



# PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2023

### Banting Memorial High School

203 Victoria St.E. Alliston, ON L9R 1G5 — 705-435-6288 — [ban.scdsb.on.ca](http://ban.scdsb.on.ca)

Principal R. Poissant Vice-Principals J. Dewar L. Watson M. Wolf

## *Hello Banting Families,*

I am excited to meet all Banting students and families! I encourage your child to come to school with a good attitude, to respect all staff and students, and be ready to work hard and have fun!

Rob Poissant, Principal

## REGULAR SCHOOL DAY

Classrooms Open	7:45 am
Students in Home Room / Land Acknowledgement / O' Canada	8:00—8:05 am
PERIOD 1	8:05 - 9:20 am
Travel Time	9:20 - 9:25 am
PERIOD 2	9:25 - 10:40 am
LUNCH	10:40 - 11:45 am
PERIOD 3	11:45 - 1:00 pm
Travel Time	1:00 - 1:05 pm
PERIOD 4	1:05 - 2:20 pm

**New!** ATTENDANCE REPORTING LINE  
**1-888-885-8065**

## IMPORTANT DATES

September 5 First Day of School  
September 7 Safe School Assembly P1& 2  
September 8 School Picture Day  
September 21 School Council Meeting 6pm  
September 22 PA Day  
September 28 School Dance Gr 9 & 10  
November 15 Picture Re-Take Day

## SCHOOL PHOTO DAY Friday, September 8th, 2022



School pictures will be taken at school on Friday! On photo day, NO ORDER form or payment is due. Sign-up for notifications at [edgeimaging.ca/photoday](http://edgeimaging.ca/photoday) to get real-time updates about your photo day and stay in the know with Edge!

You can review your images and purchase online with ease!

**REMINDER—you must be photographed to receive your student ID and be featured in the yearbook!**



To report your child's absence, we have a few options for you to select from, please note, **email is preferred!**

**Email to:** [banattendance@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:banattendance@scdsb.on.ca)

**NEW!** Phone 1-888-885-8065 -24 hour Automated Attendance Line.

Absences are no longer reported to the Banting Main Office phone line. All attendance calls will be redirected to the new attendance phone number.

Please include the date of absence(s), student's full name, parent/guardian name and a phone number where we may contact a parent/guardian.

**SIGNING IN/LATE ARRIVAL TO CLASS:** Students arriving late to school are to go straight to class and must check in with their classroom teacher upon arrival to have their attendance updated by the teacher. Late students will be marked unknown absence or unknown late – until a parent/guardian notifies the school by email or phone.

**SIGNING OUT/ EARLY DISMISSAL:** Students must have parent/guardian permission submitted to the attendance office and/or the classroom teacher prior to dismissal to reduce interruptions in classrooms. We request that you please email [banattendance@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:banattendance@scdsb.on.ca) **and** the classroom teacher (*if you can*) **ahead of time**. Visit the Banting website for a staff directory of email addresses. ([https://ban.scdsb.on.ca/our-school/staff list](https://ban.scdsb.on.ca/our-school/staff-list)) Alternatively, please send a note with your student.

**EXTENDED ABSENCES:** If a student has a planned absence of 3 days or more, an Extended Absence Form is required to be completed by their teachers, signed by a parent/guardian and returned to the Main Office for Principal approval. Extended Absence Forms are available in the Main Office.

**\*Please note—if travelling outside of the country, please advise the main office, as students will be required to set-up a multifactor authentication (while in the school building), in order to have online access to D2L/Brightspace classrooms while abroad.**

Dear Parents —

### Student Information Verification Form.

Paper copies will be sent home during the first week of school. Forms must be signed, dated and returned to the homeroom teacher immediately. If you require email, address or phone number updates throughout the school year, please email [banting@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:banting@scdsb.on.ca). Newsletters & regular communications are sent electronically and posted on the Banting Memorial High School Website.



