



# Falcon News

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fld.scdsb.on.ca  
Fieldcrest.edublogs.org  
Inclement Weather Zone:  
South

## September 2017

Kim Walke, Principal  
Heather Booth, Vice Principal  
Len Dunkley, Vice Principal  
Daryl Halliday, Superintendent

Fieldcrest  
Elementary School  
100 Professor Day Dr.  
Bradford, Ontario L3Z 3B9

### School Times

Supervision Begins	9:00 am
Warning Bell	9:12 am
Entry Bell	9:15 am
Instructional Time	9:15 to 10:55 am
Nutrition Break (Gr. 4-8)	10:55 to 11:15 am
Outdoor Play (Kind.-Gr. 3)	10:55 to 11:15 am
Nutrition Break (Kind.-Gr. 3)	11:15 to 11:35 am
Outdoor Play (Gr. 4-8)	11:15 to 11:35 am
Instructional Time	11:35 to 1:15 pm
Nutrition Break (Gr. 4-8)	1:15 to 1:35 pm
Outdoor Play (Kind.-Gr.3)	1:15 to 1:35 pm
Nutrition Break (Kind.-Gr. 3)	1:35 to 1:55 pm
Outdoor Play (Gr. 4-8)	1:35 to 1:55 pm
Instructional Time	1:55 to 3:35 pm
Dismissal:	3:35 pm

### Principal's Message

Welcome to new and returning Fieldcrest families and school staff! I hope that you had an enjoyable summer. The Fieldcrest school community continues to grow with a student enrolment of over 800 students and 70 staff members. I am delighted to be joining Fieldcrest as your new principal and will be working with Heather Booth and Len Dunkley our vice-principals, along with the entire school staff and we will continue Fieldcrest's tradition of striving for excellence in the delivery of public education.

We, the Fieldcrest staff, look forward to working with you and your children. As a Simcoe County school, our main priority is to ensure, enhance, foster and support student well-being and success. We value you as partners in public education and look forward to an exciting 2017-2018 school year working and learning together!

Mrs. Kimberly Walke  
Principal

### September Re-organization

Yearly re-organization of class placements has been necessary at Fieldcrest to accommodate growth in our school area. We appreciate your continued support. Staffing will be reviewed by the school board in September to adequately cover the actual enrolment at Fieldcrest. Changes may be necessary to your child's class placement and teacher. Information will be sent home if your child is affected.



#### Sept. 18th

- Volunteer Orientation @ 9:30 am in Library

#### Sept. 28th

- Meet The Teacher 6:00 to 7:30 pm

#### Sept. 28th

- Terry Fox Run 2:00 pm

#### Oct. 2nd

- School Council Elections & Meeting at 6:30 pm

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Please ensure your children are aware of the time that school begins so that they will be on time. Chronic lateness is very disruptive to classes and late students miss important information. There will be no pick up of students after 3:15 pm as teachers are busy getting students ready for dismissal.

## Procedures to Help Keep our School Safe

The safety and well-being of students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

**Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.

A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites ([www.facebook.com/SCDSB](http://www.facebook.com/SCDSB) and [www.twitter.com/SCDSB\\_Schools](http://www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools)) and website ([www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)), through local police and local media.

- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. Each school has an evacuation site. Ours is *Bradford District High School*. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.
- Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** to enter the building. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, please be patient.** All visitors, including school volunteers, are required to **sign in** at the school office and wear **visitor identification**.
- Staff and volunteers must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.
- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All Simcoe County District School Board schools **have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

## International Languages Program

**Free International Languages classes – registration for fall program available now**

Would your child like to learn a new language or maintain their first language? These courses are FREE and open to any student in Grades 1 to 8. Classes run Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. beginning Sept. 17, 2016. Registration forms can be found at [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com) or call 705-725-8360 x45151 or x45160 if you have any questions.

## Volunteers

Parents who volunteered last year and wish to volunteer again this year are asked to pick up a volunteer form and Offence Declaration from the office. **OFFENCE DECLARATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE END OF NOVEMBER. IF YOU DON'T COMPLETE BY THAT DATE YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE A NEW POLICE CHECK.** Any other parents who would like to volunteer their time at Fieldcrest are asked to please pick up a volunteer form, booklet and police check form. **The volunteer session will be held on September 18th at 9:30 am in the library.**

## Mini Sticks

We are asking all student's to NOT bring mini sticks to school. PLEASE KEEP MINI STICKS AT HOME UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

## Student Dress Code

### There are lots of ways to dress for school: Learn about the student dress code

Students are expected to respect the guidelines when dressing for school. Our school is a safe space. We work to be equitable and inclusive, and understand that students may choose to express themselves through their clothing choices. Student clothing cannot pose a safety concern or conceal identity. Exceptions are granted to students who wear head coverings or other garments/objects for the purposes of religious observance, medical or sensory needs, or other reasons protected by the Ontario Human Rights Code. The SCDSB dress code is available in the student agenda and online at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca). If you have questions about the dress code, you can contact the principal or the SCDSB Equity and Inclusive Education Team at 705-728-7570.

