I’d like to begin by welcoming everyone back to Amherstburg Public School after a restful and I’m sure busy, summer break. I am so excited to be the new Principal of a school in such a great community! I’d like to welcome all of our new families to Amherstburg Public school. I know that you will find the school warm and inviting, with a focus on student safety and achievement.

Despite some new construction on the inside lights and the roof this summer, our custodians have worked hard to get the school in tip top shape to welcome our staff and students. Thank you to Mr. Baylis, Mr. Clemens and Mr. Schwab for all of their hard work. The school looks great!

Not only have our custodians been busy preparing the school for the first day, but our staff have also been busy. Their classrooms look fabulous as they anxiously await the arrival of their students.

I look forward to another exciting school year at Amherstburg PS, beginning with our “Meet the APS Staff” evening event tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 26th from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. We encourage all of our families to attend. An information flyer will be sent home closer to the date.

The staff is also excited to begin working together on our school wide and classroom achievement goals. We have received some preliminary EQAO data, which will be shared in an upcoming community report. We will be using this and a variety of other school wide data to set student achievement priorities for the coming year.

Please remember that my door is always open. Stop by at any time to introduce yourself and your children or to just say “hi”. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at the school. I am always willing to listen and work with you as we work together in the best interest of your children.

All the best for the 2019/2020 school year.

Mr. K. Marentette, Principal

Amherstburg Public School
252 Hamilton Drive
Amherstburg, ON
N9V 1E1
519-736-2189
www.publicboard.ca

Amherstburg Public School
@EAGLESPS

Subscribe to our calendar by visiting our website for up to the minute information!

We have several students severely allergic to nuts and nut products at APS. Thank you for not sending these to school. We want to keep all of our children comfortable and safe.

Elections will take place in our Library on Tuesday, September 17th at 6:00 pm with our first meeting to follow. Please find a nomination form attached to this newsletter.

On behalf of our School Council, we always welcome new families and returning Council members. Throughout the school year Council meets approximately once a month to share information about what is happening in our school and to help organize events and functions at the school. We are always looking for new ideas and value every parent’s input as decisions are made.

At APS we strongly encourage parent involvement in their child’s education through active participation in School Council.

Caring: I will care for myself, my family, my friends, and others. I will strive to understand and be sensitive to their feelings.
For Our Environment

The staff and students of APS are proud to be environmental stewards through our actions at home and at school. At APS we reduce, reuse and recycle, conserve energy just to name a few. We are also continuing to pilot the composting program for the school. Thank you to APS PIC for sponsoring the program. We hope to educate the community on how to use the composting program more willingly and hope to continue the program throughout the year.

Recognizing our Students

Amherstburg Public School is very proud of the accomplishments of our students. There are several ways in which we acknowledge them. We often try to partner with the local media and send them regular updates about all of the great things happening at APS. Our school newsletter will often feature student writing samples, reports on student events such as teams and clubs and details of our students’ involvement in community events, contests and competitions. Special assemblies and presentations throughout the school year (i.e., Remembrance Day, December holidays, etc.) will allow our students to showcase their talents. Please monitor the classroom and the school calendar, available online (www.publicboard.ca), for these dates as spectators are always welcome at APS! Our school staff also have a variety of recognition incentives in place. Our students look forward to our weekly “Good News Ticket” draw. Mr. Marentette and Mme. Neudorf also welcomes students to the office regularly to celebrate their academic and character accomplishments.

Student Agendas

Unfortunately, our Student Planners/Agendas did not get ordered in the spring, however, we will be placing an order for those teachers who would like to use agendas mid September. Agendas are one important organization and communication tool between home and school.

There will be NO CHARGE for the student planners this year.

Recognizing our students is an important part of building our community!

Bulletin Board

Interested in Volunteering?

If you are interested in volunteering at our school, kindly fill out the “Helping Hands” form attached and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Bus Patrol Training

Once again, students will be selected by their bus drivers to participate in bus patrol training this September. Students will rotate through a variety of stations that will focus on various aspects of bus safety. We appreciate the willingness of students to help with this important responsibility.

Safe Arrival

Please call the school office or record your child’s absence in EDSBY if your child will be absent from school or will be late. We have a 24 hr. answering machine available for your convenience.

519-736-2189

This helps us in the morning to ensure that your child is accounted for. Thank you.

2019/2020 Timetable

Our timetable can be found below. Thank you for trying to schedule appointments around nutritional breaks to minimize classroom interruptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:25</td>
<td>Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10</td>
<td>Nutritional Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:40</td>
<td>Nutritional Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:20</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:10</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APS Timetable

2019/2020

Timetable
We take pride in ensuring that our students are safe at APS! As part of our “Safe Welcome”, we ask for your help each day so that we can keep all students safe at all times.

