

BLUMENORT SCHOOL



Student Handbook 2020-2021

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Table of Contents

3	Welcome to Blumenort School
4	Staff
5	Calendar of Events
8	Daily Routine
9	Communication / Permission Notes / Attendance / Signing Out / Phone Messages
10	Levels of Communication
11	Visitors to the School / Fire Drills / Emergency Lockdown Procedures / Medication / School Closure Policy
12	Resource / Counsellor
13	Extra Curricular Opportunities
14	Awards
15	Library / Gym / Lockers
16	Lunch / Recess / Telephone
17	Computer Use
18	Student Fees
19	Code of Behaviour / Harassment
20	Cell Phones, iPods, Etc...
21	Dress Code / Smoking / Drugs - Alcohol Policy
22	Prohibited Items / Bus Expectations
23	Tech. Ed / After Grade 8

Welcome to Blumenort School!

Administrative Team Message

Welcome back to a new year at Blumenort School! We hope you enjoyed the summer and we would like to wish the new families that have joined our community and especially our new Kindergarten students, a warm welcome to our school. We hope your first few weeks in the area have been enjoyable. As mentioned later in this handbook, it is important to keep the lines of communication open between your home and our school. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 204-326-1757 or at one of the email addresses listed on our website.

On behalf of our entire staff, we would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and successful year ahead!

Dave Schettler
Principal

Corinne Thiessen
Vice-Principal

Vision Statement: *Inspired to Learn - For Life!*

Herzlich willkommen in unserer Schule! Wir bestreben uns, unseren Schuelern eine Schule zu bieten, in der Sicherheit und Abenteuer im Entdecken und Lernen zu finden sind, und dass ihr euch darauf freut, ein Teil unserer Schule zu sein. Wir hoffen, dass ihr euch von Schuelern und Lehrerschaft willkommen geheissen fuehlt.

Wir hoffen, dass ihr viel in der Blumenort Schule lernt. Jeder ist ein Individuum der das Lernen auf verschiedenste und individuelle Art bewaeltigt. Wir moechten dieses mit einberechnen und bitten euch euer Lernen als einen Weg und eine Reise zu betrachten, und dass alles, was ihr lernt, euch helfen moege die Person zu werden, die ihr gerne sein moechtet.

Dieses Handbuch beschreibt wie wir miteinander arbeiten wollen damit jeder Schueler die bestmoegliche Chance hat an der Blumenort Schule zu lernen. Wir laden euch ein dazu beizutragen, dass die Schule noch besser wird!

Blumenort Staff 2020-2021

Principal:	Dave Schettler
Vice-Principal/Learning Support:	Corinne Thiessen
Learning Support:	Mallory Worsnop
Counsellor:	Curtis Brandt
Early Years Literacy Support:	Rhonda Stobbe
Kindergarten:	Elaine Kauenhofen
Grade 1(AM):	Ariana Neufeld
Grade 1(PM):	Kristyn Radchenka
Grade 1:	Amanda Ross
Grade 2:	Pam Barkman
Grade 2:	Jennifer Penner
Grade 2:	Irene Plett
Grade 3:	Brandy Derksen
Grade 3:	Celia Kellett
Grade 4:	Rachel Allard
Grade 4:	Rebecca Friesen
Grade 5/French:	Andrea Cuccaro
Grade 5:	Janette Suppes
Grade 6:	Cameron Hiebert
Grade 6:	Kristy Shumsky
Grade 6 Itinerant:	Julian Penner
Grade 7/Art:	Scott Hutchinson
Grade 7/Social:	Michelle Plett
Grade 7 Itinerant:	Nathaniel Dyck
Grade 8/Science:	Katie Fast
French 7&8:	Janessa Roy
Phys. Ed 1-6:	Nathan Giesbrecht
Phys. Ed 7-8:	Dale Sawatzky
Music/Guitar/Drama:	Shannon Sawatzky
Head Secretary:	Landis Benitez
Secretary:	Holly Reimer
Librarian:	Ellie Friesen
Educational Asst:	Carla Burkert
Educational Asst:	Jena Carriere
Educational Asst:	Rhonda Falk
Educational Asst:	Tracey Janzen
Educational Asst:	Antonia Kelsey
Educational Asst:	Val Konrad
Educational Asst:	Pat Koop
Educational Asst:	Jodi Moorey-Gamaldo
Educational Asst:	Norine Plett
Educational Asst:	Susan Reimer
Educational Asst:	Liz Stoesz
Head Custodian:	Jason Fehr
Asst. Custodian:	Maria Boldt
Asst. Custodian:	Lydia Hoffman
Bus #37 Driver:	Jackie Goertzen
Bus #59 Driver:	Mary Ann Lupky
Bus #79 Driver:	Leanna Reimer
Bus #25 Driver:	Marge Reimer-Toews

