
Clearwater Secondary

Newsletter

September 1st 2020

Return to School Information

We are looking forward to having your children back in school very shortly. We are incredibly fortunate at Clearwater Secondary, we have the largest school in the district for the number of students attending and according to the [BCDDCC data](#), we have had zero local cases.

School will look quite different this year and I hope that the information below provides clarity and answers all your questions. If I have not answered all your questions please phone or email me.

Darren Coates, Principal
dcoates@sd73.bc.ca
Office 250 674 3328

Schedule for Orientation Day

To ensure we are all ready for the year ahead we will be having full day orientation with students on September 10th and 11th as part of the Re-Start Plan. Students should come prepared with all their regular school supplies as teachers will likely start instruction after addressing the new procedures related to COVID-19.

- Students in grade 10,11 and 12 will be attending on Thursday September 10th.
- Students in grade 8 and 9 will be attending Friday September 11th.

Health Assessment

The first step in keeping our students and staff safe begins at home. Families are asked to sign a Health Assessment Agreement (attached to the email). This is a commitment to assess your child for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school each day. Please complete this form and return it to school before the first day or have your child bring the completed form on their first day. Hard copy forms are available at the CSS office.

Masks

Daily health assessments, along with enhanced surface cleaning, hand washings and physical distancing measures are our best defence against COVID-19. As another layer of protection masks will be required for staff and students when:

- Riding the bus
- In our hallways

Exceptions will be made for students who cannot wear masks for medical reasons. Please provide documentation from a doctor to myself if this is the case. Two masks will be provided for each student. I would suggest that masks are washed daily, having multiple masks may make daily washing easier to manage. I suggest that students practice wearing a mask ahead of time so that they can find a mask that they find comfortable, I tried out three or four models before finding one that fit me really well.

Class Schedule

Students will be attending five days a week in person.

This year we are running a “Copernican” system where most students will have two longer classes a day to reduce contacts with both staff and students. Jr. students may have three courses at once as we have split PHE and Math. Students will change classes quarterly. I have attached our new daily schedule to this email.

Cohorts and Physical Distancing

The school will be broken into two cohorts.

- Jr = grades 8/9
- Sr = grades 10/11/12

The two cohorts will have separate hallways and entrances.

- Jrs will use the back entrance, accessed by walking around the school adjacent the field.
- Srs will use the front entrance.

Lunch time

- Jr students will be allowed to eat in the library and room 340 (the art room)
- Sr students will be able to eat in the pit
- All students are encouraged to eat outside or off campus as the weather allows

Lockers

- Students who have PHE this quarter will be assigned a locker.
- We will only assign every fourth locker.
- Students will not be allowed to share lockers.
- Students who are not in PHE this quarter will not be assigned a locker.

Bussing

Transportation has sent our a information card to every bus student.

Highlights

- No eating or drinking on the bus allowed
- Secondary students to wear a mask on the bus always
- Students must wash their hands before they leave home to take the bus and when they leave school prior to taking the bus.

Visiting the School

- All parents and other visitors must use the front entrance of then school by the office.
- All parents and other visitors must wear a mask
- Do not visit the school if your are sick or have symptoms.
- Sanitize your hands when you enter.
- We would prefer you phone when possible rather than visiting in person.

Hand Washing

There will be a lot of hand washing occurring everyday, when students arrive, before they eat, before they get on a bus, after using the washroom etc.

To accommodate this we have set up hand washing stations in a number of locations throughout the school. Staff we will review the locations with students during orientation day.

Traffic Changes at CSS

Transmountain is working behind the school, we anticipate that the work will be completed prior to Christmas break. To accommodate this construction we have re-routed the busses. Busses will be using the circle at the front of the school and we need this area to stay free of vehicles. We have set up an alternative parent drop off at the adjacent the front parking lot. Please do not use the circle at the front of the school from

- 7 to 9 am
- 2 to 4 pm