

Bishop James Mahoney High School

Date: August 2023
To: BJM Students - Parents - Caregivers
From: Jason Benson, Principal
Kirby Frey, Vice Principal
Hiedi Bodnarchuk, Vice Principal
Re: **School Opening Information For 2023-24**

Welcome to Bishop James Mahoney High School. As a Catholic High School our mission is to be a welcoming community where we nurture faith, encourage excellence in learning and inspire students to serve others, making the world a better place. We love because He first loved us. John 4:19

School Opening Schedule: August 2023

Monday, August 28

- 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – school open for grade 9 students and those students new to GSCS to pick up timetables for 2023-2024. All students can also view timetables at 9:00 am through MSS (accessible through the GSCS portal with students' regular log-in credentials). Timetable changes will not be made based on a teacher, friend and/or spare requests. Minimal changes will be made at the end of August/beginning of September and only if room is available in the affected classes. Any changes need to be requested and completed by **Wednesday, September 6. Please follow your current timetable until you see a change in your MSS schedule.**

Tuesday, August 29

- 8:30 am – 3:00 pm – School open for student photos for all grade levels. **The photos are required for student ID cards.**
- Grade 9 students, and any students new to GSCS, may pick up a paper copy of their timetable. **Returning student's** timetables are **only** available through MSS / Edsby.



Students requiring a timetable change are asked to fill out an online form using this link:

[Timetable Change Request Form](#)

All timetable change requests must be submitted by Wednesday Sept. 6th.

Wednesday, August 30

- 8:30 am – 3:00 pm – School open for student photos for all grade levels. Grade 9 students, and any students new to GSCS, may pick up a paper copy of their timetable. **Returning student's** timetables are **only** available through MSS / Edsby.

Thursday, August 31

- Grade 9 students, and any students new to GSCS, may pick up a paper copy of their timetable. **Returning student's** timetables are **only** available through MSS / Edsby.

Friday, September 1

- GSCS Opening Mass and Institute – School closed.

Tuesday, September 5

AM – Grade 9 Students Only

8:35 am – 9:00 am	Administration Welcome to Students
9:10 am – 9:35 am	Period 1
9:40 am – 10:30 am	Periods 2 and 3
10:35 am – 11:00 am	Period 4
11:05 am – 11:30 am	Period 5

PM – Grades 10 – 12 Students Only

1:00 pm – 1:20 pm	Period 1
1:25 pm – 1:45 pm	Period 2
1:50 pm – 2:10 pm	Period 3
2:15 pm – 2:35 pm	Period 4
2:40 pm – 3:00 pm	Period 5

Wednesday, September 6

- Regular classes begin for all grade levels at 8:30 am.
- School supplies – Students should come to school equipped with a small supply of pens, pencils, binder(s), and paper. Teachers will advise students of specific needs.

Daily Schedule: September 2023 – June 2024

<u>Regular Schedule</u>	
Period 1	8:30 - 9:40
Period 2	9:45 - 10:55
BREAK	10:55 - 11:05
Period 3	11:05 - 12:05
LUNCH	12:05 - 1:05
Period 4	1:05 - 2:05
Period 5	2:10 - 3:10

<u>Thursday</u>	
<u>Staff Meeting Schedule</u>	
Period 1	8:30 – 9:15
Period 2	9:20 – 10:05
BREAK	10:05 – 10:15
Period 3	10:15 – 10:55
Period 4	11:00 – 11:40
Period 5	11:45 – 12:25

*See attached calendar for days off and early dismissal days; also available on [Edsby](#) and our [website](#).

Information

1. **School Fees**

Students will receive a fee invoice outlining all fees later this fall.

2. **Locks and Lockers**

Locks and lockers will be assigned to students by their **Period 2** teacher. Students are to only use the school locks issued to them either this year or in past years. Students who do not have a Period 2 class should see Ms. Johnson, in the main office, to be assigned a locker.

3. **Grade 9 Parent Information Night**

A meeting for parents of Grade 9 students is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 19th, 2023, at 7:00 PM** in the Commons. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with their child's Core teachers and receive information regarding course objectives, expectations, and assessment for all Gr. 9 courses.