Calendar of Events 2020-2021

<i>SEPTEMBER 8</i>	Admin Day / Meet the Teacher Event	<i>JANUARY 4</i>	Classes Resume
<i>SEPTEMBER 9</i>	First Day of Classes	<i>FEBRUARY 5</i>	PD Day – No Classes
<i>SEPTEMBER 9-10</i>	Kindergarten Interviews	<i>FEBRUARY 15</i>	Louis Riel Day – No Classes
<i>SEPTEMBER 11&14</i>	Kindergarten Staggered Entry	<i>FEBRUARY 25</i>	Strong Connections 2
<i>SEPTEMBER 18&21</i>	Strong Connections	<i>FEBRUARY 26</i>	HTA PD Day – No Classes
<i>SEPTEMBER 23</i>	Picture Day	<i>MARCH 12</i>	Admin Day – No Classes
<i>SEPTEMBER 30</i>	Orange Shirt Day	<i>MARCH 19</i>	Report Cards Issued
<i>OCTOBER 6</i>	Immunizations Gr 6&8 & Gr 7 missed	<i>MARCH 25</i>	Parent/Teacher Conferences
<i>OCTOBER 12</i>	Thanksgiving Day – No Classes	<i>MARCH 26</i>	Last Day before Spring Break
<i>NOVEMBER 4</i>	Picture Retakes	<i>MAR 29-APRI 2</i>	Spring Break
<i>NOVEMBER 9</i>	PD/Admin Day – No Classes	<i>APRIL 5</i>	Classes Resume
<i>NOVEMBER 11</i>	Remembrance Day	<i>APRIL 16</i>	Admin/PD Day – No Classes
<i>NOVEMBER 13</i>	Report Cards Issued	<i>MAY 24</i>	Victoria Day – No Classes
<i>NOVEMBER 24</i>	Parent/Teacher Conferences	<i>JUNE 29</i>	Last Day before Summer Break
<i>DECEMBER 18</i>	Last Day before Christmas Break	<i>JUNE 29</i>	Awards Day & Report Cards Issued
<i>DEC 21-JAN 1</i>	Christmas Break	<i>JUNE 30</i>	Admin Day – No Classes

Daily Routine

It is preferred that students arrive between 8:50 and 8:55 a.m.

Students who arrive earlier than that are asked to wait outside until the 8:50 buzzer.

8:50	Students enter the school
9:00-9:05	Religious Exercises (if chosen)
9:08-9:10	Opening Exercises
9:10-9:40	Period 1
9:40-10:10	Period 2
10:10-10:40	Period 3
10:40-10:55	Recess
10:55-11:30	Period 4
11:30-12:05	Period 5
12:05-12:30	Grade 1-4 Lunch & Grade 5-8 Recess
12:30-1:00	Grade 1-4 Recess & Grade 5-8 Lunch
1:00-1:35	Period 6
1:35-2:10	Period 7
2:10-2:25	Recess
2:25-3:05	Period 8
3:05-3:40	Period 9

Dismissal Times:

- Bus students dismissed at 3:40
- Town students dismissed at 3:45
- Late bus departure at 4:00

Communication

We believe that communication between parents and school/teachers is one of the most important aspects of creating a learning environment that is essential for students

To keep up with what's happening in our school, please check out our.....