**Community Service Hours** forms can be downloaded on our Banting website, under the guidance/volunteer tabs.

<http://bantingguidance.weebly.com/volunteer.html>

**\*You can also follow us on Instagram (@BMHSVolunteer) 40 Hours are required to Graduate.**

## BMHS Concussion Protocol

Any hit on the head can cause concussion and serious long-lasting symptoms if not treated carefully. Concussions are invisible injuries, so it's important to treat every hit on the head with caution. If your child hits their head, watch for symptoms, such as trouble remembering, low energy, headaches, sensitivity to light and noise or being more emotional than usual. If you see any of these, stop play and take them to a doctor right away. **Remember to tell their Vice Principal, teachers, coaches and the Main Office about any head injuries that happen outside of school.** Depending on the injury, your child may need a personalized plan, time off from school work, sports or other activities to help them fully recover.

- **Concussion protocol forms (to be completed by your medical practitioner) are available at the Main Office or online at [ban.scdsb.on.ca](http://ban.scdsb.on.ca).**
- If you have any questions or require further information, or if you have completed protocol forms to send in, please contact/forward to your students Vice Principal.

## Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

Want to ensure you are receiving up-to-date, accurate information about what's going on at your school and our school board?

### Here's how:

- ♦ Follow our school on Twitter **@Ban\_Library** and **@BantingGuidance**, **@BMHSVolunteer**



- ♦ Follow us on Instagram **@bmhsvolunteer** and **@BantingMarauders**



- ♦ Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (**@SCDSB\_Schools**), Facebook (**facebook.com/SCDSB**) and Instagram (**instagram.com/scdsb**). Check out our Sharing Simcoe blog (**www.sharingsimcoe.com**), where we share stories of our amazing students, staff and community members.
- ♦ For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: **main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca** and bookmark the school bus information page for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days. You can subscribe at <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/>. **Banting is in the SOUTH ZONE.** Follow them on twitter **@SCSTC\_SchoolBus**

## Student Medical Plans

A completed Student Medical Form (FORM A1420-1) **is required each school year**, or when a medical need is identified, or when the student transfers to another school, in order to authorize the administration of prescribed medication to students who require it during school hours, or when the medication and/or dosage requirements change. Specific to asthma, every student is now permitted to carry his or her asthma medication if the student has his or her parent's or guardian's permission. **Parents/guardians and adult students are responsible for ensuring that a current, completed Student Medical Form is signed by a physician and on file at the school.**



Some students may experience severe life-threatening allergic reactions to bee, hornet, wasp or other flying insect stings or to certain foods or food ingredients, such as peanuts. For students with life-threatening allergies, it is recommended that two doses of an epinephrine auto-injector are available on site at school. **Forms are available on the Banting website under the 'What's New' section. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions you may have.**

# FALL SPORTS



There are many fall sports teams starting in early September!

Visit the bulletin board outside of the double gym for more information, sign-up sheets and try-outs schedules!

*Student Activity Fees, Permissions & Acknowledgement forms must be completed on School Cash Online to participate!*

## Physical Education Attire

Athletic attire is required for physical education classes. Students are requested to bring a change of clothes (athletic attire— including proper footwear) for their gym classes.

If desired, students can purchase Banting Phys Ed T-Shirts or Shorts from Boulton's Replay Sports online at [boultonsreplaysports.com](http://boultonsreplaysports.com). Boulton's is located at 40 Victoria St E, Alliston.



BMHS P.E. SHIRT  
\$12.99



BMHS P.E. SHORTS  
\$12.99

# BANTING SPORTS TEAMS

FALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS	SPRING SPORTS
Jr Girls Basketball	Alpine Skiing	Boys Basketball
Sr Girls Basketball	Nordic Skiing	Girls Slo-Pitch
Cross Country	Jr Badminton	Jr Boys Golf
Jr Girls Flag Football	Sr Badminton	Jr Boys Rugby
Sr Girls Flag football	Jr Boys Basketball	Sr Boys Rugby
Sr Boys Golf	Sr Boys Basketball	Jr Girls Soccer
Girls Golf	Boys Curling	Sr Girls Soccer
Rugby 7's	Girls Curling	Jr Tennis
Jr Boys Soccer	Dance	Track and Field
Sr Boys Soccer	Boys Hockey	Ultimate Frisbee
Sr Tennis	Girls Hockey	
Sr Boys Volleyball	Swimming	
Jr Boys Volleyball	Jr Girls Volleyball	
	Sr Girls Volleyball	





The **School Cash Online** program is available and encouraged to be used at our school. Parents can pay online for field trips, yearbooks, student fees, locks, and other items.

