

# BACK TO SCHOOL | AUGUST 2022

# THE MOUNTAINEER

Updates for the parents, guardians & students of Buck Mountain Central School

## MISSION:

At Buck Mountain Central School, we passionately engage our diverse students every day by genuinely connecting and supporting them on their learning journey towards high school completion and life beyond our doors.

## Message from the Principal

Dear Buck Mountain Central School Community,

We have an exciting and productive school year ahead and the staff at BMC have been eagerly planning for the return of students. During the summer months I hope you and your families enjoyed some rest and relaxation with loved ones and are entering the school year with fresh enthusiasm. We have a great year planned for our students, staff, and families and are excited to continue on our learning journey with you all.

In preparation for a great school year ahead, teachers have been working hard on planning engaging learning experiences and setting up their classrooms as welcome environments for all. Our custodial staff, Mrs. Glenn and Ms. Buccholtz, did an excellent job shinning up the school during the summer deep clean -- we ask that when you see them in the halls, please show your gratitude for keeping our school looking its best. The office staff have also been busy: fielding questions, signing up new students and families, and setting up for a new year diligently addressing tasks 'behind the scenes' over the past week. And, our much-appreciated Parent Advisory is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities, and offer other exciting events.

At Buck Mountain Central School, we believe that the relationships staff have with students, parents, and the greater community are the foundation of the work we do. A partnership with parents means that students know they have a group of adults advocating for their success, which we know is critical for students. We encourage parents and guardians to reach out and let us know how we're doing as individuals, as a staff, and as a whole school community. Your feedback will inform us as we learn together throughout the school year.

Our school mission is to passionately engage our diverse students everyday by connecting and supporting them on their learning journey toward high school completion and life beyond our doors. We are committed to this mission and will continue to work toward our vision of a school community where all learners feel safe, supported, and celebrated. Relationships for the foundation of what we do, empowering individuals to reach their full potential as lifelong learners.

We are excited to start this year off strong, and while we certainly have a lot to learn, we are committed to connecting with students and families along the way.

Thank you to the staff, students, and families of Buck Mountain Central School for being a part of my learning journey,

Nicole Townsend

# Attention: Parents and Guardians, we need your help!

We want to see your presence more in the school. We are going to start the year off with a little project, but we need your help.

You will be receiving a copy of this [Google Form](#), via email, from Miss Townsend. It will ask you to describe your child in one word. We know that is very tough, but we intend to create a school display and connect it to a school wide activity in the near future. Please complete this form by Septmeber 2nd. If you have any questions please contact Miss Townsend.

## Please note that our bell times have changed!



### 2022-2023 Bell Schedule



Warning Bell   8:45 AM (3 minutes)
Directed Learning 8:47 a.m. - 9:16 a.m. (29 minutes)
Break   9:16 - 9:20 (4 Minutes)
Period 1   9:20 a.m. - 9:59 a.m. (39 minutes)
Period 2   9:59 a.m. - 10:38 a.m. (39 minutes)
Break   10:38 - 10:42 (4 minutes)
Period 3   10:42 a.m. - 11:21 a.m. (39 minutes)
Period 4   11:21 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (39 minutes)
Lunch Break   12:00 p.m. - 12:36 p.m. (36 minutes)
Warning Bell   12:36 p.m.- 12:38 p.m. ( 2 minutes)
Period 5   12:38 p.m. - 1:17 p.m. (39 minutes)
Period 6   1:17 p.m. - 1:56 p.m. (39 minutes)
Break   1:56 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (4 minutes)
Period 7   2:00 p.m. - 2:39 p.m. (39 minutes)
Period 8   2:39 p.m. - 3:18 p.m. (39 minutes)
Busses Depart   3:18 p.m. - 3:22 p.m. (4 minutes) <small>CTS Floater Block</small>

- Busses leave the Buck Mountain Central School at 3:23 p.m.
- If the student arrives within the first 15 minutes of the period the teacher will need to mark the student as late.
- If the student arrives after the first 15 minutes the student will be left as an absent.

