



Miramichi Rural School

7366 Route 117
Miramichi Bay, NB
E1N 5L7

Phone:(506)228-2000

Fax: (506) 228-2001

Website: <http://miramichirural.nbed.nb.ca/>

Don't forget to like our Facebook page!



Miramichi Rural School

“Where We Learn, Lead and Inspire”

2024-2025 Handbook

Mission Statement

At Miramichi Rural School, we set out to create a community of learners, while developing the potential of each child's unique qualities.

Welcome to a New School Year

Welcome to the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. The start of each school year brings much enthusiasm and anticipation to both students and staff, of a year of excitement and growth. Our ultimate goal at M.R.S. is to create a safe environment where students can flourish.

Please take the time to review this handbook for important information and policies pertaining to our school. I hope you will find it useful. Please keep it for further reference throughout the school year.

Teaching/Non-Teaching Staff 2024-2025

Principal: Miss Zoella Vienneau

Teachers: Miss Terri-Lynne Dunnett (EST-Resource/Academic Support Teacher)

Mr. Gary Forrest (Phys. Ed., Middle School)

Mrs. Shawna Goguen (Grade 2/3)

Mrs. Sylvie Guimond (Grade 8, Flora)

Mrs. Allison Mazzorato (Grade 6/7)

Miss Tammy Savoie (Complex Case Teacher)

Mme. Darlene Perron (Grade 4/5)

Miss Kelsie Poole (Grade K/1)

Mrs. Sonia Robichaud (School Councillor)

Support Staff: Mrs. Carolyn Harper

Mrs. Coral Johnston

Mr. Todd MacDonald

Mr. Toby MacDonald

Mrs. Melissa Martin

Miss Amber McCrae



Administrative Assistant: Barb Gillespie

Custodian: Ken Parnell

Bus Drivers: Mr. Randy MacDonald (Bus # 224)

Mr. Gary Villeneuve (Bus # 294)

Student Drop-offs and Pick-ups

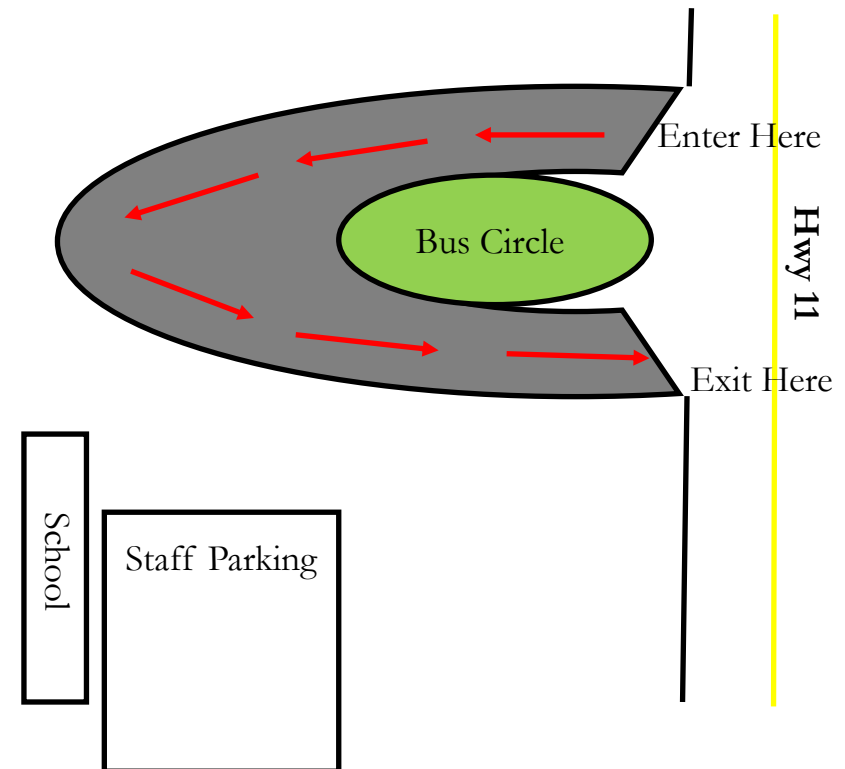
Students should be **dropped off no earlier than 7:45am** and no later than **7:55am**.

Pick-up time for K-8 is 2:40. These times are important to follow as we would like to avoid traffic in the bus circle when buses are arriving.

During drop-offs and pick-ups, we are asking all vehicles to wait behind the buses if they have already arrived. Once they depart, you can then drive around the bus circle, drop-off your child and continue around the bus circle to exit. Please refer to diagram.