- School website (www.blumenort.hsd.ca)
- Bright Arrow Emails
- Monthly newsletter
- Daily announcements
- Instagram (blumenorthsd)
- Twitter (@BlumenortHSD)
- Teacher social media
- Agenda notes
- Notes in backpacks

Permission Notes

Should there be any changes in the daily dismissal pattern of your child (picked up from school early, or walking to a friends house after school, or be picked up by another child's parent for a birthday party, etc.) a parental note must be provided that informs your child's teacher of the alternative arrangements and specify who will be picking up your child. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

Attendance

Please call us to let us know if your child is not coming to school that day due to illness, appointments and other reasons. If they will be gone for an extended time, such as a family holiday, we ask that you inform the school and their teacher(s) ahead of time. Office hours are from 8:00am- 4:30pm.

Signing Out

When a student is picked up, they must be signed out at the office.

Phone Messages

Please leave phone messages for students to pick up at break or lunch time to help us keep classroom disruptions at a minimum.

Levels of Communication

If you have a concern with an issue in a particular classroom, please phone, write a note or send an email to the respective teacher. Often this will help sort things out. If a teacher has a concern, they will do the same.

Regardless of the level on the following outline, the communication process remains the same:

- A. Start at the source.
- B. Clarify your concern.
- C. Discuss the concern with the other person.
- D. Resolve the concern (review after a set period of time).
- E. If the concern cannot be resolved, consult the next level.
- F. If necessary, a mediator can be arranged.

Regardless of the concern, remember the best overall interest of the child is our primary focus. Parents and school staff members may disagree about what is the best way to resolve an issue. Please remember that the school staff has a responsibility to look after the best interests of all children. The needs of the many may be different than the needs of a particular child. The most important consideration is to help parents and the school staff work together in the best interests of students.

Level 1

Student

Level 2

Parents/Teachers

Level 3

School Based Administration

Level 4

PAC

Level 5

Divisional Senior Administration

Level 5

Trustees

Level 6

Provincial Government

Visitors to the School

We love that we have many parents and community members volunteering in our school! We request that parents and other visitors please report to the General Office between 8:00am and 4:30pm to sign in and obtain a visitor pass.

Fire Drills

A total of ten fire drills will be practiced each school year to familiarize students with evacuation procedures.

Emergency Lockdown Procedures

Blumenort School has an emergency lockdown procedure in place. This procedure is practiced as a drill two times per year. This plan is in place for situations when it is unsafe due to dangerous intruders or dangerous situations in the community. The main purpose of the procedure is for students and staff to be aware of how they can be safe in such an event. If necessary, the students will be directed to our Emergency Shelter - Blumenort Rec Centre.

Medication

Hanover School Division has established medically approved guidelines for the administration of medication in schools that ensure the safety of students. Before any medication is given out by the school, there is a form that needs to be completed by parents. Any prescription medication that students are taking during the school day must be stored in our designated area.

School Closure Policy (due to weather)

When schools are closed due to extreme weather, parents/guardians will receive an automated phone message between the hours of 6:00 am-8:00am. Notice will be posted on www.HSD.ca and Twitter [@HanoverSD](https://twitter.com/HanoverSD). Closure announcements are also distributed to local media outlets such as AM 1250, Mix 96.7, 680 CJOB, SteinbachOnline.com and TheCarillon.com

Learning Support

The Learning Support teacher is available to help students who need assistance in attaining the basic skills necessary to achieve success depending on student identification.

When warranted, the resource teacher may refer the student to divisional clinicians to administer tests to help diagnose a student's learning ability and skills.

The Learning Support teacher will also assist in adjusting and monitoring programs for students with special needs. The program adjustment will be based on recommendations from teachers and other specialized personnel in order to best accommodate the needs of the particular student.

Counsellor

Students who need help or someone to talk to can approach Mr. Brandt at any time. Students may be referred to other professionals for further assistance.

Student concerns are kept strictly confidential unless the situation requires wider involvement. Parents, staff or students with guidance related concerns should feel free to contact the principals who will see that the best possible care will be given to the student in need.

The Counsellor's office is located in C2.

Extra Curricular Opportunities

There are many different learning opportunities that take place outside of school hours. Students are encouraged to participate in some form of extra-curricular activity. Some of the most rewarding and memorable school experiences will come from the “extras” in which students are willing to participate. These activities are for YOU!

