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## VERNON BARFORD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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**Welcome to Vernon Barford!** We are excited to have you join our school and look forward to getting to know you better next year. We know that you probably have a lot of questions about what next year will look like. Some information is included below and we look forward to helping you and your child get to know us better at our parent/student orientation morning on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

### **Next Year / 2024-2025**

- **Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> = New to VB / Grade 7 Student and Parent Orientation (9:00 am - 11:00 am) - All new to VB students and parents invited.**
  - Note that all new to VB students are invited to attend. You will meet some of our teachers, learn a little bit about our school and what to expect on the first day of school, find your classrooms without other students in the school, find your locker, practice your combination lock (a good thing to do over the summer a few times as well), and basically have a chance to start to get settled with only Grade 7s and new students in the building.
  - A parent from each family is also invited to attend if possible. We will have a separate parent information session for you which will cover some basic information about our school as well as provide parents with a chance to ask questions about junior high.
  
- **Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> = Students Return / First Day of Classes / Term 1 Day 1**
  - All students asked to be at school by 8:20 am on this day and be aware that school begins at 8:30 am and the first day is focused on orientation activities followed by mini periods.

- Note that additional dates and information are posted on our school website and on Schoolzone (Access to Schoolzone for parents and students new to Edmonton Public Schools will be sent home at the beginning of the school year).
- Please plan to have your child attend the first day with a lock for their locker, some pens and pencils, lined paper, and one or more binders.

### **Typical School day:**

- All classes begin at 8:30 am with the warning bell going at 8:25. We ask students to arrive a little early so they have time to get to their lockers and classes without the worry of being rushed. Students will report to their period one class directly. The typical school day ends at 2:55 pm unless a student wishes or is invited to attend LEAP (Learning, Enrichment, Application, and Practice). LEAP is a time we have built into our school day so that enrichment and extra time and support can occur on a regular basis. Students can choose to attend (and many in our school do) or may be required to attend, to ensure high levels of learning. **LEAP: 3:00 pm – 3:30 each day.**
- Our school also utilizes a Day 1 - Day 2 schedule which means that while students will have core subjects every day they will have a language one day and physical education the next. This also leaves space for options; they will have one option on Day 1 and a different option on Day 2.

Welcome to Vernon Barford! We look forward to meeting all of our new families and reconnecting with our returning families and students in the fall. Should you have a unique situation about which you would like to ask, then please feel free to contact us at 780-413-2211 and know we would be happy to assist you.

Yours sincerely,

Lon McMullen (Principal)  
Rhonda Guppy (Assistant Principal)  
Mike Butlin (Assistant Principal)