



Percy Baxter
Middle School

101 MINK CREEK RD.
WHITECOURT, AB
T7S 1S2



ROCK STARS REVIEW

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE— Mr. Turcotte, Principal

It is my pleasure to welcome back all Percy Baxter students and families for the 2022-2023 school year! A special welcome to those who are new to the school and the community of Whitecourt!

Highlights from the first two days of school included our "Red Carpet" staggered entry start, where Grade 6 students joined us on the first day of school, meeting their homeroom teachers and other staff in the school, participating in a variety of orientation activities, getting active in Phys. Ed, and settling into their new surroundings. Grade 7 and 8 students joined us for the second day of school, where they met their subject level teachers, and developed an understanding and appreciation of the importance of the responsibilities that come with being a middle school student. It was a great feeling to see them walking through our doors with big smiles on their faces, and an energy and excitement for the year to come!

A reminder to all PBS families that our annual "Poppin to Percy" Meet the Teacher event will be taking place from 3:30PM to 6:00PM on Thursday, September 8. This is a great opportunity to meet staff, and connect with teachers who have now had a few days with your amazing kiddos! Please consider joining us and having your child(ren) tour you around our school and their classrooms! Please continue to be advocates for your children's education by taking on an active role in their learning. Parents are reminded of the importance of signing up for Parent Portal, as a means of monitoring student progress and ensuring their success this school year. As per NGPS Administrative Procedure 201 (Assessment and Reporting), assessment will include both formative (descriptive feedback) and summative (quizzes, tests, projects, etc.) assessments and will be communicated to parents on a regular basis through PowerSchool (Parent Portal).

As students enter the second week of school, teachers will continue to work to get them into the swing of things, while also providing opportunities to foster a sense of belonging in their classrooms. Option classes will officially begin on Monday, September 12, during which time parents of Grade 7 and 8 students can expect to see subject Course Outlines which provide an outline of the program, assessment practices, and any associated fees. Please take the time to review these important documents with your children. All PBS students have also received a Student Agenda which is to be used by students in all classes to record homework, important dates, and other items as assigned by their teachers.

On a final note we would like to wish all students an amazing year at Percy Baxter School! Push yourselves to work to the best of your ability in all that you do! Go STARS!



Northern Gateway
Public Schools

Wanting to stay connected to
Percy Baxter School? Look
for updates and school news
via the PBS Facebook page!



SchoolCashOnline

KEVGROUP

Quick Guide



<https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com>

03. Add a Student

Find Student

School Information

School Board Name: School Board 1575
Looking for a student in a different school board?

School Name: Eagle High School

Student Information

Do you have the student number?

Student Number:

First Name:

Last Name:


Birth Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)
Date format: mm/dd/yyyy


(No students? [Click here](#))

Add a student to your account by filling in the required information about your child. (Note: you may need your child's student number, first name, last name, date of birth, or a pin number provided by the school.)

Need Help Registering? Contact Parent Help Desk

 1.866.961.1803

 parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com

 <https://schoolcashonline.com/Home/Support>

View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children you would like to add, select "Add Another Student" and repeat the steps above. Once you have all desired students added, select "View Items for Students", which will list all available items or activities for purchase.

<https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com>



For safety and efficiency reasons, your school district is now offering an online payment system to reduce the amount of cash and checks coming into our schools. Follow these instructions, to create your School Cash Online account and get access now!

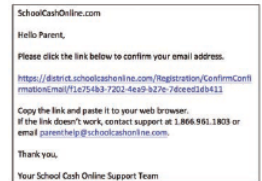
01. Create Your Profile



Select "Get Started Today" on the School Cash Online homepage. Fill in all fields and click continue. (Note: Your password must contain 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, and a number.)

02. Confirm Your Email

Check your inbox for the confirmation email and click on the confirmation link in the email. (Remember to check your spam!) Sign in using the email and password you just provided.



How to Make a Payment

- 1 **Sign In**
Go to <https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com> and click "Sign In". Fill in your email/username and password.
- 2 **View Items**
Select the item that you would like to purchase and click "Add to Cart"
- 3 **Check Out**
Once you have finished adding items to your cart, press "Check Out"



Safe.



