



Mount Hope Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

9149 Airport Road
Mount Hope, Ontario L0R 1W0
Phone: 905.679.4145
Fax: 905.679.4146

EMAIL: mounthope@hwdsb.on.ca
Principal: Mrs. L. Burnagiel
Vice-Principal: Mr. J. Duvnjak
www.hwdsb.on.ca/mounthope

August 26, 2024

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year

We hope everyone had an amazing summer break and that everyone is getting ready for the 2024-2025 School Year. We are excited to welcome back students and get to know new members of our school community. Over the summer the caretaking team did an amazing job making the school sparkle for the new year! Classrooms are being set up, staff are preparing lessons and activities, and we can't wait to see the students on September 3rd! Reminder that Year 2 Kindergarten students (SKs do not start until Wednesday, Sept. 4th)

***If you have neighbours who have just moved into the community, let them know they can register online or come visit the school this week!**



Sept 3rd	First Day of School for grades 1-8, JK orientation
Sept. 4th	Senior Kindergartens start
Sept 20th	PA Day
Sept. 23-27th	Jungle Gym @ Mount Hope
Sept. 24th	Grade 7&8 vaccinations

As we begin a new year, we would like to welcome some new staff members to our Mount Hope team!

HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



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- Mr. J. Duvnjak is our Vice-Principal (0.5)
- Welcome back Ms. Hein and Ms. Riddler in Kindergarten and Ms. Beam in Grade 1!
- Ms. Beamsley and Ms. Frid will be teaching our grade 2/3 homerooms
- Ms. Ecet will be teaching grade 3 /4
- Ms. Tuite will be covering Ms. MacMillan in grade 4/5
- Ms. Sawchuk will be in grade 5/6
- Mme. Marsden is joining our Core French team
- Mr. Borean will be our Music teacher
- Ms. DeRosse will be our AIM program lead
- Lastly, Ms. Jeet Singh will be joining the office in the afternoons!

Mr. Duvnjak and I are still working to complete our staffing and will announce the remaining staff as they are hired!

School Start Up

As the new school year begins, it can be an exciting time but also a very stressful time as we get back into routine, meet new teachers, and develop new social connections. We will do our best to support you and your child(ren) here at the school and we encourage you to have open communication with your child's teacher with any questions/concerns. Staff will share their preferred communication method early on so you can connect when needed.

Some helpful tips to get back into routine include:

1. Use a calendar to schedule events and plan schedules together
2. Grocery shop together, plan lunches, and practice using containers
3. Reel in Bedtime...kids need more sleep than they want to admit
4. Unplug and start to reduce screen time
5. Get outside, play games, practice winning and losing, and how to solve problems during play
6. Visit the school playground and blacktop to become familiar with the space
7. Get EXCITED for school, it's going to be a great year!

School Supplies



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Many students (and parents) get excited to shop for school supplies, however, these can be very costly. We will provide students with the supplies they need for learning such as notebooks, pencils, crayons, scissors, erasers etc. However, if you choose, classroom educators are always thankful for class donations such as pencils/pens, erasers, glue sticks, duo tangs, markers, crayons, pencil crayons, rulers, scissors, craft supplies, calculators, tissues, etc. We appreciate your generosity!

Class Placement:

Parents/Guardians can access class placements starting August 26th in the Parent Portal. If you are having trouble accessing the Parent Portal, the office staff will endeavour to support you. However, our priority this week is to ensure that the school is ready for the first day of school for students.

We ask that if you have questions/concerns about your child's class placement, you wait until the end of the second week of school (Sept. 16th) to inquire. Usually after the first week, students settle in, make new friends, and are excited to be a part of their class. Staff spend a lot of time working on class placements, and classes are created to optimize student learning. This collaborative process requires your child's input, the sending and receiving educators, and the school administration. We will be honouring the work/time that has gone into these decisions.

Also, each school year there is a possibility of being reorganized towards the end of September. Please be aware that this is something that is out of the control of school administration. We understand that a change in class and/or teacher can be stressful, but a reorganization is based on the enrollment numbers and not the decision of the Mount Hope Administration team. If a reorganization does occur, we work to provide a smooth transitions for all impacted students. Although we hope to avoid a reorganization, it is always a possibility in a growing community like ours!

Communication

We will also continue to use School Messenger to send out reminders, provide updates, and connect with you as needed. Please ensure that you are set to receive emails from messenger (we will need up to date contact information through Parent Portal) and that you configure your email to ensure these messages are received and not put in your "junk" folder!



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Daily Drop off and Pick Up Procedures

- Supervision for students begins at 9 am, students will not be permitted into the school building prior to 9:15am
- Where possible, we encourage students to walk to school or ride their designated school bus (students are not permitted to ride buses other than the one they are designated to)
- If you must drive and drop off, we ask that you do not park in the school parking lot as there is minimal space. Please park in the subdivisions surrounding the school and walk your child onto the blacktop safely
- Each morning when the entry bell will ring at 9:15am, students will enter their designated door and students will move to their lockers or cubbies
- Dismissal is at 3:35pm out on the blacktop. Students will be exiting via their assigned doors. If you need to pick-up early, be mindful that after 3pm is very busy in the school and buses are arriving in the lot. If possible, please pick-up prior to this time.
- If your child is going to aftercare, they will send out information on “end of day routines”
- Any students taking the bus, we arrive at the front of the school in the morning and will be greeted by a staff member. They will proceed to the back of the school for entry. At the end of the day, students will be dismissed to the gymnasium for bus line up.

Mount Hope Daily Schedule

Supervision	9am-9:15am
Period 1	9:15-10:15am
Period 2	10:15-10:55am
NB #1	10:55-11:15 (grades 6-8 outside, grades 1-5 eating)



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	11:15-11:35 (grades 1-5 outside, grades 6-8 eating)
Period 3	11:35 - 12:25pm
Period 4	12:25- 1:15pm
NB #2	1:15 - 1:35pm (grades 6-8 outside, grades 1-5 eating) 1:35-1:55pm (grades 1-5 outside, grades 6-8 eating)
Period 5	1:55-2:55pm
Period 6	2:55-3:35pm
Dismissal & Supervision	3:35 -3:50pm

Security, Safety, and Access to School:

- For safety reasons, and by HWDSB policy, all school entrance doors are locked all day. If you need to enter the building please use the front, main entrance and proceed to the office to see one of the members of the office team and they will assist you
- To minimize disruptions in class, please make early pick-up arrangements ahead of time with your child and his/her homeroom teacher. If possible, picking up before 3 pm is preferred due to end-of-day duties and buses entering the parking lot.
- If you have items to drop off, please have them labeled and bring them to the office. We will call them down to come and get during a nutrition break