

January 2021

Message from the Principal



January is the time we look back on the past year and analyze how the decisions we made impacted our school. We reflect upon our practices and decide what our priorities will be for the coming year. This past month the administration team at Swanavon School did just that. We took time to reflect upon the culture of our school; questioned current practices and procedures at our school; and reviewed current research that could lead us to positively improve our steps in our educational journey as staff and students. This is an exercise that all Swanavon Staff participates in during our various School Improvement meetings. We decide as a school team what works within our culture and serves our needs as instructional practitioners. We continue to “seek new knowledge, skills and strategies, and work collaboratively to plan, solve problems and improve learning opportunities” for our learning community. (Hipp & Huffman, 2003)

As a professional learning community, we reflect throughout the school year upon four important questions. (Dufour)

1. What do we expect students to learn?
2. How will we know if they have learned it?
3. What will we do if they haven't learned it?
4. What will we do for those who DO know it?

Swanavon School has a committed, dedicated staff that is reflective in practice for the benefit of your children, our students.

If you have any concerns regarding our students, please call the office at 780-532-8885 or email cynthia.matthews@gpsd.ab.ca We are here to serve our students and their families.

Mrs. Cynthia Matthews,
Principal
Swanavon School



January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25 <i>Pirate Day</i>	26 <i>Adventure Day</i>	27 <i>Idiom Day</i>	28 <i>Favourite Character Day</i>	29	30

Cold Weather:



Please dress students for the cold weather. Students are outside for lunch recess and afternoon recess. As well, teachers take students outside for daily physical activity. It is winter and temperatures are cold, students need to have a winter jacket, mittens, hats and boots.

Social Media:

Please remember to “LIKE” us on FACEBOOK so you can receive all the school happenings; upcoming dates, photos and live streams of Swanavon students and staff in action! We are also linked to GPPSD FACEBOOK page which also gives important division information. We work to keep communication open through our newsletter, teacher websites, general email reminders, FACEBOOK and the school website.

Click Here for Facebook



School Council Announcements:

Our January meeting has been cancelled. Please stay tuned for the date of the February school council meeting.

SCHOOL COUNCIL: Our school council is active in discussing educational issues and providing community building activities for our students. Our many parent volunteers connected to our school council are extremely active, visible in our school and supportive of school goals of academic excellence and responsible citizenship.

Literacy Week: January 25 - 28th

Dress-up days:

Monday – Arrgh Mateys! It is **Pirate Day** today! Students can dress like a pirate and we will be providing foam masks for all students.

Tuesday – Adventure Day! Dress like your favourite adventurer – think Indiana Jones, Alice (in Wonderland), Bilbo Baggins, Harry Potter, or someone you know going on an adventure.

Wednesday – Idiom Dress up day! We wanted to take the stress off parents and have this project take place in the classroom with the teacher as the leader. Brainstorm some ideas and allow the students to create their wearable idiom or play on words. Some examples are smarty pants, smart cookie, heart on your sleeve, raining cats and dogs, etc.

Thursday – Favourite Character Day! Dress up like your favourite book character today.

Note: 80's Day Postponed until February

How Long to Stay Home From School:

COVID-19 INFORMATION

HOW LONG TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL

The amount of time a student needs to stay home from school depends on the type of symptoms. For more details: [Isolation requirements](#)

If a student has these symptoms	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Cough• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing• Loss of sense of smell or taste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.• COVID-19 testing is recommended.• Can return to school before 10 days only if a COVID-19 test is negative, symptoms are gone, and the student was not a close contact of someone with COVID-19.• Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved.• If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from Alberta Health Services.
<p>One of the following symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chills• Sore throat/painful swallowing• Runny nose/congestion• Headache• Muscle or joint aches• Feeling unwell/fatigued• Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea• Unexplained loss of appetite• Muscle/joint aches• Headache• Pink eye (conjunctivitis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay home from school and monitor for 24 hours. If after 24 hours your symptoms improve, you may return to school when you are feeling better.• A COVID-19 test is not required but is available.• Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved. <p>If a child has any two of these symptoms, or after 24 hours, their condition gets worse or they develop a second symptom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COVID-19 test recommended.• May return to school after symptoms are gone, even without a COVID-19 test or results.• Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved.• If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from Alberta Health Services.

For more details: alberta.ca/returntoschool

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Learning while in Quarantine:

SWANAVON Parent Guide: Learning while in Quarantine

This year all PK-8 students at SWANAVON have Google accounts, with access to Google Classrooms or Google Sites that can be used and accessed while at school and while at home. Parents it is **IMPERATIVE** that you have your child setup on Google Classroom at home. Your child's teacher would have shared your child's username and password in an email with you. **We are asking that you have your child setup by October 16.** Please reach out to your child's teachers if you are experiencing difficulty logging on. They are here to help and support you through this process.

What is a Google Site?

