

Wednesday August 26, 2020

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

We hope your summer holidays have been restful and you have found some quality time with family and friends. Maybe you were able to get away and explore this beautiful Province or maybe your adventures were found close to home. Nevertheless, it is that time in August when we prepare for another school year. While we are very excited to welcome all students and staff back to school, we also find ourselves in an unprecedented situation and as a result school will look different for all involved.

The purpose of this communication is to provide families with preliminary information on what start up routine will look like and the structure of our timetable. It should also be noted our planning will be responsive as Public Health requirements shift and direction from the Ministry of Education alters.

We are committed to ensuring that you have timely information in the days ahead as more details will follow.

School Start-up: The first week of school will be an Orientation Week, and students only need to be present on the following days/times:

Thursday Sept. 10	Grade 9's 10:00 – 11:30 am	Grade 10's 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Friday Sept. 11	Grade 11's 10:00 – 11:30 am	Grade 12's 1:30 – 3:00 pm

The purpose of these orientation days is to introduce students to their Quarter 1 teachers, discuss health and safety protocols, and learn more about our new timetable format and general start-up routines.

School Bus service will be limited on orientation days. If you need transportation for these days, you must REQUEST by email to transportation@saanichschools.ca (NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND).

Students are reminded that they are to wear a mask while on the bus. If a student does not register to ride the bus, they will be required to find their own way to and from school for these days. Full school days and bus service will begin on Monday September 14.

Structure of a typical day:

Copernican Structure:

- The framework at Claremont will be a Copernican structure within a quarter timetable. The timetable will be two extended classes per day (am & pm) for a shorter period (10 weeks) rather than four classes a day over a full semester.

Quarter Timetable:

- The year will be divided into 4 quarters of approximately 10 weeks each
- Course selections will be preserved to value student choice from last spring
- Each day of the week will start and finish at the same time

- Students will have two classes per day every quarter and will finish with a final letter grade per course, apart from some linear classes
- Morning classes for the first five weeks will have full attendance. Classes in the afternoon will be split into two learning groups & attend on alternating days
- After five weeks, morning classes will attend 50% of the time on alternating days and afternoon classes will move to 100% attendance
- This timetable will decrease density ratios to 75% attendance over the course of a day and keep learning cohorts within the Ministry ratios of 120 students.

Example of Claremont Quarter 1 Timetable - First 5 Weeks

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00am – 9:00am	Morning Block	Morning Block	Morning Block	Morning Block	Morning Block
9:00am – 9:15am	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support
9:15am – 11:45am	Block 1	Block 1	Block 1	Block 1	Block 1
11:45am – 12:30pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:30pm – 3:00pm	Block 2 (Group A)	Block 2 (Group B)	Block 2 (Group A)	Block 2 (Group B)	Block 2 (Group A) <small>*Keep Alternating ...</small>
3:00pm – 3:15pm	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support	Connection & Support
3:15pm – 4:45pm	After School Block	After School Block	After School Block	After School Block	After School Block

As mentioned, this is preliminary information and we are sure you have many questions. Please continue to check the Claremont website and review the emails delivered from the school. In the days ahead more detailed information will be made available. Our [District website](#) is also a great source for current updates.

We have an amazing staff at Claremont who will provide positive and rich opportunities for your child during these very different times. We will treat all safety measures with the utmost importance for the Claremont community. Thank you for your patience, understanding, flexibility, and feedback as we work together for our students.

Sincerely,

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