Fast.



Convenient.

OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS

School Fees 2022-2023

Technology Fee \$32

Construction Fees \$20/\$25

Home Economics \$20/\$30

Art \$10

Optional Apple Program Donation \$10.00



Parent involvement is crucial to student academic success. The Parent Portal is a tool for you to stay informed and engaged in your child's education.

The Parent Portal gives parents and guardians access to:

- View your child's assignments and grades,
- See your child's schedule
- Monitor your child's attendance
- Communicate with your child's teachers
- Stay current on homework, projects and deadlines



District Code
PSNT

If you know your child is going to be late or absent from school on a given day, please call the office directly at **780-778-3898 after 8:15AM**. You can leave a message between 4:15pm-8:15am.

Unless it is an emergency, we will not interrupt classes to deliver messages to students. Please have afterschool plans



Interested in purchasing PBS Spirit Wear? Access the new PBS online store and have your clothing delivered to your door! A large selection of clothing and other items are available! Access the Entripy PBS store @ <http://percybaxter.entriptyshops.com>.



Encouraging Good Sleep Habits

If your family is anything like ours, summer is a time of slowing down and emptying agendas. Long days in the sun end with late evenings with family and friends, usually around a backyard fire. Camping, exploring, traveling and adventures have our whole family off schedule. Getting back to the routine of school is difficult on families, especially back to regular bedtimes!

One (or more) poor nights of sleep make it hard to focus, and have us feeling irritable and lethargic the next day. A good night's sleep for children helps them manage their behavior and emotions, which in turn helps them concentrate and learn at school.

Sleep Hygiene, according to [Kenneth Schuster](#), a Clinical Neuropsychologist at the Learning and Development Center in New York City, is a term that refers to establishing healthy bedtime habits and routines, making bedrooms good for sleeping and encouraging children to stay in their own bed for the night.

Bedtime routine at any age is the key. The biggest obstacle to getting children to sleep on time is often parental inconsistency. **Establish a routine and stick with it.** Predictability is both reassuring and soothing.

- Younger children: if a child knows they are going to take a bath, then cuddle with you for a bedtime story, then lights out, it gives them a chance to get sleepy on their own.
- Older children: remove ALL devices at least an hour before bedtime. They still need time to decompress from their day. When parenting teenagers, we typically stop "tucking them in", assuming they do not need or want us. However, I disagree with this assumption. As a mom of big kids, I have found that taking the time to go into each of their rooms for a hug and "I love you" (and to put their phone away in a central location!) is invaluable.

Bedrooms should be cool, dark, quiet as possible, with minimal distractions such as bright lights or exciting toys. Black out curtains and sound machines that mask background with white noise can help. Though it can be a struggle, **beds are for sleeping**, not homework, video games or watching TV (this is good advice for us parents too!).

A good night's sleep is the foundation for healthy brain development, mental wellness and cognitive growth. In addition, waking up refreshed will lessen the battles of getting children up early for school.

If your child continues to have serious trouble falling asleep and staying asleep, despite consistent sleep hygiene, consult with your family physician.

This article was written by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote wellness and success in school. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 23 years and is a mother to 4 children; 2 in high school and 2 in university.



**2022/2023
Percy Baxter School
Bell Schedule**

TIME	BLOCK
8:55	Bell
8:55-9:05	TAGS
9:05-9:55	BLOCK 1
9:55-10:45	BLOCK 2
10:50-11:40	BLOCK 3
11:40-12:10	LUNCH BREAK A
12:10-12:40	LUNCH BREAK B
12:40-1:30	BLOCK 4
1:35-2:25	BLOCK 5
2:25-3:15	BLOCK 6

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 LABOUR DAY NO SCHOOL	6	7	8 POP-IN TO PERCY 3:30-6pm	9 SCHOOL-WIDE BREAKFAST 8:30-9AM WELCOME-BACK ASSEMBLY 11AM	10
11	12 OPTIONS BEGIN	13	14 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 7pm	15	16 SCHOOL PICTURE DAY	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation NO SCHOOL	

Please visit our website for up-to-date information
percybaxter.ca