



OTTAWA-CARLETON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Manotick Public School
1075 Bridge Street
Manotick, ON K4M 1H3
Telephone 613-692-3427
Safe Arrival Line 613-692-3311
Fax 613-692-1659

www.manotickps.ocdsb.ca



September 12, 2016

"Parents play a vital role in education. When parents are engaged and involved, everyone- students, parents and families, teachers, schools, and communities- benefits, and our schools become increasingly rich and positive places to teach, learn, and grow"

– A Parent Engagement Policy for Ontario Schools, 2010

Thank you, MPS parents and guardians, for all that you do for our students and school community!

We had a great first week at MPS! The grades 1-5 students settled into their routines and our Kindergarten students had a successful first day on Thursday/Friday. Our grade 5 students have already begun their roles as lunch monitors and many more leadership opportunities will be provided to them as the year goes on. Several of them stepped up to the plate on the first day and presented skits, at our school assembly, about how students can use their WITS. This link, [WITS Program](#), will provide more information about using WITS.

I would like to take this opportunity to more formally introduce myself. I am the new principal at Manotick Public School. I was the vice principal at A.Lorne Cassidy ES in Stittsville for the past two years and W.O. Mitchell ES in Kanata for the two years prior to that. I have been with the OCDSB since 1999 and have taught and/or been a Learning Support Teacher in K-8 classrooms, as well as worked centrally for three years in Curriculum Services as a Literacy and Numeracy Instructional Coach. In addition to my passion for balanced Literacy and Numeracy learning, I have my specialist in Special Education and Physical Education and am a strong advocate for meeting the learning needs of all students. I am thrilled to now be part of the MPS team!

I will be sending out regular emails in the hopes of keeping you informed of all that is going on and available to you and your children. (Please let our office know if you would like a hard copy as well.) Please ensure that we have your current email information so that you receive these updates. We are working to update our staff list and links on our school's website and to get our Twitter account up and rolling. I am hoping to have both in full swing by the end of this week.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

Jessica Cass - grade 2/3 EFI homeroom; teaching English and Math

Julia Gilbert - LLD homeroom

Megan Gillis joins our Kindergarten team until Brittany Uhrig returns in the spring.

Athena Ladman - grade 1/2 English homeroom

Erin McCambridge - grade 5 EFI homeroom; replaces Jennifer Cahill until Mme Cahill's return.

Karen Myrah - librarian; with library being on Mondays and Wednesdays until Ann Triemstra's return.

Patricia Roy - teaching Math to our grade 1 EFI students

Tegan Stanks - teaching English and Math to our grade 5 EFI students

Educating for Success – Inspiring Learning and Building Citizenship

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Zone 1 Trustee: Lynn Scott



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MPS SCHOOL COUNCIL's first meeting will be Wednesday, September 21st at 7 pm in the library. Subsequent meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Elections for council positions will be held at the first meeting. If you are interested in running for a position, would like to be a parent representative/member at large, or simply would like to join us whenever you are available, you are more than welcome! [MPS School Council Website](#) [OCDSB School Council Information](#)

MPS MEET THE TEACHER will be on Wednesday, September 28th from 4:00-6:00pm. More information to follow.

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES/OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS

We would like to remind parents that we have a number of students in our school at risk of anaphylaxis or other severe allergic reactions. Allergic reactions can be brought on by extremely limited exposure to the allergen.

We continue to promote nut-safe practices at MPS. We also have students with other extremely dangerous allergies in our school. You will have already received information from your child's teacher if there are other allergens that are harmful to a classmate. As such, we ask that you exercise caution in the selection of items in your child's lunch/snacks and thank you, in advance, for doing so.

If your child requires an Epi-pen, please contact the office immediately to ensure we have the appropriate paperwork completed. We also ask that we have one Epi-pen to keep in the office and that your child carries one on him/her at all times.

Please contact the office immediately to inform us of any other medical conditions that may require specific medical treatment e.g., diabetes, other life threatening allergies, concussions, etc.

SUPERVISION ON THE YARD

Please be advised that supervision on the yard will commence 15 minutes prior to the start of school. To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that students do not arrive prior to 8:00am.

ADULTS ON THE SCHOOL YARD AND IN CLASSROOMS/HALLS

Student safety is paramount at all times. As such, we ask that all adults other than school staff refrain from entering the school yard, school hallways or classrooms when dropping off and picking up students.

Now that our grades 1-5 students are familiar with their arrival routines, we ask that their parents/guardians use available street parking on West River Drive and the corresponding gate entry to wish their child well and to say goodbye. This is important to ensure that our staff is more easily able to monitor student safety on the school yard and in our hallways as well as allow children to have

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an easy transition into their classrooms to start their day. Similarly, most Kinder students settle in more quickly if their parents/guardians drop them off at the Kinder yard door/gate as opposed to entering the Kinder yard itself. We will always contact parents if a child is upset longer than usual after drop off.

OFFICE NEWS

A fairly large information package (that also includes several forms that require your input and/or signature) will be coming home with your child this week. Please complete all required forms and return to them to school at your earliest convenience.

If your child is required to have oral medication administered during school hours, the school must obtain a request that has been signed by both the child's parent/guardian and supervising physician. [Permission to administer oral medication](#) These forms are also available in the office.

If you are running late and need to drop your child off after the 8:15am bell, please come directly to the office to sign your child in. Our office staff, Mrs. Fauser or Mrs. Stanzel, will be happy to take your child to his or her classroom if necessary.

It is also important for student safety that all visitors sign into the office and have a visitor or volunteer badge on when in the halls and classrooms during school hours. Please be sure to sign in and out when volunteering in the school.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to working with you and your children throughout the school year. Please feel free to contact me at any time should you have any questions, concerns or feedback.

Sincerely,

Tracy Snarr
Principal
tracy.snarr@ocdsb.ca

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