

March 2022



Happy Spring, Warburg Families! 🌻🌻

I hope the weather turns in our favour and spring is on its way. You may have heard from your elementary students how icy our playground has been over the past few months. Rock chips and salt have been used to mitigate this but it's icy everywhere and we cannot spread salt over the entire playground and field. Not to worry, this will all melt and turn into **LAKE WARBURG** very soon!

I know that the mask mandate has been lifted but if you need any masks we have many at the school that we could send home for your use. We also have **Rapid Test Kits** at school, too. Just email ws@blackgold.ca and we will be sure to get a box or two home to you.

We are so excited that the school protocols put in place are now lifted. This allows us to do cross graded cohorting, assemblies and field trips among other things. We will be mindful and purposeful when we are looking at these new opportunities and create co-and extra-curricular **activities and excursions** that are meaningful to our students.



While many of the COVID protocols put in place were barriers in limiting what we could do with and for our students, I have learned that some protocols were fantastic and will become a regular part of school life at Warburg School. One of those lessons involves microwaves. You, as primary lunch makers, adapted and found new and creative ways to pack healthy lunches.

Microwaves in elementary classrooms will not be returning. The junior and senior high microwaves that were once in the open area *may* return after spring break - stay tuned.

At this time we ask that all parents that wish to volunteer speak directly with their child's teacher. This needs to be set up with the teacher and then the teacher will inform the office when you will be in. All volunteers must continue to sign in at the office.

In order to maintain student safety and to ensure that we are always aware who is in the building we ask that all visitors check with the office and ***not move about the school at any time.*** Should a student or an item need to be fetched from a classroom our office staff is happy to do that for you.



I was chatting with the grade 8 students the other day about what their CTF (Career and Technology Foundations) or options could look like now that cohorting has been lifted. I was reminded very quickly that these students have never been in junior high options in which students were mixed with all three grades. We have also been somewhat limited, given covid protocols, as to what we could offer students for **CTF or option classes**. I am excited to explore new possibilities for these classes and bring back some favourites from years gone by.

For those of you new to junior high, CTF or option classes are designed to give students an opportunity to develop communication skills, problem solve, collaborate and evaluate their own learning. A calligraphy class may not lead to hard employment skills but it does provide opportunity for students to develop their **soft skills**. It is also a nice break from the rigour of core instruction.



Believe it or not, it is time for me to submit to the school division office enrollment projections for next year. I know we have a good sized group coming for kindergarten, which is fantastic. If you are aware of any new neighbours moving in that would have Warburg School students, let me know. I want to make as *accurate a projection* as possible for the fall.

I want to thank our dedicated Parent Council & Society for funding our latest fun activity. They supported by paying to bring in the Rocks & Rings program. This program is designed to teach kids fundamentals of curling and get them interested in the sport. Our Parent Council is also busy fundraising for new playground equipment. The latest fundraiser is [Colouring Cookie Sets](#). These are super cute cookies that come with edible icing markers so the kids can colour and decorate before eating these yummy treats. These would be great for Easter baskets. Info is on our school Facebook page. You can order them on your parent portal. Look forward to Boston Pizza Hot Lunch day on March 17th. Order on your parent portal. Join us at our next **PARENT COUNCIL MEETING **IN PERSON**** at the school on March 21st at 7 PM.



Help with fundraising efforts by volunteering to work at the Parent Council fundraising society **CASINO ON APRIL 3 & 4** in Camrose. This is a great opportunity for the society to make some great money towards the purchase and installation of the \$24,000 piece of playground equipment. Contact by clicking this email link to [Louise Scheopp](#) if you can volunteer. We need your help.

I was recently asked about how bullying in our school gets dealt with. We have been educating our students about what bullying actually is. Is it rude, is it mean or is it in fact, bullying?

Is it Bullying?

When someone says or does something *unintentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's...

Rude

When someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's...

Mean

When someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they *keep doing it* - even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset, that's...

Bullying

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Our staff are often dealing with students that are rude and mean but not often do we have instances of bullying behaviour. If we are made aware of any untoward behaviour, we are promptly dealing with it. The key is to let us know. If we are not aware of an issue, we cannot help to resolve it.