Blumenort School regularly offers the following programs:

Athletics

Grade 7-8 Volleyball

Grade 7-8 Basketball

Grade 7-8 Badminton

Grade 7-8 Soccer

Grade 5-8 Track and Field

Grade 5-8 Running Club

Please note there is a \$30.00 fee charged for Volleyball and Basketball. There is a \$5.00 fee for Badminton, Soccer and Track.

Student Leadership

Grade 7-8 Student Council/Student Leadership

Arts

Yearbook Committee

In School Activities

Grade 4-5 Intramurals

Grade 6-8 Intramurals

Terry Fox Run

Student Leadership Events

Family Fun Day

Grade 7-8 Band Trips

Awards

Each year, we celebrate the successes of our students! The Grade 1-5 classes celebrate students achievements at their various assemblies. The grade 6-8 students participate in an awards assembly at the end of the school year.

Grade 6-8 Awards:

Awards are given to students who have excelled in various areas of school activities. Athletes who perform well in a team sport get recognition. Students who do well in their academics and in music should also get recognition for performing well. There are also awards for students who have made a positive contribution(s) to school life in general. Students who qualify for this award have volunteered to help in various extra-curricular activities or have exhibited willingness to help inside as well as outside the classroom. One student may receive the Vern Hildebrand Memorial Award.

Athletic Award: Awards will be presented to the best male and the best female athlete of the year. One male and one female award per grade.

Music/Guitar Award: The Superior Music Achievement Award will be awarded for excellence in music to deserving students. One award per homeroom.

Art Award: Awards will be presented for excellence in art to deserving students. One award per homeroom.

French Award: Awarded to a top student who shows initiative in his/her language studies (i.e. French speech competition, French club). One award per homeroom.

Classroom Academic Achievement Award: Awarded to a student who displays superior abilities/skills in the subjects of ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science. One award per homeroom.

Merit Recognition: Awarded to students who have particularly impressed teachers with their hard work and a determination to further their learning. Up to five students per homeroom.

Citizenship Recognition: Awarded to students who display a positive, caring attitude towards fellow students and teachers, who contribute positively to the overall well-being of Blumenort School and contribute meaningfully to many areas of school life. Up to five students per homeroom.

School Involvement Recognition: Awarded to students involved in a variety of school-based groups. This includes ESF, Yearbook, Jazz Band & Choir and those who played on three or more school sports teams.

Leadership Recognition: Awarded to students who are members of our Student Leadership Team.

Vern Hildebrand Memorial Award Leadership Recognition: Awarded to a student in Grade 6-8 who exhibits academic, athletic and positive social abilities and has made a special contribution to school life in general.

Library

Our library is one of the most treasured spaces in our school! This is a special place where students and teachers research, study or read for enjoyment. It is important that we treat this space with care and consideration.

Please ensure that:

- Books and magazines are handled with care.
- Books are checked out with the librarian and returned punctually.
- Food or drinks are not brought into the library.
- A quiet atmosphere is maintained.

If a student has misplaced or damaged a book, students will be expected to pay the replacement cost of that book.

Gym

Physical fitness and healthy lifestyles are important to all of us! White soled or non-marking soled runners are required in the gym. Outdoor or regular shoes are not allowed.

Grade 4-8 students are expected to change into appropriate gym clothes (shorts and shirts).

Jewellery is not permitted during gym class, intramurals or extra curricular activities.

Lockers

Students who are issued lockers should ensure that they keep them locked to avoid items being taken. Students should also be aware that the lockers are the property of Hanover School Division which means that HSD personnel may access the lockers.

Lunch

Students are invited to remain at school over the lunch hour. Students who choose to do so have the following expectations:

- Lunches are eaten in the classroom (except for special privileges).
- Students remain in their desks until the bell.
- Student leave the classroom tidy and clean.

Students are allowed off school grounds for lunch if...

- Town students have a note at the beginning of the year saying they will be going home for lunch during that school year.
- Students who do not regularly go home for lunch bring a note on the specific day.
- Parents have made arrangements with the office.

Recess

All students are expected to go outside for recess. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. All Grade 1-8 students have morning, noon and afternoon recess. Students are expected to be outside during those times unless they are involved in club activities that day.

Indoor recess will occur on occasion due to weather conditions, usually rain or windchill. These decisions are made at the principal's discretion.

Telephone

If students have an urgent reason to contact their parents, they may use the phone in the office, with permission. We urge parents to leave messages if they need to contact their child.