This program is also used to collect parent/guardian signatures on permission forms, and there is a form already linked to each student! Please log-in and **ensure the permissions & acknowledgement form is submitted before end of September.**

This is also a great way to keep track of your purchase history. Parents who sign-up will receive a notification when a new item becomes available for purchase.

Parents use a secure online account to process payments and can either make a one-time payment for each item as it occurs, or load money to carry a balance in the online account to make payments in the future.

To create an online account, go to [simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com](http://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com)

*After the first time a student logs into a school device (within the school building), they will have access to their SCDSB account moving forward. Student's are reminded to check their email inbox daily for messages!*



## FROM THE LIBRARY

**Parents!** Should you discover **library books** (with a BMHS barcode) in your home, please ask your child whether the book needs to be returned to the library. We appreciate any help you can give us in retrieving missing books.

# School Cash Online

Sign up to get started today.

## What is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an easy way to pay for your student's school fees., check history of purchases and sign permission forms.

### Step One:

Go to the Banting Website: [ban.scdsb.on.ca](http://ban.scdsb.on.ca)

### Step Two:

Click on '**pay fees**' icon in the Quick Access List



### Step Three:

Click '**Get Started Today**'



*If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the BMHS main office 705-435-6288*

## Reminder From The Health Unit: School Grounds Are Smoke Free 24/7

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of secondhand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The *minimum* fine is \$305 for smoking on school property. Repeat offences result in a higher fine.

For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).



Visit our **Official Banting Gear** ordering website! You can choose different brands, styles, customize with logos, names, even numbers on some items! Personalize your spirit wear today!

<http://bantingmarauders.entripyshops.com/>

## STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE

The student activity fee this year is \$25 and can be paid anytime on School Cash Online. All students who have their school picture taken by our school photographers on photo day will receive a student ID card. Students who have paid their fee will have a paid sticker on the back of the card. If the activity fee is purchased after the cards have been distributed, students can visit the main office to obtain their paid sticker. The activity fee allows students to participate in school activities including dances, sports, clubs, prom, Banting Games, Colour Run, etc.

## Parent Portal

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. Visit [ps.scdsb.on.ca/public](https://ps.scdsb.on.ca/public) To create an account in the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number and an Access ID Number, both can be obtained by contacting the main office. Email [banting@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:banting@scdsb.on.ca) or call (705) 435-6288 .



## Student Drop off/Pick-up:

THE **ONLY** area for drop-off and pick-up is the **EAST side of the school by the cafeteria & student parking lot.**

You can access the pick-up zone from Victoria Street and exit onto East Avenue.



**DO NOT USE** the staff parking lot by the Main Office or the School Bus Loading zones at the back of the school.

## BMHS Breakfast Club

Banting's Breakfast Club fed approximately 50,000+ students from September to June this past school year.

As we start another school year **we rely on donations in order to give our students a healthy start to the day.** If you are able to give juice, milk, cereal, nut-free cereal bars, fresh fruit, yogurt or monetary donations, please know that all of your help is very much appreciated.



*Eat Well to Excel*

Simcoe County Nutrition Program for School-Age Children

## Newsletter Items from



### SCDSB launches updated character education program for 2023-24 school year

This year the SCDSB will begin implementation of the updated character education program. Rather than focus on one attribute each month, the program has been changed to reflect that character is a fluid concept that includes a variety of attributes.

The updated character attributes are:

Bravery	Helpfulness	Listening	Responsibility
Caring	Honesty	Love	Trustworthiness
Compassion	Humility	Loyalty	Truth
Cooperation	Inclusiveness	Optimism	Sharing
Courage	Integrity	Perseverance	Wisdom
Empathy	Kindness	Respect	

For more information on the updated character education program, visit the character education page on the SCDSB website: [www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education).