4. **Bishop James Mahoney Catholic School Community Council (BJM CSCC) AGM & Election**

All parents and eligible community members are invited to the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday September 19th at 8:00 PM to learn more about the Bishop James Mahoney Catholic School Community Council.

For those interested in becoming involved as voting members, **nominations are being accepted for open for several positions. More information to come.** Elected members hold office for two years and individual roles within the council are established annually. The election will be held at the CSCC AGM.

Eligibility

- All parents or guardians of students attending Bishop James Mahoney High School are eligible for nomination and to vote in the CSCC election.
- Community members of the Catholic faith may also be nominated and vote in the election. Community members must live within the transportation area as defined by Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and meet the requirements to be an elector in the school division.

Nominations

- Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

Additional Information

- www.gscs.ca/bjm/page/1954/about-our-cscc
- www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/education-and-learning

***To learn more about getting involved contact: Jason Benson, BJM Principal, at 659-7501.**

5. **Website**

For further information regarding Bishop James Mahoney High School, please refer to our website at: www.gscs.ca/bjm/

6. **Physical Education Safety Guidelines**

The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Physical Education Safety Guidelines Handbook states that students are to "remove all jewelry before participating in physical education activities." Jewelry includes ear studs, nose rings as well as other body jewelry such as watches, rings and hanging jewelry.

7. Student Attendance

To be academically successful, students must attend classes regularly and promptly. Students, parents, and teachers must work jointly to ensure regular and prompt attendance and continual progress in all courses.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child's regular attendance. Please notify the school prior to the start of classes if your child is going to be absent that day. You have two convenient ways to report absences, and you can report planned absences in advance:

- a. Use EDSBY to indicate when your child will be absent. If you do not have an EDSBY account, you will be sent an invitation to set one up at the beginning of the school year. It is very important to set up an EDSBY account as this is where you will report absences, view marks and report cards, see upcoming exam or assignment dates and communicate with your child's teachers.
- b. For attendance reporting and/or attendance information call 306-659-7506. Voicemail is available twenty-four hours a day and will record your attendance information if the phone line is busy.

8. Extended Absences

Regular student attendance is very important to complete the outcomes for each curriculum. Please do your best to plan for vacations at the designated breaks, as extended absences may impact your child's academic success. Options such as cyber school may need to be considered for extended absences.

9. Safe Learning Environment

Everyone at Bishop James Mahoney High School has the right to enjoy a safe environment in and around the school. We are committed to building and maintaining a positive educational environment in which everyone's rights are respected and protected. In a school, all individuals have a right to expect and a responsibility to create an appropriate and safe learning environment. The Education Act stipulates that students are accountable to the school on their way to and from home, during the school day (including the lunch hour) and during school-sponsored activities such as field trips, social or sporting events. Unacceptable behaviours are recognized as serious and will not be allowed. They require immediate action to determine cause and consequences and to provide opportunities for learning appropriate behaviour. Parents will be informed of the issues and the consequences when situations occur. If students encounter a problem related to safety, they should immediately seek the assistance of their teachers, school counsellors or administrators.

10. Photographs and Student Cards

Photographers will be at the school on **Tuesday, August 29, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday, August 30 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** A reminder that the school dress code is in effect for school photos. If dressed inappropriately, your photo will not appear in the yearbook. All students will be photographed for student cards and the yearbook (optional cost included in the student fees). Students will receive a photo package detailing purchase options. Please note that there is NO obligation to purchase a photo package. **Photo retake day is scheduled for Thursday, September 28.**

11. Cafeteria

The cafeteria operates on a non-profit basis. Meals are provided at reasonable cost. We are a nutrition positive school. Reloadable meal cards are available to purchase. Parents and students may purchase cards or reload cards in the cafeteria from 8:00-8:25 daily.

12. New to Canada

If someone you know is new to Canada and would like to register their children in a Catholic school, please invite them to book an appointment at the Newcomer Registration Centre. Please call 306-659-7000.