially, and emotionally. They are the reason why we are here, and we feel so grateful to be working in such a fantastic community, with a wonderful group of kiddos.

We are BEYOND excited to be hosting our Open House BBQ and Book Fair on Wednesday, September 28 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. We will have hot dogs, refreshments, and classrooms will be open for parents/caregivers to see from 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm. At 6:45 pm, we will meet in the gym for a quick staff meet-and-greet, a message from myself and Parent Council, and then parents/students will be free to shop the Book Fair.

In an effort to be environmentally conscious, our monthly newsletters will continue to be emailed out via SchoolMessenger. They are also posted on our school website - <https://rcs.rrsd.mb.ca/>

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school.

Ms. Hofer shofer@rrsd.mb.ca (204) 826 - 2824 (ext. 561)



Important Reminders

RRSD Conflict Resolution Policy

Parents/Guardians will:

- Maintain open and respectful communication with staff members to support their child's education.

Follow established procedures for dealing with concerns or issues:

- Begin by contacting **your child's teacher** to discuss the concern and to seek a solution;
- If the concern is not resolved, contact the **school principal**;
- If a resolution is not found or you are not satisfied with the principal's response, contact the **Superintendent**; and
- If still not resolved contact the **Board of Trustees**. (Refer to policy [KLD-Resolving Complaints and Procedures for Positive Problem Solving](#))

Arrival and Dismissal Times

MORNING:

- 8:20 am** – Bus students arrive
- 8:45 am** – School doors are open to town students
- 8:55 am** – Final door check – all students need to be inside the school by this time

If students arrive after 8:55 am – they need to enter the school through the front/office doors and they will be marked late (Early Years students included)

- 9:00 am** – O Canada/Period 1 begins
- 11:45 am** – Lunch begins

AFTERNOON:

- 12:45 pm** – Lunch ends, Period 6 begins (students arriving after 12:45 are marked late)
- 3:30 pm** – Town students are dismissed
- 3:50 pm** – Bus students are dismissed



- Grade 7 and 8 students are permitted to leave the school over lunch hour, if written permission is given by parents/guardians. They must sign in/out upon leaving/arriving back at school
- School Busses are for the transportation of bus-eligible students to/from home and school. Additional riders may occasionally be permitted - if pre-arranged and the school/bus driver is given ample warning (no arrangements made at school will be accommodated)
- Birthday party invitations are only to be handed out at school if every student in the class receives an invitation. Otherwise, we ask that you hand out party invitations outside of school hours.



2022 – 2023 Rapid City School Staff

Position	Name	Phone Extension	Email Address
Secretary/Librarian	Chrysy Dufault	560	cdufault@rrsd.mb.ca
Kindergarten	Megan Belisle	567	mbelisle@rrsd.mb.ca
Grade 1/2 (.75), Reading Recovery (.25)	Jennifer Rempel	570	jrempel@rrsd.mb.ca
Grade 3/4	Jodi Hrymak	569	jhrymak@rrsd.mb.ca
Grade 5/6	Kendra Walker	571	kwalker@rrsd.mb.ca
Grade 7/8	Jolie Bootsman	566	jbootsman@rrsd.mb.ca
Resource (.75) Grade 1/2 (.25)	Jen Pilling	565	jpilling@rrsd.mb.ca
Guidance Counsellor	Stephanie Hofer	571	shofer@rrsd.mb.ca
Music	Louise MacDonald	564	lmacdonald@rrsd.mb.ca
Phys. Ed	Graham Edwards	Office	gedwards@rrsd.mb.ca
Custodian	Darron Armstrong	572	darmstrong@rrsd.mb.ca
Educational Assistant	Jackie English	Office	jenglish@rrsd.mb.ca
Educational Assistant	Sally Evans	Office	sevans@rrsd.mb.ca
Educational Assistant	Christa Fleury	Office	cfleury@rrsd.mb.ca
Educational Assistant, Speech/Language	Tracy Oliver	Office	toliver@rrsd.mb.ca
Principal	Stephanie Hofer	561	shofer@rrsd.mb.ca



Kindergarten - Mrs. Belisle

Welcome back everyone!