In order to limit interruption of classes, messages to students will be given to them at breaks, lunch or after school. We will generally not call students out of class for a phone call unless it is an emergency.

We ask that, whenever possible, parents communicate after school arrangements with their children in the morning.

Computer Use

Hanover School Division offers students access to a variety of information technology resources, including computer workstations, local area networks, a wide area network and the Internet.

Students are responsible for good behaviour on school computer networks, The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services will be proved to students who agree to act in a responsible manner.

Use of the Internet and other computer networks will take place in teacher supervised setting. Before a student is permitted to access the Internet, the student and his or her parent/guardian will be asked to complete and return the form entitled "Internet Acceptable Use Agreement and Parent Permission Form".

Blumenort Computer Use:

- All students and parents will be required to sign a user's contract before being granted access to Blumenort computers and to the Internet through Hanover School Division's server. All students are required to abide by their signed user's contract.
- Food or drinks are not allowed in computer labs.
- Students are not to bring outside games, hardware or software into the labs.
- Students are to use only those programs allowed by the teacher.
- Use of the labs outside of classroom times will be by permission only, and with a staff supervisor present in the lab.
- Damage due to tampering, vandalism or other violations of the computer guidelines or the computer user's contract will result in the removal of user privileges.
- Abide by the HSD Acceptable Use Policy where staff and students respect the appropriate use of electronic mail and the Internet, including the prohibition of accessing, uploading, downloading or distributing material that HSD has determined to be objectionable.

Student Fees

Students will receive a checklist of fees at the beginning of the school year. Fees can be paid through the Parent Portal. Most of these fees have already been paid by the school, so prompt payment is appreciated.

Code of Behaviour

At Blumenort School we encourage respectful, and responsible behaviour. Staff and students alike are working towards creating a safe, productive and inviting place for all children to learn. Student behaviour should not distract his/her fellow students from learning, or teachers from teaching effectively, or make others feel bad about themselves or unsafe in their environment.

Classroom teachers are generally responsible for day-to-day discipline and will use a variety of incentives as well as disincentives to ensure appropriate student behaviour. Teachers will be in contact with parents where necessary.

In the case that a student does not respond well to the teacher's efforts, that student will be referred to the principal for further counselling and/or discipline. Parents will be contacted where necessary.

As much as possible, discipline issues will be handled on an individual basis, where all circumstances will be considered. We will attempt to handle discipline in a way that reflects the welfare of the individual child as well as the security of the school. Follow-up to incidences will be reasonable, and, as much as possible, in keeping with the nature of the offense.

Please refer to the HSD calendar to see Hanover School Division's expectations of students, staff and parents. Please also refer to the HSD website (www.hsd.ca) for detailed divisional policies.

Harassment

At Blumenort School, we work hard to ensure that every student feels safe.

Students who feel they are being harassed by another student should report this to a staff member or to the principal immediately. Depending on the situation, the harasser will be given a verbal warning, or parents will be contacted or it could become a police matter. Suspension of the harasser may occur at any point in the process.

Bullying, abusing physically, sexually or psychologically - orally, in writing or otherwise - any person or being involved in gang activity is against the HSD Freedom from Harassment Policy. This policy also outlines the procedure for investigating and dealing with harassment claims.

Cell Phones, iPods, etc.

More and more students are bringing electronic devices to school for a variety of reasons. We wish to ensure the safety of all students and an environment of learning where students can concentrate in order to work effectively.

Hanover School Division Policy states:

- All communication devices must be turned off when the student boards the school bus or enters the school building. These devices may not be activated when classes are in progress or during any school event during the regular school day. Students may not leave class to make or receive an electronic communication - cell phone call, text message or internet communication.
- During school outings, field trips or extracurricular events, use of a cell phone is by permission of the supervising academic staff (principal or teacher) or the designated community coach, where no academic staff is present.
- Use of electronic communication devices or digital cameras for any reason during a test or assessment will result in removal of the student from the assessment and the assessment will be considered invalid. A mark of zero may be assigned.
- Cell phones equipped with cameras should be avoided. Cameras or phones equipped with cameras must be kept out of sight and not activated in washrooms, change rooms or any other private areas. Use of an electronic communications device or digital camera to record video, still shots or sound must be done with the expressed permission of the supervising staff member and with full advance knowledge and permission of any individual or group being recorded. Sharing, distribution or broadcasting of any such material must be done with full permission of every individual being recorded. Posting to the Internet may require written permission of parents. Recordings made secretly and/or used maliciously will result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and a police report.
- Any use of an electronic communication device during prohibited times or in an inappropriate manner will result in immediate confiscation of the device by school staff. Devices will be returned to parents or guardians under conditions set by administration.

