

Sept. 12, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It was so nice to see students in school this past week during our Orientation Days. Students had the opportunity to connect with their peers, meet their semester one teachers, become familiar with some of our safety routines and even have their photo taken on picture day. To say the least, it was a very busy first week. This memo contains a few updates for students and families to consider as we begin our first full week of classes:

Timetables: By now all students should have a complete timetable for the year. If course changes are still needed please email Mr. Pama (rpama@saanichschools.ca) / Ms. Giese (agiese@saanichschools.ca). Monday Sept. 13 will be the final day to make schedule changes. It must also be noted that some students were unable to make the requested changes, for reasons of conflicts or a class sitting at maximum capacity for any new students to join.

Student Demographic Form: All students were given a copy of their Student Demographic Form. Please review this information and update it with any new email addresses or phone numbers that we may not have in our records system. Information can be updated directly on the form and students drop it off at our main office. *It is important that we have correct contact information, especially in case of emergency situations and to ensure that school information is being directed to the appropriate email(s), etc.*

Masks, Physical Distancing, and Lunchtime: Masks must be worn at all times by students, staff, parent/guardians, and community members who enter the building. We do have replacement masks available in the front office for any student who 'forgets' theirs; we also have a new shipment of good cloth masks that we will work to distribute to students and staff over the course of the next week or so. We will continue to encourage students to head outside at lunchtime to ensure that hallways are clear and people are not eating in the halls, but we know that there is rain in the forecast. ***To this end, on rainy/inside days we will ask students to remain in their Blk 2 classrooms for the first 10-15min to eat BEFORE they head into the halls.***

Lunchtime: Students will be encouraged to bring lunch, snacks and a water bottle to school. Microwaves are available in the student lounge. Our school cafeteria class will prepare the lunch menu over the course of Block 2 for students to be able to purchase during lunchtime.

School Bussing: Students must be registered to ride our district school busses. If you still need to register your child(ren), please go to www.sd63.bc.ca and select 'Programs and Services - Transportation - Busing Registration Link'. Students must wear a mask while riding the bus.

Opt-Out Form: Any students/families that DO NOT wish to have their student in any photos/video published by the school (such that the pictures are posted to our school /district websites), there is an "opt out" form available in the main office.

PAC Exec Meeting: This Tuesday Sept. 14 your Claremont PAC Exec will be meeting with Administration. The purpose of the meeting will be to prepare the agenda for the first PAC meeting set for Tuesday Sept. 21 at 7:00 pm. The Executive will also determine if the PAC meeting will be in person or virtual. More information to follow.

Meet the Teacher Night on Thur. Sept 23rd 6:00-8:00pm: we will move forward with this evening as scheduled; this is our early closure day with school ending at 2:16pm. The tentative plan is for Admin to meet with parents/guardians in the gym from 5:30-6:00pm. Parents will need to register in advance through an online link/survey that will be posted soon on the main page of our school website. Health and Safety requires that parents and/or community members who enter our building must register their name and contact information. It will be requested that one parent/guardian per family attend this evening to keep our overall capacity to a comfortable level.

Insure My Kids: The school district does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities. You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian. However, the school district assists families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the Reliable Life Insurance Company. Brochures are no longer distributed to students in September, however the information can be viewed on-line at: www.insuremykids.com.

Pandemic Health & Safety Protocols (viewable on the SD63 District Website)

- As mandated by WorkSafeBC, a new Communicable Disease Program will replace our district's Safety Plan. It will have many similarities to our current plan but will reflect any new measures being implemented in our schools. Ours will be available on our district website early next week.
- Regional Medical Health Officers will now have the authority to implement additional safety requirements at a regional, district or school level should that be required.
- All K-12 staff and students in Gr 4-12 are required to wear masks while indoors or on the school bus. K-Gr 3 students are encouraged to wear masks, but this remains the choice of the student and their family.
- General cleaning of the premises, and the cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces, will occur at least once in a 24-hour period.
- Staff and students (or their parents if appropriate) are to continue to do their own Daily Health Check and should remain home if they are not feeling well.
- Visitors will be required to sign-in at the main office for contact tracing purposes.
- Our ventilation systems will continue to use high-filtering MERV 13 filters as recommended. Ventilation performance will also continue to be monitored by our Facilities Department.
- School gatherings and events will now align with provincial/regional guidelines. The following activities will now be able to occur:

* School Sports

* Extra-Curricular Activities & Assemblies

*Staff Gatherings and Meetings

*Theatre/Dance Performances

Additional guidance and information can be found in the Ministry of Education document: [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#).

Year at a Glance: The [Year at a Glance](#) is now posted on the Claremont Website under the Calendar Tab. This document will provide you with all the scheduled dates we currently have on the calendar. We will update this information periodically throughout the year but the Monthly Calendar will be updated soon and will have any up to the minute information available. Please check the calendar regularly.

Bell Schedule: Please be advised that our bell schedule has changed from last year due to the fact that we are moving back to the semester system; it would be a good idea for all students to take a quick photo of the image below using their cell phones so that they always have a copy at hand to reference:

Class Bell Schedule 2021-2022			
		<small>September 2021</small>	
Monday - Friday		Class Early Bell Schedule	
Block 1	9:00 – 10:18	Block 1	9:00 – 10:06
Block 2	10:22 – 11:45	Block 2	10:10 – 11:20
Lunch	11:45 – 12:30	Lunch	11:20 – 12:00
Block 3	12:30 – 1:48	Block 3	12:00 – 1:06
Block 4	1:52 – 3:10	Block 4	1:10 – 2:16

Please confirm AM or PM class start times with your Teacher

Fee Payment in Saanich School District Just Got Easier: In an effort to reduce time, money, and paper waste, parents now have the option to pay their children’s fees securely online. Payments can be made by Visa, Visa Debit, Mastercard and Mastercard Debit. To sign up, please visit the District Website www.sd63.bc.ca and look under Parents & Students, and then select Pay School Fees Online.

Sincerely,

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