## Parking Lot

Our parking lot is very busy especially at arrival and dismissal time. For everyone's safety we encourage parents who have students in the busing areas to please take the bus to and from school and that walking students walk to and from school. The parking lot will be closed between 8:30 to 9:30 AM and between 3:00 to 4:00 PM. There is no parking other than in the designated parking areas. Only school vehicles (school buses and vans) or emergency vehicles (ambulances/police cars) are allowed in the school bus loading zone that is located directly in front of the school.

## School Grounds are Smoke Free 24/7

The Health Unit would like to remind everyone that school grounds are smoke free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of second hand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This included smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under the age of 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250.00. For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

## English As A Second Language

Do you or someone you know want to improve English language skills? The SCDSB Learning Centre can help. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults are offered at the Bradford Learning Centre. Visit [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com) or call for more information: Bradford: 905-775-4432.

## School Council

Our first School council meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2017. All parents are welcome to attend our meetings. School Council Nomination forms are included in the first day package and are available in the school office. The forms are due by Thursday, September 28th in the school office.

### School Council Election Process

- Nominations in to school by September 28th
- Candidates Forum and Election Day (if needed) - October 2nd at 6:30 PM
- First School Council meeting for 2017/2018—October 2nd after elections

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARENTS WILLING TO BE PART OF OUR COUNCIL. WE MEET NO MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH. BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL.

## Bus Tag Program

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's Bus Tag program supports safety for JK/SK and other school identified students. The program helps match students to their assigned afternoon school bus and identifies that they must be met by a parent or guardian at their afternoon bus stop. If parent/guardians wish to designate a care giver or responsible older student they must complete an Alternate Bus Pick Up Arrangement form which is available at the school office.

The program provides a colour coded Bus Tag with the assigned p.m. route number to be attached to the student's backpack and a colour coded route card with route number in the windows of the school bus that the Bus Tag is matched to. The program can also provide tags for students who are walkers and/or who remain at an on-site childcare centre to make sure they don't get on a bus in error.

For more information, visit [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) and click on the 'Safety' tab.

## Agendas

Each student (Grades 1 to 8) will receive a SCDSB agenda. This is a very valuable tool for tracking important school events, homework assignments and provides excellent communication between home and school. Please read the SCDSB insert inside the front pages of the agenda. This document contains important



information that you and your child should review. We have provided every Kindergarten student with a photocopy of this document as they will be using mail bags for communication.

## Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent/late please call the school's safe arrival line at 905-778-2010 and press 1. Leave a message with your child's name (spelling the last name), teacher, date of absence and the reason for the absence. This is a 24 hour machine where a message must be left if your child will be absent or late. If your child is absent for 3 or more consecutive days please send a note. Please do not leave an e-mail or voice mail with your child's teacher. Every new student will be receiving a magnet with the safe arrival phone number on it. Please put this near your phone or home communication area for easy access.

## Signing IN/OUT at the Office

Any late students are required to sign IN at the office and receive a late slip before going to class. If you are picking your child up early please send a note to your child's teacher. Student's cannot be picked up between 3:15 and 3:35 as the staff is busy ensuring students are dismissed safely. All student's must be signed OUT in the office by an adult on their emergency list.

## Lost or Damaged Materials

Fieldcrest Elementary School has been able to purchase many new learning materials over the last few years. We expect all of our students to respect school computers/ipads, text books, library books, supplies, furniture and property. If any property is destroyed or vandalized, we expect our students to pay the cost required to replace them. If school property is lost, we also expect our students to cover the replacement costs. Similarly, if a student destroys supplies, furniture, or property on purpose, we expect our students to replace these on their own. We are very hopeful that all of our students will respect all school property and materials so that they are not required to replace them at any time throughout the year. Thank you for your support and understanding.

## Anaphylactic Students In Our School (Severe Allergies)

It is vitally important that we have the co-operation of all students and parents in maintaining a safe environment for the many students in our school who have allergies to peanut and tree nut products. To some of our students, this is a life threatening issue. Those with a severe allergy can be sent into anaphylactic shock from the smell of peanut butter, or through the touching of a desk or door handle on which there is a trace of peanut/nut oil. Please keep all students safe by sending your child with peanut/nut free snacks and lunch.

## Student Accident Insurance

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country field trips) are not covered by the Board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen.

Due to recent injuries in Ontario during school extra-curricular activities and field trips, and the resulting financial cost, a risk exposure to school boards and families has been highlighted. It is essential that all those participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage for all instances of injury.

The Simcoe County District School Board has selected Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider with regards to purchasing student accident insurance coverage for the upcoming school year. The coverage is for 24 hours a day. Old Republic offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or complete the form included in the first day package and mail directly to the company.

## Parent Portal

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, you can visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.