Google Sites are websites teachers can modify to create a unique classroom website.

What is Google Classroom?

Google Classroom is an online classroom. It makes it easy to create classes, distribute assignments, communicate, and stay organized. Google Classroom increases the ease at which students can hand in assignments from home.

What is Google Meet?

Google Meet is a conference software like Zoom that teachers can use to teach live, interactive lessons online.

Student is in Quarantine (Short Term)	Teacher and Students are in Quarantine (Short Term)	Provincially Designated At-Home Learning (Long Term)
While a student is at home awaiting Covid-19 test results and/or non-core symptoms to clear up, teacher provides access to Google Classroom.	Google Classroom will be used for continuation of curriculum instruction for the duration of the quarantine.	Online learning will be directed as per Alberta Education Guidelines.
<p>What to Expect:</p> <p>Your child will have access to lessons and activities that are meant to lessen the gaps in their learning during any short-term absence.</p> <p>It will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Google Classroom • Review, skill building and practice work <p>It will NOT include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live instruction (Google Meets) • The equivalent of what is taking place in the classroom 	<p>What to Expect:</p> <p>Your child will connect with a teacher in a live format during scheduled times each day and will continue learning in this manner until the class returns to school for in-person learning.</p> <p>It will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Curriculum/New Content • Live instruction (Google Meets) • Feedback provided to students • Assessment 	<p>What to Expect:</p> <p>Google Classroom will be used as the online learning platform for the duration of the long-term quarantine.</p> <p>It will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Curriculum/New Content • Live instruction (Google Meets) • Feedback provided to students • Assessment

Mask Up Before Entering the School:

Just a reminder that if you are having to enter Swanavon School we ask that you please have a mask on prior to entering the building. This will help to keep our students, staff and your family safe.

#GPPSDThanks
students, staff and
parents for their help
keeping our schools
and community
safe places to live,
work and learn.



COVID-19 Return Date E-mails:

If your child has to miss school because they either have a “core symptom” or an “other symptom” please watch your e-mail for communication from our office. The e-mail will have a return date stated in the e-mail when your child can return.

If you are seeking clarity or have any question at all about when your child can return please contact our office at 780-532-8885 Ext 0.

Please click on the link below to connect you to Alberta Health Services - How to book a COVID-19 test.

[Click Here to Book A Covid Test](#)

Attendance Matters:

ONE SCHOOL YEAR = 40 Weeks,

When students are absent for;

- **10 minutes a day = 20 hours total = 6 days = 3% of the school year**
- **30 minutes a day = 100 hours total = 18 days = 9% of the school year**



2020-2021 GPPSD Calendar :



Grande Prairie Public School Division 2020-2021 CALENDAR Approved

AUGUST 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

27 Professional Learning Day
28 Professional Learning Day
31 Professional Learning Day

3/0

FEBRUARY 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

1 Semester 2 Begins
15 Family Day
26 Professional Learning Day

19/18

SEPTEMBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

1 First Day of School
7 Labour Day
18 Professional Learning Day

21/20

MARCH 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

4/5 Teachers' Convention Day in Lieu
19 Professional Learning Day
26 Professional Learning Day

22/19

OCTOBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

12 Thanksgiving
23 Professional Learning Day

21/20

APRIL 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

2 Good Friday
3-11 Easter Break
12 First Day Back
23 Professional Learning Day

16/15

NOVEMBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

11 Remembrance Day
20 Professional Learning Day

20/19

MAY 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

7 Professional Learning Day
24 Victoria Day

20/19

DECEMBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

4 Day in Lieu
11 Professional Learning Day
19-31 Christmas Break

13/12

JUNE 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

4 Professional Learning Day
21 Nat'l Indigenous People Day
25 Last Day for Students other than Students writing the scheduled Diploma Exam on June 28
28 Last Day for Staff and those Students writing the scheduled Diploma Exam

20/18

JANUARY 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

1-3 Christmas Break
4 First Day Back
29 Professional Learning Day

20/19

Day off for Students & Staff
 Full Day off for Students

1st Semester 98 Staff/90 Student
 2nd Semester 97 Staff/89 Student
 Total number of days
 195 Staff / 179 Students

No Dogs on School Grounds:

Bylaw C-1226 states that “The owner of a dog shall ensure the dog does not enter or remain in or on any area where dogs are prohibited by posted signs, or within five meters of a playground, athletic field or school ground.”

Bylaw Officers are responsible for enforcing Bylaw [C-1226](#).

[Click Here for More Information](#) 



No Smoking on School Property:

Grande Prairie has made school property and the school parking lot a “smoke free” area according to the “No Smoking Bylaw” [C-1278](#). The penalty that will be issued by the city is a \$250 fine.

[Click Here for More Information](#) 



**NO SMOKING
ON THE
SCHOOL
GROUNDS**

January



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Visit our [school](#) page:
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