All schools in Ontario are required to keep their doors locked during the school day. If you need to enter the school, please go to the front door and ring the buzzer to be allowed entry and report to the office. For safety reasons, only our students and staff are permitted on the playground. **All visitors moving around the school must report to the office first and are identified with a ‘visitor badge’**.

At the end of the day, students who walk home and students who are being picked up will be dismissed out the front and side doors. If your child is absent, please ensure that you call the school before 8:15 am. If your child needs to leave the school before the end of the day, please ensure that you send a note in to your child’s teacher and your child will be called down upon your arrival.

Please remember that there is no student supervision until 8:15 a.m. **If your child is being dropped off at school or is walking in the morning, they must not arrive prior to this time**. When dropping your child off, please use the Kiss n’ Ride drop off zone. Cars cannot be in the bus loading zone at the front of the school.

For safety’s sake, please exercise caution and drive slowly in our parking lot.

Thank you for your assistance.

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**Important Safety Reminder—Arrival and Dismissal**

**At the beginning of the school year you set the rule:** Homework gets finished as soon as you get home from school. But by October, that rule doesn’t seem to be as hard and fast as it was in August.

If you don't rein in the lax homework routine, before you know it you'll be hearing those panicked cries at 7:30 a.m. that homework isn't finished. Or worse yet, you'll get the dreaded phone call from the teacher notifying you that your little angel hasn't been turning in her homework. Heaven forbid you don't find out about the missed assignments until you attend parent/teacher conferences!

No worries. The problem doesn’t usually lie with formatting a good routine; rather it’s with enforcing the routine. If you’re fortunate enough to be home with your child after school, it is a little easier to ensure the homework routine is maintained. If you don't see your child for an hour or so after he's been home, you can still follow through.

The rules should be simple enough to leave no room for misunderstandings.

1. Grab an after school snack then start homework.
2. TV stays off until all homework is finished and reviewed for completeness.
3. No extracurricular activity until all homework has been completed.

Number three tends to be a difficult one for parents to enforce. We tend to over book our children's schedule. Number three, no extracurricular activity until all homework has been completed, means just that. It doesn’t mean the rule can be relaxed if junior has tae kwon do after school or if Suzy has gymnastics. It doesn't mean its ok to take a pass on number three on days when Johnnie has T-ball practice.

Perhaps you decided that you paid good money for lessons and Suzy, Junior and Johnnie will participate. Okay, but what kind of example is that setting? How about if you take your child to the activity, but she must sit out until the homework has been finished. Then she's welcome to join the other kids on the balance beam.

Remember you still have dinner and a bedtime routine too. Children should worry about being children, not about juggling schedules.

Make sure your child has a snack so that his stomach's growling won't be a distraction. After homework is finished he can enjoy what little time is left in the evening. If you stick to rules one, two and three above, you're on track for a great school year!

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**CLASSROOM RE-ORGANIZATION**

To help ensure the most efficient student to teacher ratio across the school system, the School Board completes a student count in early September. Teaching staff are allocated for the year based on these student totals. As a result, **class lists and placements may change in mid-September due to this reorganization and restructuring**. Overall, the school population has gradually increased over the summer months. If your child is involved in any class change, he/she will bring home a letter indicating a new class placement.

(More great articles for parents are available at www.apples4theteacher.com)
**ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Technology has opened the door to many wonderful learning opportunities and has enhanced our educational experiences which has helped students to become responsible digital citizens. These devices can also be an area of concern. Due to the many privacy issues and the potential inappropriate use of these items, students are not to use cellphones, iPods, iPads, or cameras at school without permission from the school and home. **In the event of an emergency, students may use the office phone or parents can contact their child through the office.** For students whose parents wish them to carry a cell phone, the phone is to be kept stored in a safe place while at school. **The school will not be responsible for any lost or stolen electronic devices.**

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**NEW LUNCH PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS WHO WISH TO LEAVE**

It has been common practice at APS for students to leave the school grounds during the first nutritional break (10:10 – 11:00 am) and eat at home or, more commonly, at various community establishments. Except for special circumstances discussed with parents and for the safety of everyone, **only students in grades 6 – 8 will be allowed to leave the school grounds** during this time.

Permission must be given by a parent or guardian, signed and dated before a student will be allowed to leave the school. A separate form will be sent home with students in grades 6-8 who are requesting permission to leave.

**To reduce litter, account for allergies and to reduce the number of bees, food or drink purchased outside of the school during this time must be consumed off school property. Students who return with food or drink from outside business establishments will be asked to discard it before entering the school.**

We also ask that students enter through the front doors when returning from lunch away from the school.