I hope everyone had a great summer. I want to send a big welcome to the Kindergarten class. This year there are 5 kindergarten students. Welcome to Sasha, Braxtyn, Fallyn, Isabel, and Charli. It was great meeting everyone at the Kindergarten meet and greets and we are all feeling ready to start Kindergarten. I am very excited to have a fun year with this new group. We will spend our first school days learning about the rules and expectations of going to school. We will spend lots of time playing, learning, exploring, and practicing our daily routines. I am very excited to see these new students begin their learning journey at school.

Mrs. Belisle

mbelisle@rrsd.mb.ca

(204) 826 - 2824 (ext. 567)

Grade 1/2 - Mrs. Rempel

Welcome Back!

Our first week back to school was great! I hope your child(ren) have come home eager to tell you about the highlights of their day. The start of grade 1 and 2 can be tiring for our kiddos as they transition to all day, everyday learning. Especially after a fun filled summer break .

Here are a few reminders that will help us have a smooth school year.

- Change of clothing - Sometimes accidents happen. Whether its slipping in a puddle, spilling a drink, or not making it to the bathroom on time. Please send a complete outfit in your child's backpack just in case.
- Toys - Please don't send personal toys to school. We have some classroom toys that students are able to play with and keep at their desks. Our classroom toys are sanitized daily. All to often personal toys become broken or lost. It's best to leave them home where they can stay safe.
- Planners and Pouches - This is a great tool that we can use to communicate. I will be checking student planners and pouches each morning. Please check the planners and pouches each day for any notes or new information.

I am looking forward to a wonderful school year with your child. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about our daily activities or what we are learning in class.

Jennifer Rempel

jrempel@rrsd.mb.ca

204-826-2824 (ext. 570)

Breakfast Buckets

This year, we are bringing back our Breakfast Bucket program. Each classroom will have a bucket with some extra snacks (granola bars, dry cereals, fruit) for students who need an extra snack throughout the day. Our Peak of the Market fundraiser will help raise funds for our Breakfast Bucket program. If you are interested in making a donation to the program - please contact the school, as tax receipts may be available.



Grade 3/4 – Mrs. Hrymak

Welcome back! There are 20 students in the grade 3/4 classroom this year and we are looking forward to busy times. This month will be filled with setting routines and establishing expectations. We will be doing some review in math and ELA before moving to this year's material. Our first unit in Science will be Habitats and Communities and our first unit in Social Studies will be Geography of Canada. There is a new format for the planners this year and we will be using home folders to transport important notes and work to and from school.

Mrs. Hrymak

jhrymak@rrsd.mb.ca

(204) 826 – 2824 (ext. 569)

Grade 5/6 – Mrs. Walker

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! We are excited to get started what is sure to be an exciting and fun school year!

We are starting off with some review and will be working on an “All About Me” project in ELA. In Social Studies, we are learning about Canada from 1867-1914. We will be learning about the different roles that various people had during these times.

In Science, we will be exploring the diversity of living things we will be categorizing different animals in groups and learning about what each group needs to survive.

In math, we are doing a review of multiplication and division facts to start out. We will also be starting our new unit on place value in both grades.

I look forward to meeting everyone at Open House!

~Mrs. Walker

kwalker@rrsd.mb.ca

204 – 826 – 2824 (ext. 571)

Important Reminders

- Please have students bring a water bottle and utensils (if necessary)
- Bringing a set of extra clothes is always a good idea – messes and accidents happen!
- If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the office and leave a message before school starts.



Grade 7/8 - Mrs. Bootsman

Welcome everyone! It's shaping up to be a great year in Grade 7 and 8. We are a packed house in our classroom with 24 students. We have been busy getting everything organized to keep our learning on track for the year.

In ELA, we will be starting with a read aloud book titled "Crash" by Jerry Spinelli. Be sure to ask your student what is going on in the book! We have started a narrative writing piece about something personal, such as an accomplishment, a favourite memory or some goals we set for ourselves. The good copy of that is going to be due Friday, September 16th.

Math has started and we are looking at different mental math strategies that can be used for the whole year to help us with our regular math work.

Science and social studies will get up and running on Monday. Our first science unit will be Cells and Systems and in social studies we will be looking at Understanding Societies of the Past.