### September PA Day

Please note that Friday, Sept. 22 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/school\\_year\\_calendar](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar).

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Sept. 22 PA Day:

**Length:** Full day  
**Topic:** Reading and Literacy, Social Studies, Assessment  
**Host:** Simcoe County District School Board  
**Presenter(s)/facilitator(s):** School board staff and school administrators

Educators will participate in person to review the newly revised Language Curriculum, *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8, Language, 2023*, and new de-streamed *English, Grade 9*, and *Français, 9e année* courses and explore resources to support their implementation with students. Through group discussions and hands-on activities, elementary educators will learn about early reading instruction and the use of screening tools to help ensure that students with reading difficulties are identified and supported early. They will also explore and plan for literacy instruction across the curriculum, including the new Holocaust Education curriculum in Grade 6. Secondary educators will also engage in assessment activities and the collaborative planning of student tasks and opportunities to inform both course instruction and evaluation.

### **SCDSB 2023-24 Student Handbook**

The SCDSB student handbook contains a variety of information that the SCDSB is required to share with all students and families. This September, schools will be distributing the student handbook to all families via email. The SCDSB 2023-24 Student Handbook can also be found on the SCDSB website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent) and on school websites under 'students'. If you have questions, please contact the school.

### **Days of Awareness 2023-24**

Days of Awareness (NM1) can be viewed at [www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity\\_and\\_inclusion](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion).

### **New absence reporting system for SCDSB schools – call 1-888-885-8065 to report an absence )**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is implementing a new absence reporting system at secondary schools. This system will support us in continuing to improve our home-to-school communication process and streamline absence reporting. **To report a student absence, call 1-888-885-8065.** Callers will be prompted to identify the school before leaving a message. Parents should include the student's name, teachers' name, dates, and reason for the absence. If you have questions about the new system, please contact the school office.

### **Universal Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) screening process**

The OLSAT is a standardized group test of ability. The results of this test will help us gain a better understanding of students' areas of relative strength and needs as related to their verbal and non-verbal abilities so that we can plan our programs and supports accordingly. Results may also be used to inform identification (e.g., Intellectual: Gifted). Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction, and through providing program extensions and enrichment. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate, and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in an elementary gifted classroom placement.

A consent form examining the universal OLSAT screening process in greater detail will be sent to parent(s)/guardian(s) of students in Grade 3 via School Cash Online in September. If you require further information about the universal OLSAT screening process, please contact the school.

### **School council nominations for 2023-24 school year**

School council is a committee made up of elected parents/guardians, community representatives, staff, and sometimes students that help to provide the community voice and parent/guardian perspective on important school topics. School council is a good way for parents/guardians to get involved in their child/children's education while playing an important role in the partnership between home and school.

School council nominations take place every fall. If you are interested, please watch your email for upcoming communication and for more information visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/school\\_councils](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/school_councils).



**Annual notice to adult students or parent(s)/guardian(s) of students under the age of 16**

A completed Student Medical Form (FORM A1420 - 1) is required each school year, or when a medical need is identified, or when the student transfers to another school, in order to authorize medical response plan development and the administration of prescribed medication to students who require it during school hours, or when the medication and/or dosage requirements change. Specific to asthma, every student is now permitted to carry their asthma medication if the student has their parent's/guardian's permission. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and adult students are responsible for ensuring that a current, completed Student Medical Form is on file at the school. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and adult students are also to complete a Plan of Care for students with prevalent medical conditions such as anaphylaxis, asthma, type 1 diabetes, or epilepsy/seizure disorder. Some students may experience severe life-threatening allergic reactions to bee, hornet, wasp, or other flying insect stings or to certain foods or food ingredients such as peanuts. The best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure for these students is to respectfully ask parent(s)/guardian(s) to avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanuts and/or tree nuts listed in the ingredients to school. For students with life-threatening allergies, it is recommended that two doses of an epinephrine auto-injector are available on site at school. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions you may have.