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**Consent to Photograph and Record**

Throughout the school year, many school activities occur and may require photographing, audio taping, interview, videotaping and filming. In addition, a public media organization may be present to cover events when students are involved in activities which are outside the jurisdiction of the School/Board. In accordance with Municipal Freedom of Information and protection of Privacy Act Part II, a signed release is required for an interview, photograph or videotape when a student participates in these activities. A Consent to Photograph and Record Form is attached and to be returned to the school.

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**STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS**

Please ensure that the school has your most up to date contact information.

If your child has an emergency at school, this is the information that we will use to contact you.

Student Verification forms will go out after Reorganization Day (September 16th 2019). We ask that you please confirm and/or update the information on this form and return it, through your child’s teacher, to the office as soon possible.

This information will be entered into our database which can be altered at any time. Please do not forget to update your information if things change!

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**Toonie for Terry**

Our school will be participating in the Terry Fox Walk/Run. It will be held at the school on Friday, September 27th starting at 11:00 in our library. We are encouraging our students and families, if they can, to donate $2.00. The money will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society.

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**Windsor-Essex County Health Unit**

“The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit provides a number of health services to school children in Windsor and Essex County. Many of these services are provided according to provincial law. If for any reason you do not wish your child to be involved in health education or health services, please inform the school principal in writing as soon as possible.”
What if I don’t speak French?

The earlier children are exposed to language and literacy through activities like reading and writing, the more likely they are to do well at school. This is the case no matter what language they are exposed to in their early years.

Even before they start school, children acquire thinking and communication skills that enable them to learn other languages and to succeed in school. They learn those skills by hearing and speaking the language of their home — whether it is English or Portuguese, Farsi, Urdu or Chinese.

You don’t need special skills to help your child learn French. Spending time with your child — talking about what he or she is thinking about and doing in his or her everyday life — will make a difference.

Helping students develop strong French-language skills is a part of Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario. Learn more at ontario.ca/eduvision

We could use some volunteers to help out with our school library, which is a wonderful, busy place with excellent resources for students, staff, and parents to share. Volunteers would assist with routine circulation desk tasks, help students locate materials, shelve books, and help with light cleaning. Thank you for your interest in helping out! Your active participation shows your children how much you value libraries, books, and reading -- a powerful message!

If you are able to help during the week, please record your name and phone number and Mme Neudorf will give you a call with the specific details.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): ____________________________________________
Phone Number(s): _________________________________________________
The APS Staff have committed to enhancing their parent/teacher communication through the use of EDS-BY. Please see the information below for more information if you have not yet signed up!

Edsby for Parents
FAQ

What are the benefits of using Edsby?
Edsby is a great way to support your child at school. Edsby pulls together information about each of your kids and presents it in a clear, easy-to-understand format. Parents are an important part of the school’s family. For each of your children – even if they go to different schools – you’ll see all their teachers and classes. Some teachers will assign work through Edsby and if they do you will be able to see academic progress, upcoming assessments, and assessments. Each child has a calendar that will display tests and events from this child’s classes and groups, if the teachers are entering the information. Parents may also see what teachers are posting in a class as a way to support their child.

Do I have to use a computer to use Edsby?
Edsby works in all browsers, iOS, and Android devices

What is the Server Name when using an APP?
Publicboard

What is the URL when using a Browser?
publicboard.edsby.com

How will I know that I have been invited to Edsby?
You will receive an email to the email address you have provided the school for each child you have in the school where parents have been invited. The invite is usually a bulk invite therefore it may go to your spam or junk mail.

Will I receive only one invite if I have more than one child in the school?
You will receive an invite for each child that is enrolled in the school.

Will I have more than one Edsby account if I have more than one child in school?
You only need one Edsby parent account, but will receive a separate email invitation from each school that your children attend. The first invitation you will register for an Edsby account. You’ll then be prompted on a second screen to enter and confirm a password. Your email address, your username, will already be entered. Click Create Edsby Account. You’ll be logged into your Edsby Account and a “Welcome to Edsby” message will be sent to your email address. The information for at least one of your children will be immediately visible to you. The other children you will need to link your existing Edsby account. To do this find Edsby invitation email(s) for your addition children. Click the link in the email, and then choose the Login to your existing Edsby account button in the screen above. Enter your Edsby username and password. Your existing Edsby account will now include an additional child.

Can I schedule an absence for my child using Edsby?
Yes, using Edsby you can schedule an absence for your child.

What do I do if I forget my password? Where do I get help or support on how to use Edsby?
On the Edsby login screen there is a link for Can’t Log In Click on this and enter your email address that you used when you registered for Edsby. An email will be sent with instructions to follow. Help is available at http://www.edsby.com/help/parents/