We are going to be starting the day with directed learning, which will now include attendance. This is a scheduled class, which all students are expected to attend. Valuable learning is happening during this time and students will have access to extra help and support if there is a class or concept they are struggling with.

We are also introducing "Mandatory Monday" - during this time, junior high students will focus on essential literacy skills. Grade 10s will also do this, however they will also do some monitoring of their grades and attendance with the support of Mr York. Miss Townsend and Mrs. Miller will be working with grade 11 and 12 students to support them in tracking their attendance, grades, signing them up for the rest of the week in directed learning if needed, as well as doing some career planning for the future.

We will also be doing school wide activities in cross-graded groups called Mustang in Action on Fridays!

# One School, One Book

We are reading: *One for the Murphys* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt as a school. Each student will receive a personal copy of the book and follow along as we read it together as a community. There will be activities each week and opportunities to discuss the book with peers.

If there are any parents who are also interested in having their own copy of the book, please email [bm@wrps11.ca](mailto:bm@wrps11.ca) to purchase a copy. Weekly updates will be posted to our social media accounts.



## Success Coach

Welcome back!

I am looking forward to another great year at BMC. My role at the school is success coach. Part of this role involves working with students to plan their courses to graduation and beyond.

I meet with students to explore post secondary options, open house opportunities, dual credit, work experience and vocational training such as RAP and Green certificate.

My goal is to meet with all grade 11 and 12 students in the fall to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses for graduation. I also play a role in assisting students who need some extra instruction or guidance to be successful in school. I have some designated success time to work with both junior high and high school students to work on missed assignments or learning.

As always I am excited to be a member of Buck Mountain's learning team and am looking forward to the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact me at the school or send me an email at [judy.miller@wrps11.ca](mailto:judy.miller@wrps11.ca).

# Inclusion Update

Mr. Michael York

Welcome back, students, families, and staff!

It is hard to believe that summer is over already, but we are thrilled to see all new and returning students filling the halls and classrooms. After an interesting last year, we anticipate a more consistent return. If you were able to disconnect and forget about school over the summer, you may have questions about the start up and are encouraged to call or email for support. Feel free to reach out to the office staff or directly to teachers.

I am incredibly excited to be returning to Buck Mountain Central as Vice Principal, and cannot wait to see students and parents. Additionally, I will maintain the role of Inclusion Coach, continuing to look after supporting students with unique learning needs. At BMC, we believe that all students have the potential to learn and a partnership between students, parents, and staff will encourage communication of planning, resources, and commitments to helping students reach their personal learning goals. Through my work with learning support I hope to help bridge these relationships. If the school is already aware of your child's learning needs, you can expect that I will reach out to both them and you in the coming weeks, just to make sure that they are taken care of. In some instances, I may even ask for an in person meeting so that we can ensure the best possible care for our students.

Passion for learning is a priority to our staff because we know that students are only as excited as we are. One only needs to walk our halls to immediately see the enthusiasm they bring to classrooms, and the commitment they have to inspiring students daily. Although students may have anxiety and hesitation after a summer vacation, we encourage families to let a period of adjustment pass and give them time to settle. We are confident that, before long, students will be just as excited to return. For our new grade 7 students it may seem even more challenging, but we will do everything to make them feel safe, cared for, and welcomed.

Should you feel that your child requires additional learning support, or if you have questions about available resources, please do not hesitate to contact me through email or the school's phone number.

## PowerSchool

We strongly encourage all students and guardians to enable their PowerSchool accounts, both on the internet browser and PowerSchool mobile application. Students will be guided through the web platform in the first few weeks of school, using their student account information (the same username and password as their Gmail). Parents can activate their accounts by contacting the school and walking through the process with our administrative assistants. This is valuable for families who have multiple students in our school (or any WRPS school!).

PowerSchool is valuable to see how students are doing academically in their studies, however it is also an asset for monitoring student attendance, accessing school fees, seeing school daily announcements (via the Daily Bulletin), and the email hot button for contacting teachers.