It would be beneficial to have your child exit the passenger side.

At no point should anyone drive in front of one of our buses, **especially if the red lights are flashing.**



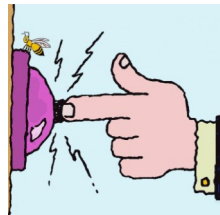
Discipline

Each school is responsible for maintaining a positive learning environment in accordance with Policy 703. Discipline of any kind will be handled in a timely and appropriate manner. At Miramichi Rural we encourage respect and responsibility for everyone. **Please make contact with the school if an issue arises and refrain from posting negative comments on social media outlets.**

Security

To ensure the safety and security of all staff and students the main doors of the building will remain locked at all times.

If you plan on dropping your child off late (after 7:55 am) or plan to pick them up early, we are now asking that parents and guardians report to the office to **sign-in and sign-out their child**. If you know ahead of time that you are picking someone up, please send a note in with your child for their teacher at the beginning of the day.



Surveillance

Video cameras are used throughout the building and in all entrances. This was initiated and funded by EECD (Education and Early Childhood Education).



Bussing

All students will be required to have one bus stop. No alternate stops will be accepted; the only exception will be for families with joint custody agreements. A note must be sent each time to inform teachers when this occurs.

Students are not permitted to use the bus to be dropped off for birthdays, sleepovers, etc.

Important Dates

Sept. 20- Picture Day
Sept. 26- Terry Fox Walk
Sept. 27- Orange Shirt Day
Sept. 30- Truth & Reconciliation Day (No School)
Oct. 14- Thanksgiving (No School)
Oct. 15-18- Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2025
Oct. 13- Professional Learning Day (No School)
Nov. 8- Professional Learning Day (No School)
Nov. 11- Remembrance Day Holiday (No School)
Nov. 15- Professional Learning Day (No School)
Nov. 28- Parent Teacher (4:00-6:00)
Nov. 29- Parent Teacher (No School 9:00-11:15)
Dec. 20- Last Day of Class before Christmas break
Jan. 6- First Day back for Students
Feb.17- Family Day (No School)
Feb. 21- Pink Shirt Day
Mar. 3-7- March Break
Mar.21- Professional Learning Day (No School)
April 10- Parent Teacher (4:00-6:00)
April 11- Parent Teacher (No School - 9:00-11:15)
April 18- Good Friday (No School)
Apr. 21- Easter Monday (No School)
May 1- NBTA AGM (No School)
May 2- NBTA Council Day (No School)
May 19- Victoria Day (No School)
June 20- Last Day for Students



Bell Schedule

7:55	First bell (Homeroom/Announcements)
8:10	Beginning of Classes
9:55	Recess Begins
10:25	Recess Ends
11:40	Lunch
12:00	Lunch Recess Begins
12:20	Lunch Ends
12:25	Beginning of Classes
2:35	End of the day
2:40	K-8 Dismissal



M.R.S. Code of Conduct

1. Please keep hats and ear buds off and hoodies down in the classroom so we can all stay focused and engaged.
2. Please keep cell phones away during school hours so we can fully focus on learning and interacting with each other.
3. Please wear clothing with appropriate logos to maintain a respectful and positive learning environment for everyone.
4. Please ensure your midriff is covered to help create a comfortable and respectful environment.
5. Please change into appropriate indoor and outdoor footwear to keep our spaces clean.
6. Please keep outdoor wear (jackets, hats and boots) in your locker or at your hook.

Miramichi Rural Year End Awards

Bucket Filler– Usually awarded to a gr.5 student (not mandatory) who is always thinking of others, showing compassion and kindness, all the while with a smile on their face, striving to do their best.

Outstanding Student– Usually awarded to a gr. 8 student (not mandatory) who is considered by the staff of MRS as the most important honour that could be given to any one student. This award is to show that attitude, respectfulness, efforts in academic achievement and responsibility displayed of each individual student, never goes unnoticed.

Leadership– Awarded to a middle school student who shows by example and enhances the life of the school and the community.

Agnes Fowlie Award– Recipient is an individual who frequently has given selflessly, and has shown kindness and assistance to others, helping to create a caring community of learners at M.R.S.

Mary Harper Award– Awarded for most participation in school activities.

Mr. Mac's Elementary Athlete of the Year– Presented to a male and female for strong athletic ability and sportsmanship.

Mr. Bill Campbell Athlete of the Year (Middle School)– Presented to a male and female for strong athletic ability and sportsmanship.

Academic Awards will also be distributed for high academic achievement (4s' or better) in Math and Literacy.