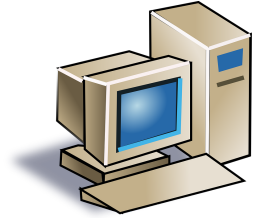
Mr. Hodges and I, along with our entire staff, work diligently to ensure that students feel safe when they are at school. Rest assured that this is **our number one priority at Warburg School**.

Due to confidentiality and FOIPP regulations we are unable to divulge information and get into specifics as to consequences and outcomes when it comes to dealing with this behaviour. This does cause some concern for students and parents. Some think that because consequences were not made public, nothing has happened when this is simply not the case.

You can do your part too, by making sure students tell an adult at school when they are faced with an issue. Encourage them to discern if it's rude, mean or bullying behaviour, and by not sharing misinformation and speculation about a situation.

You may have seen that we are once again taking used electronic devices for **RECYCLING**. You can drop off ANY unwanted or unusable electronics at the school.

We have a large cage in the front entryway for this purpose. It is already half full with microwaves, monitors, hair dryers, stereos and the like. Keep these things out of the land fill.



You are reminded that school fees are now due. Please pay fees promptly or call Trish at the office to arrange a payment plan. School fees are used to purchase items for student use in their courses. Sports team fees are also due. These fees pay for first aid supplies, travel costs and reffing costs to name a few.

I am pleased to report that our school has very much benefited from having Liz Ward in on Tuesdays. She is part of the **Mental Health Capacity Building** team in the school division. She has been talking with classes about ways to improve mental health and wellness, making mindful decisions, improving friendships and getting better at communicating. We all know our students have been dealing with so much recently and having Liz come in to make us aware and give kids some strategies is so worthwhile.



If you see that your child needs support for what you would consider beyond regular kids stuff, reach out to our counsellor [Mrs. Hodges](#) (click to email). She has her Masters in Counselling Psychology and has a masterful listening ear. She offers support for students at school and can refer you and/or your child to outside agencies if there is a need for more therapeutic support. Mrs. Hodges is also our school's career counsellor and works with our high school students as they manoeuvre through post-secondary decision making.

Seeking sponsorship: Our basketball season is coming to an end. It was a hugely successful, albeit short, season for our students. Thank you to Mr. Arnold & Miss Denschikoff for their coaching skills with our high school teams and to Mr. Hodges and Mrs. Gidosh for working with our junior high teams. Another lesson learned during covid restrictions is that it would be really nice to have our sports games live streamed on YouTube. We were unable to do this as we were not set up to do so but going forward, I see this as a great service to our school community. Relatives that are not able to travel can watch volleyball and basketball from the comfort of their own homes and visiting teams can have fans tune in from away too. This is a relatively simple system to set up but it does cost us some money. To purchase and install a camera with electrical would be around \$2000. If you or your company would like to sponsor this for our school we would ❤️❤️❤️❤️ LOVE IT and would advertise your generosity widely. Be in touch with me for more detailed information.



While covid restrictions have been lifted we are still diligent in ensuring those that are at school are healthy to be here. Please keep your kids home if they are experiencing any of the symptoms noted on the [AHS Daily Checklist](#) (pg 3 & 4). **We will send kids home** if they are at school with any of these symptoms which include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, congestion and or headache. We appreciate your ongoing support with this. Also, this serves as your reminder to check on your parent portal that your phone numbers are correct.

Our School Resource Officer, Constable Alipour continues to visit us on a regular basis. He stops in all classes to see what is going on and to interact with students. Cst. Alipour has talked with our junior high students about the dangers of social media, met with small groups and even done some one-on-one talks with students. He is a valuable resource to our school and we are thankful that he is able to support our students.

Super chill Cst. Alipour



Student absences can be reported by calling
780-848-2822,
587-671-0255, or by emailing
ws@blackgold.ca

As always, be in touch with me or Mr. Hodges if you have any questions about your child's education at Warburg School.

Regards,

Handwritten signature of Wendy Maltais in black ink.

Wendy Maltais
Principal
wendy.maltais@blackgold.ca

Handwritten signature of Daniel Hodges in black ink.

Daniel Hodges
Assistant Principal
daniel.hodges@blackgold.ca

Stay in touch via:



Warburg School



@warburgschool



warburg_panthers