Hope everyone is enjoying getting back into the school routine.

Mrs. Bootsman

jbootsman@rrsd.mb.ca

(204) 826 - 2824 (ext. 566)

Physical Education - Mr. Edwards

Welcome back everyone. My role at Rapid City Elementary School will look quite a bit different this year. I am teaching PE to all the students (except kindergarten) this year in the afternoons. The Physical Education Curriculum covers five main outcomes:

1. Movement 2. Fitness Management 3. Safety 4. Personal/Social Management 5. Healthy Lifestyle Choices

Throughout the year in PE class, we will be focusing mainly on movement skills but will be discussing the other four outcomes regularly. With the younger grades this will be accomplished through many different types of low organized games. The older students will have a chance to work on more sport specific activities. This month we will be working on our soccer skills.

Students from grade 3 to grade 8 can change into gym clothes this year. This is not mandatory, but it is encouraged. They will be provided with time to do so at the start and end of classes.

We will try to do our classes outside as much as possible, so it is important that students have proper clothing for the temperatures and conditions.

Students are also encouraged to bring a water bottle with them to class as hydration is very important.

I am looking forward to my new position at RCS and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Graham Edwards - gedwards@rrsd.mb.ca

SEPTEMBER

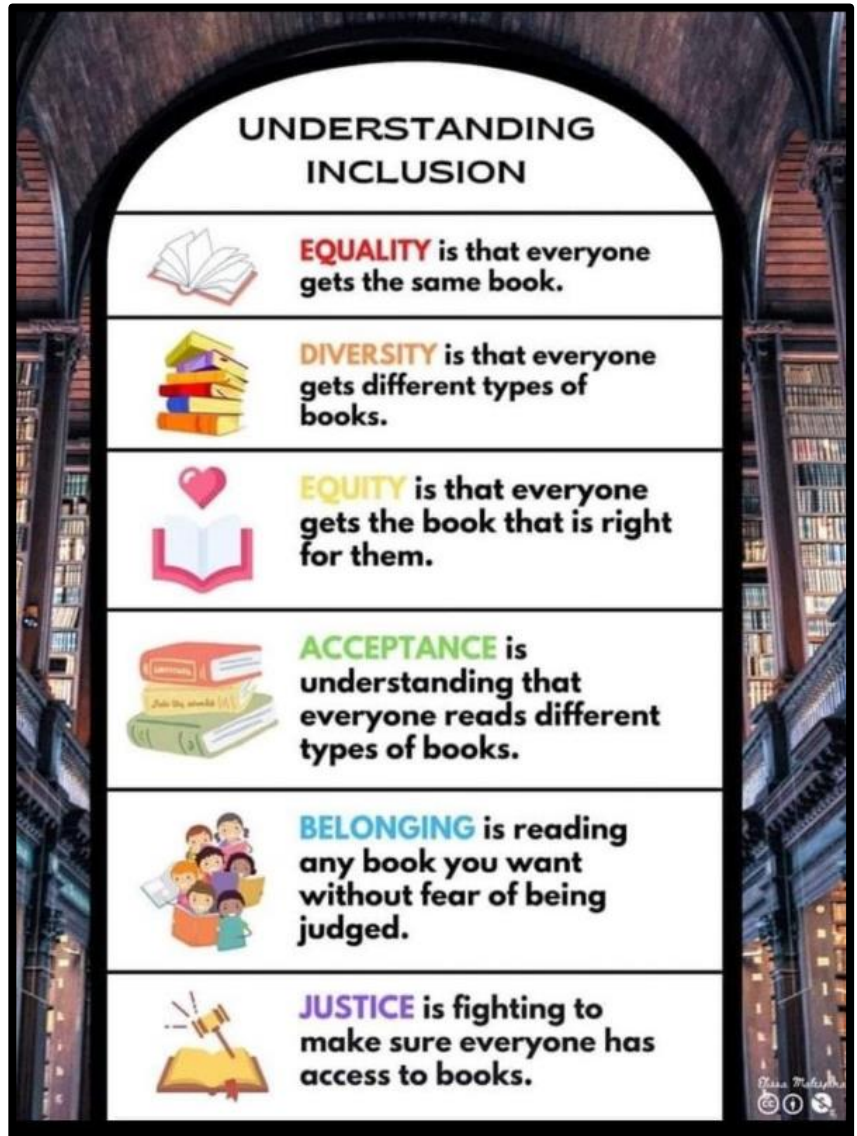
Resource - Mrs. Pilling

Welcome to a new school year! This year I look forward to continuing my role as the Resource Teacher as well as teaching in the Grade 1/2 classroom. Our focus together in Grade 1/2 will be on literacy - with an emphasis on phonemic awareness, phonics, and writing. Many read alouds will support our learning in these specific areas. I am excited to see our little ones become confident writers and share their work with each other!

Mrs. Pilling

jpilling@rrsd.mb.ca

(204) 826 - 2824 (ext. 565)



Library - Mrs. Dufault

Welcome back! It has been so great to see everyone again! We have a ton of new books coming to our shelves; I hope all of you will love! I have been working hard getting it ready! Right now, I am still organizing, rearranging and adding all the new books to the shelves! I am excited for Library to start up in October! It will be exciting to having students in the Library for Library time this year!



Mental Health and Wellness – Ms. Hofer

Guidance and School Counselling

What is the role of a School Counsellor, and what can a School Counsellor help with?