Fine Arts Awards– Awarded for strong artistic ability.

Turn-Around Award– Presented to a student who has made significant improvements in the areas of behaviour, academics or social interactions.

MIRAMICHI RURAL SCHOOL

BUS SAFETY

RULES & REMINDERS



1. Walk to the bus.
2. Remain in your seat until your stop.
3. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
4. Speak quietly.
5. Keep the aisle clean (keep objects and legs out of the aisles).
6. No throwing any object.
7. No eating, or drinking on the bus.
8. Please, no swearing.
9. Obey the bus driver.
10. Help keep yourself and everyone on the bus safe!



Pupil Transportation is a privilege— follow the rules. Violation may result in disciplinary action and possible loss of transportation.

Milk

Milk cards cost \$15 each and this is good for 20 milk (which is \$0.75 cents per milk). When your child's milk card is running low, a top-up sheet will be sent home. If you are unable to afford to purchase milk cards please contact the school and an arrangement can be made.



Canteen

A canteen will once again be available during lunch hour. Most items are \$1.00, except milk which will be \$0.75 and Yop which is \$2.00. Students in K-3 will pre-order items in the morning. We ask families to place money (correct change if possible) in a Ziplock bag labelled with your child's name, grade and item ordered.

Students in grades 4-8 will be able to go to the canteen at lunch to purchase canteen items. Small change is encouraged.

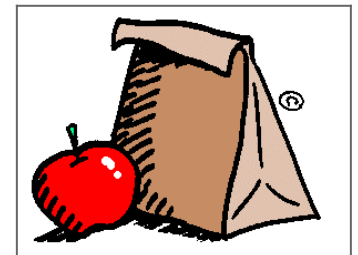
Lunchtime Hints

To ensure that all students have the opportunity to enjoy a healthy and nutritious lunch, we ask that you consider the following, so that students eat in a timely manner:

- ◆ Refrain from sending items that require a can opener.
- ◆ Please send utensils and condiments, if needed, as they are not available.
- ◆ Metal thermoses are a quick and convenient item which allows children to readily access a delicious hot or chilled lunch.
- ◆ Please check your child's drink container for leaks.

Microwaves are available to middle school students (grades 6-8) only.

Microwaves are to be used to reheat foods, so please do not send items that require cooking. Please no KD cups, frozen dinners, etc.



Teacher Contact

If you wish to communicate with staff, we kindly ask that you call the school or by email. You will find each staff email on our website under staff. Please refrain from reaching out to staff on their personal email or via social media outlets.

Safe Arrival

SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for parents/guardians to let the school know about your child's absence.

Parents are asked to report their child's absence in advance

using one of these options:

- * Call Toll-Free: 1-833-294-4822
- * Website: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
- * Mobile App: SchoolMessenger

If you have not yet signed up, you will be prompted to create an account.

Part of the SafeArrival system is to notify parents by phone that their child is unexcused from school.



School Access- All visitors to the building must sign-in upon entering the building and report to the main office. If you have a matter to be discussed or have concerns, we highly encourage you to call and make an appointment as the Principal does teach throughout the day and is not always available.

Scent Free School- Due to the fact that a number of students and staff members experience either allergic or asthmatic reactions when exposed to scented products, such as colognes, perfumes, etc., and because of a heightened knowledge about the health effects on such sensitivities, Miramichi Rural School has implemented a scent-free policy. **Therefore, all staff, students and visitors to Miramichi Rural School are requested to refrain from wearing perfumed or scented products.**

Telephone Calls- Please note that we only have our Administrative Assistant in the mornings, so please call the school then if possible.

If no one answers, please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible (keep in mind that this may be at the end of the day).

Please do not leave messages on our Facebook Page if you require a timely response, as it may not be received until after school hours.

Contact Information- It is critical that the school receive your most up to date contact information. If your information changes throughout the year, please send us the new information ASAP. Additionally, we would appreciate having an email address on file as messages sent on our voicemail system also can be delivered as an email.

Attendance- Regular attendance is mandatory for all students in ASD-N. Research has shown a clear link between school absenteeism and academic achievement.

District Attendance Plan:

5+ days – Homeroom teacher calls home and Administrator is notified.

10+ days – Principal will make contact with home and a meeting may be scheduled to discuss a student intervention plan.

20+ days – Formal case conference with parent, students, teachers, principal and possibly District Office staff regarding attendance. Student may be asked to remain home until a meeting takes place. Interventions may include an alternate education setting. Ongoing absenteeism may result in grade retention.