At Blumenort School:

- Students in K-5 are not allowed to bring an electronic communication device to school.
- Students in Grade 6-8 that bring an electronic communication device to school will ensure that it is turned off and remain stored in their locker.
- Students in Grade 6-8 may access their electronic communication device quickly at their locker during break or lunch recess. These devices will then be turned off and remain in the locker when done.
- Supervisors have the right to ensure this is happening. Any misuse will result in appropriate disciplinary action.
- It is important to note that Digital Citizenship expectations must always be followed, and when necessary, school staff has the right to confiscate electronic devices.
- Parents and guardians that need to contact their child during the day can do so by calling our office at 204-326-1757.

Dress Code

At Blumenort School, our standards of dress and expectations regarding appropriate attire are based on respect for self and of others.

The guidelines listed are representative, but not exhaustive. They help to protect the safety, self-confidence, self-respect, and self-esteem of students.

Please respect the following:

- Clothing and accessories that promote alcohol, drugs, sex, violence, profanity, gangs, sexism or racism are not acceptable.
- Revealing clothing like low-cut tops, clothing exposing bare midriffs, halter-tops, spaghetti straps, or muscle shirts should not be worn. Responses may vary depending on the age of the child.
- Exposed undergarments are not acceptable.
- Shirts or tops must cover any straps and should be fitted under the arm.
- Shorts and skirts must reach mid-thigh.
- Footwear must be worn at all times.

Students may be asked to change their dress accordingly.

Smoking

Blumenort School's building and school grounds are smoke free. In accordance with provincial and federal laws, students under the age of 16 are not to possess or use tobacco at any time.

Lighters or matches should not be brought to school or to the school grounds or they will be confiscated.

Use of Alcohol or Drugs

Possession or use of alcohol or drugs is not permitted under any circumstances for anyone. Violation could result in police involvement, suspension from school and a recommendation to the school board for expulsion from school.

Prohibited Items

Please do not bring the following items to school:

- Laser pointers
- Lighters
- Knives of any kind, including pocket knives
- Weapons
- Imitation weapons
- Other items that present a potential danger

Staff will confiscate the above materials.

Collectables such as trading cards do occasionally become an issue at school. We will respond to these issues as they arise.

Bus Expectations

There are many occasions when our students are transported by bus, including transportation to and from home, Home Ec and Tech Ed, extra-curricular events and class field trips. Students are expected to behave in a way that keeps themselves and others safe and allows the bus driver to concentrate on driving.

Please observe the following:

- Sit quietly in your assigned seat.
- Remain seated at all times.
- Listen to the instructions of the bus driver.

Students who do not follow the above expectations or whose behaviour is deemed inappropriate, may lose their bus privileges.

Tech Ed. (Home Ec/Industrial Arts)

Grade 7-8 students have a wonderful opportunity to attend Home Economics and Industrial Arts (also referred to as Tech Ed) at Mitchell Middle School for one half day during the six day school cycle.

Students should remember:

- They are representatives of our school and should present a positive image of our school.
- When at MMS, all rules of the school and the authority of the host principal and teacher apply. Discipline referrals from MMS will be dealt with when the student returns to Blumenort.
- Inappropriate behaviour on the bus or at MMS may result in suspension of privileges. Students will stay back in our school and work on their other academic subjects.

After Grade 8

Blumenort School is a K-8 school. Following grade 8, students from Blumenort register for the Steinbach Regional Secondary School. Letters will be sent home in March regarding course registration, school tours, and parent information nights at the SRSS. Staff from Blumenort School and the SRSS will assist in registering the students.

Occasionally students opt to register at private schools for their grade 9-12 years. They are welcome to do so, however that is generally done through their own arrangements.