**Standard acknowledgment and permission form/student information computing technology appropriate use agreement 2023-24**

The 2023-24 Standard Acknowledgment and Permission Form and Student Information Computing Technology Appropriate Use Agreement are required forms for all Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students. The forms have been made available electronically through School Cash Online until Oct. 16. School Cash Online is our preferred method for forms. If you are unable to submit these forms electronically, please contact the office for paper copies.

**Student Accident Insurance 2023-24**

Student injuries at school during school events, extra-curricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and out-of-province/out-of-country trips are not covered by the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. A variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices can be found through either:

StudyInsured at [www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com](http://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com) or by calling 1-833-560-0527; or,  
Insure my Kids through at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or by calling 1-800-463-5437.

Participation in extra-curricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and/or out-of-province/ out-of-country trips require the purchase of this insurance, or other extended health and dental coverage.

**Volunteering in schools during the 2023-24 school year**

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our schools great places to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. Volunteers have various roles at our schools including:

- School event volunteer
- Hot lunch day organizers
- Field trip supervisors
- Classroom helpers

Please contact your local school's office if you are interested in volunteering and would like to know more about the opportunities available.

To become a volunteer in a Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) school, you must complete accessibility training and submit a current (dated within six months) Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC). Schools require all VSCs to be in their original form and emailed directly to the school for processing. Please note, volunteers are unable to upload VSCs directly to the volunteer portal. Each potential volunteer must create an account within the volunteer portal. Please remember to choose the school you wish to volunteer with.-

If you do not have a computer or require assistance, please contact the school.

**Current volunteers**

Current approved volunteers must keep their Community Apps account/Volunteer Portal information up-to-date with email address changes. Communication is sent throughout the year to the provided email address with respect to timelines, necessary requirements, etc. regarding your volunteer status. Instructions on how to change your email address in Community Apps can be found [here](#). Updating your email address in your Community Apps account will automatically update your email address in your Volunteer Portal.

If you are also a parent, check out [our Parent Portal](#).

## How to access the Volunteer Portal

Click this [SCDSB Community Apps link](#) or find the link on the volunteer page of your schools website, under the Parents menu.

If you have previously registered a Community Account, click the **Login To Community Apps** button, and login with your username and password.

If you do **not** have an account, click the **New? Register for new Community Account** link at the bottom of the page.



**REMINDER:** Each volunteer will have to have their own community apps account. Each community apps account is created with a separate email address.

- Complete an annual offence declaration through the SCDSB Community Apps – Volunteers page for up to four years to continue volunteering.
- Submit a new VSC at the beginning of the fifth year.
- Be responsible for the cost of the VSC.
- Be responsible to the principal and work under the supervision of teaching staff.
- Work co-operatively as part of a team to support and supplement school programs.
- Respect the confidentiality of the relationship to the school, ensuring that staff issues and student work and behaviour issues are held in confidence.
- Adhere to established SCDSB and school procedures.
- Communicate regularly with staff.
- Be prompt, dependable and regular in attendance, and give advance notice to teachers when unable to attend.

### Procedures help keep our school safe

We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents/guardians should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off temporarily.
- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all exterior doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

- A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Interior doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents/guardians do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites ([www.facebook.com/SCDSB](https://www.facebook.com/SCDSB) and [www.twitter.com/SCDSB\\_Schools](https://www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools)) and website ([www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)), through local police and local media.
- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents/guardians will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.

When parents/guardians are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire, and/or emergency personnel. Parents/guardians may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent/guardian care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

Please note the following:

- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All SCDSB schools have **automated external defibrillators (AEDs)**.

### **Student dress code**

Our board's dress code is one way that we embed the principles set out in the SCDSB and Ministry of Education documents, Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario, and Equity and Inclusive Education to ensure safe, inclusive and equitable learning environments for all of our students. In SCDSB schools, we believe that students should be able to learn in a safe and caring space that is free of bias and discrimination. When making choices about what to wear to school, we respect your individuality. To ensure that our learning environments are safe and respectful spaces, our board has consulted with students and staff to develop a set of shared standards for student dress.

The SCDSB dress code is available on the SCDSB website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/dress\\_code](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/dress_code). If you have questions about the dress code, contact your school principal.