We use PowerSchool to communicate students' grades at reporting intervals (each quarter). Traditional report cards at these times will only be printed upon individual requests. We strongly believe that student progress is best communicated through regular feedback, rather than only at reporting dates. PowerSchool is an incredible tool that will increase the effectiveness of feedback on student learning. We are happy to help students and families learn the platform, so please contact the office with any questions.

# ISW

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Tansi,

*Tawaw ay-ahci kihci askiwin Buck Mountain Central kiskinwahamakewikamik. Wayne Caron nitsiyikason ekwa niya oskayi Kayas Ohci natamakewin. Minihik ohci niya pihcayihk ostesimawasinahikan nikotwasik nehiyawaskiy.*

Hello,

*Welcome to another great year at Buck Mountain Central School. For those that don't know me my name is Wayne Caron and I am the Indigenous Support Worker from Buck Lake in the Treaty Six territory.*

I have been supporting and advocating for Indigenous families, youth and children for 20+ years through my education, work and volunteering. My role as the Indigenous Support Worker is to support and nurture First Nations, Metis and Inuit students to succeed in learning by building a safe space/environment, positive male role modeling and relationship building. I am also responsible for building positive relationships with the families, having support in place that can easily be accessed by the families as well as advocating for them and their children whenever necessary.

As a Nehiyaw (Cree Person), I practice and teach the Cree Value System of *Wahkotowin* (Kinship), *Sakitowin* (Loving), *Kitimakeyitowin* (Caring), *Iyisahowin* (Patience), *Kisewatisiwin* (Compassion), and *Iyanowpimatisowin* (Indigenous Life and Values). I also want to assure you that every effort is being made to introduce quality cultural programming to the school that will bring awareness of histories and experiences of Indigenous people, culture, perspectives and traditions as well as expand on the programming that is already in place.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage families to either contact me or we can schedule a visit to discuss any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have. Let us all work together in the spirit of *Wahkotowin* returning to our traditional value system based upon the foundation of natural law.

kinanaskomitin  
Wayne Caron, BA, NS  
Indigenous Support Worker

# FSL

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Welcome Back Everyone.

I hope you all had a great summer. I am excited to be back at Buck Mountain again this year.

Please know that I am here for you if you need a safe space to go to or just need someone to talk to.

This year my schedule is a little different. I will be at BMC every day except for every other Tuesday and Thursday. Those days I will be at Alder Flats and Winfield.

I hope everyone has a great 2022/2023 school year!

Mrs. Lesley



## MARK YOUR CALENDERS

### AUGUST

- 29 - First Day of Classes Grade 7 & 12
- 30 - ALL Students Return

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 - PLC Day (No School)
- 7 - Sr. Girls Volleyball Tryouts 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- 9 - Cheer Tryout 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- 13 - PAC Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 15 - Class Add/Drop Deadline
- 23 - Terry Fox Run
- 29 - Orange Shirt Day
- 30 - National Day for TRC (No School)

SENIOR GIRLS  
**VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS**  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH  
3:30-5:00

WHAT TO BRING:  
- RUNNING SHOES  
- WATER BOTTLE  
- VOLLEYBALL ATTIRE + KNEE PADS

MISS. LABRIE INVITES GRADES  
7-9 STUDENTS TO:

**CHEER TRYOUTS**

SEPT 9 IN THE GYM FROM 3:30-5:30 AND SEPT 14 ON THE STAGE FROM 3:30-5:30

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. BRING GYM CLOTHES, WATER BOTTLE, AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE!

**Winfield Ag Society**

presents the  
**First Annual Community Expo**  
Sept 8, 2022 from 6-7:30pm

Join us in the Winfield Hall to see what our little town has to offer!  
Sports club registrations, service groups and more. Everyone welcome!  
Contact Lisa to book a table or for more info.  
780-514-6671 or winfieldagsociety@gmail.com