

February 18th, 2022



Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It's hard to believe that course selection for the upcoming school year is just around the corner! These next few weeks are very important as we begin the process of sharing course options for 2022/23, collect student choices, and register new students.

**Course Selection Information for 2022-23:** Our [Course Selection Guide](#) is always available off of our website under the "Students" tab [click "Application/Course Selection"]. Two virtual (TEAMs) information sessions for parent/guardians on course selection will take place this week. Mark Wednesday February 23rd in your calendar for one or both sessions;

- New to Claremont, Grade 9 Course Information Session 6:00 - 6:45 pm - [LINK](#)
- Current Grade 9-11 Course Information Session 7:00 - 7:45 pm - [LINK](#)

These links are also available from the front page of our website. Our grade 9, 10, 11 students will receive course selection information Wed. Feb. 23rd, via grade wide assemblies in the Ridge Theater after which time they will receive a course selection sheet. This is a good opportunity to engage with your child in the planning of their next year here at Claremont. We will also post course information slides/video of our website if you miss the TEAMs sessions on Wed. Feb. 23rd.

**Masks:** Thank you for your efforts in reminding your student to bring and wear their mask responsibly. Despite restrictions easing in other areas, masks are still required indoors, therefore, we must continue to encourage students to be diligent with their mask wearing. With gratitude, the Claremont PAC has donated a supply of masks for our students made available through the office.

**Parent Teacher Virtual/Phone Call Meetings:** With the cancellation of our Open House, we will hold Meet the Teacher night Thur. Feb. 24th from 4:00-6:00 PM. We have also changed the evening to a Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interview format. These phone calls can be pre-booked from the Claremont website, using the "pick A time" scheduler starting Tuesday Feb. 22nd. Please be reminded this night is not about meeting with the teacher(s) from your child's semester one course.

**Gr 9 Immunizations:** If your child did not receive their immunization on February 8th, we will be holding another mini clinic at the school before the end of the semester. We are currently waiting to hear from Island Health on their first available date. You and your child will be contacted directly prior to this clinic. Please be advised that Island Health follows the Mature Minor procedure when consent is not given by parents/guardians; for more information please click on the link: [Infants Act, Mature Minor Consent and Immunization](#).

**Rapid Antigen Tests for Students:** The Ministry of Health is providing one box of five rapid tests for each student. These kits are on route to Claremont and will be distributed on a date to be determined. [Guidance for parents/guardians on how to use the tests](#) is also provided.

**Student Learning Survey:** The SLS provides feedback on the implementation of the curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. This survey is the only source of province-wide information about students' learning experiences through the perspectives of students, parents, guardians/caregivers, and school staff. Schools and districts use the SLS to make informed decisions around long-term planning and goal-setting, and in providing individual students personalized support.

The parent/guardian survey is now available on this [LINK](#) and is available in 18 different languages. The survey is open until Friday, April 29th, and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Your responses are voluntary and anonymous, and your child will not be identified as a result of your participation in the survey. Any personal or identifying information will be deleted before results are stored. Data will be stored and accessible only within Canada. We will be surveying approximately 70% of our grade 10 and 12 students in school on February 22nd & 23th.. If your child does not complete the survey at school, they can access the student survey in the above link, they will need their PEN (Personal Identification Number) that can be found on the front page, top left corner of any report card.

**Feedback Needed:** The Board's Strategic Plan serves as a framework through which district directions and decisions are considered and initiated. To develop the draft 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, we engaged in a year-long process of analyzing provincial and local student achievement data, as well as having extensive consultations with students, parents/guardians, staff, and the W̱SANEĆ First Nation.

Through this process, four themes were identified:

- **LITERACY** - To improve student literacy across the curriculum for all students with a particular focus on early learning
- **INDIGENOUS LEARNER SUCCESS** - To engage in practices that support culturally responsive and barrier-free learning environments for Indigenous students
- **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS** - To promote mental health and well-being through social emotional learning and trauma-informed practice
- **CITIZENSHIP** - To provide opportunities and experiences that inspire learners to be knowledgeable, curious and active global citizens

Please use this [open response survey](#) to share your thoughts and comments. We value your feedback and look forward to hearing from you, the survey closes on Feb 25, 2022.

**Grad Fundraiser: Purdy's Chocolate** - Ordering is as easy as eating chocolate! Click this [link](#), enter your email, click "Join Campaign", browse the [catalog](#), and order to your heart's content! The order deadline is March 28th, and pick up is April 13-15 at Claremont. As a new customer you may need our Customer #52656.

Thank you for reading through this memo. Enjoy the family day long weekend.

Sincerely,

Peter Westhaver  
[pwesthaver@saanichschools.ca](mailto:pwesthaver@saanichschools.ca)

Meaghan O'Brien  
[mobrien@saanichschools.ca](mailto:mobrien@saanichschools.ca)

Aaron Buckham  
[abuckham@saanichschools.ca](mailto:abuckham@saanichschools.ca)