- Individual support for social/emotional needs of students (meant to be on a short-term basis)
- Small group facilitator for students who have similar goals
- Whole-class instruction and lessons on mental health, social/emotional health and wellness

What sorts of concerns can a School Counsellor help your child with?

- Family concerns
- Grief/loss
- Bullying – target
- Bullying – bully
- Peer relationships
- Social skills
- Worry/anxiety
- Confidence/self-esteem
- Overly withdrawn/shy
- Self-control/impulsivity
- Study skills
- Work completion
- Organization skills
- Sadness
- Anger/frustration
- Self-harm
- Intrusive thoughts
- Conflict resolution
- Stress
- Inattention
- Emotional dysregulation

School Counsellors can also refer children to community supports such as Divisional Social Work, Community Mental Health, Child Adolescent Treatment Centre, etc.

If you feel like your child would benefit from school-based counselling, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Ms. Hofer – shofer@rrsd.mb.ca

(204) 826 – 2824 (ext. 561)

Child and Adolescent Crisis Stabilization Unit

The Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU), is a 24-hour 10-bed unit that accommodates youth (10-17 years old) experiencing a wide range of crises. It is in Brandon.

Treatment at the CSU focuses on assisting clients and families to understand and resolve the specific crisis, while anticipating future problems and contributing factors.

CALL – 204-578-2700 or 1-866-403-5459 for questions and access.

LOCAL/PHONE/ONLINE RESOURCES:

<https://kidshelpphone.ca/> - phone or text support

Canada Suicide Prevention Service – 1- 833-456-4566

Manitoba Suicide Prevention & Support Line (open 24/7) 1-877-435-7170

Crisis Line (open 24/7) 204-786-86861, 1-888-322-3019

MB Farm, Rural & Northern Support Services – 1-866-367-3276

Sexual Assault Crisis Line (open 24/7)

204-786-86311, 1-888-292-7565

Human Trafficking Hotline (open 24/7) 1-844-333-2211

SEPTEMBER

SUN MON TUES WED THUR FRI SAT

Peak of the Market – Farm to School Fundraiser
 We will be hosting a Peak of the Market fundraiser from mid-September to mid-October, with a delivery date of October 26.
 More detailed information to follow.

				01	02	03
04	05	06	Day 1 07	Day 2 08	Day 3 09	10
11	Day 4 12	Day 5 13	Day 6 14	Day 1 15	Day 2 16	17
		Parent Group Meeting 6:30 pm	Orange Shirt Day Orders – due!		Terry Fox Run	
18	Day 3 19	Day 4 20	Day 5 21	Day 6 22	Day 1 23	24
				Gr. 6-8 Immunization Forms Due	Picture Day! 😊	
25	Day 2 26	Day 3 27	Day 4 28	Day 5 29	30	
			Orange Shirt Day (Kindergarten) Open House & Book Fair 6:00 – 7:30	Orange Shirt Day Gr. 6-8 Immunizations	Day of Truth and Reconciliation – No School	