



Barnwell School

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Barnwell School Advisory Council
February Principal's Report
April 10, 2024
Barnwell School Art Room 6:30 pm

- 1.) Our teacher staffing for next year has been reduced from 11.1 this year to 11.0 next year. At this point, we are expecting a return from Mr. Edlund and Mr. Milner next year. We will not know whether Mrs. Yanke will be returning until closer to August. As a staff, we have discussed what some of the negative impacts of having multiple teachers for some of the elementary classes as been, and the plan is to develop a schedule to reduce this. We do not know what we will get for support staff hours until May.
- 2.) We have had a PS II student, Melanie Guenther, working in Ms. Forbes's room. She will be here until May 18th.
- 3.) Alberta Education has cancelled PAT's for Grade 6 LA & Math this year because it is a new curriculum. Schools are being allowed to field test the exams with our students if we choose. The benefits being that we can get experience of what they may look like in the future. The marks would not count toward a student or school grade. At this point, we have not decided as to whether or not we will participate in the field study. As JH staff, we have been discussing what the exam week would look like for our JH students. Is there a benefit to having a review activity for the Grade 7 & 8's to do while the 6's & 9's write their exams? We continue to discuss what the best options are, as there is often the perception that "school is over" during that last week and it's more difficult to keep students focused without a regular schedule. Here are the exam dates, all of our exams will be written online using a new platform called VRETTA.

Subject	Gr.6	Gr.9
LA	May 15 Part A June 12 Part B CANCELED	May 13 Part A June 12 Part B
Math	June 13 Part A & B CANCELED	June 13 Part A & B
Science	June 10	June 10
Social	June 11	June 11

- 4.) Our School Headstrong group has been working on developing a student wellness symposium for May 6th. They have organized a guest speaker, and an art contest, and will have activities for both JH and elementary students. More information will be sent out closer to the date.

Excelling in the 3 A's: Academics, Arts, Athletics!

- 5.) Our student leadership team has continued to do a great job of organizing school-wide events and running our purple pride assemblies. They hosted an Easter egg hunt before the break, encouraged special days such as Rock your Socks and Green Shirt Day and the students created informational presentations for the classroom about these events.
- 6.) We are sending 4 teams to the Horizon Science Olympics on April 23. Our JH drama class also has the opportunity to tour the U of L theatre department on that date and will be gone in the afternoon. On April 17th, the Grade 9 class is participating in Epic Day which is a career exploration day in Lethbridge.
- 7.) Our school is hosting the Grade 6 Badminton Divisionals on Friday, April 19th this year.
- 8.) We are planning on making some changes to the year-end award assembly on the last day. We are planning to have a Grade 9 Farewell Evening the night before the last day for our Grade 9 students. There will be light refreshments and an opportunity for them to invite more of their family to see them receive their farewell plaques, academic awards and the baby picture slideshow. At the assembly, we will continue to show the baby picture slideshow, recap the academic winners, and present the Junior High awards for athletics, drama, band, art, and Team Brynn. We will then have a slideshow for the whole school about our year in review for all grades, some library awards, and any other recognition we might need to do. This will allow us to shorten the assembly for the younger students and make the end-of-year celebration more inclusive for all.
- 9.) We would like some of your thoughts about our track and field day as we have created a staff committee to see what changes can be made so that kids don't miss their events and there is a way to keep them busier. Should we go back to the "traditional format"? Would parents help out or would you prefer to be spectators? Our current format was created to try to make it so that within a class, more than one student may win a ribbon, and to encourage participation.
- 10.) Assurance Survey Results: I have created a slideshow to share the results for our School from the Assurance Survey created by Horizon that parents and students filled out. I have included some discussion questions that I would like to explore with the BSC. [Assurance Survey Results Barnwell](#)

Upcoming Dates:

April 17- EPIC DAY for grade 9

April 19- Badminton Divisionals

April 23- Science Olympics, Drama Field Trip

April 25- Purple Pride

April 29- Deadline for the Headstrong Art and Colouring Contest

May 2- May Melodies

May 6- Headstrong Wellness Day

May 16- Grade 6 Spark Fair

May 23- School Track Day

May 28- Divisional Track Day

May 30- Purple Pride