



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No.39

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

July 20, 2020

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you are enjoying these early days of summer. Although a school year like no other just ended three weeks ago, we wish to keep you apprised of our work to plan for back-to-school in September 2020.

The Minister of Education and the Provincial Health Officer will give us all an update in two weeks about which stage of [their five-stage education plan](#) we can expect to be in come September. In the meantime, our team here at the Vancouver School District started planning based on the Ministry's five stages.

As you are aware, during the month of June, schools were open with stage three requirements. This stage saw the voluntary in-school attendance of students. At the elementary level that meant students in kindergarten to Grade 5 attended two days a week and students in Grade 6 and 7 one day a week. At the secondary level, voluntary attendance typically saw students at their school for an hour or two a day spread throughout the week. At the end of June, we asked for your feedback about the resumption of school and remote learning hybrid to help us plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Our plans will incorporate that feedback as well as input from teachers, students, administrators and school-based support staff.

Ongoing practices such as staggered arrivals and lunch/recess, restricted access to schools, maximizing physically distancing (reducing physical contact) as well as hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette reminders will remain in place as important health and safety precautions. We are also looking to ensure continuity of learning regardless of the stage so, should it be necessary, students' transitions between stages are as smooth as possible.

For families with elementary-aged children more specific information will be shared about school schedules once details are provided by the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Officer about what stage is expected in September. At that time, we intend to detail student schedules, as well as health and safety procedures in schools as determined by provincial authorities.

For students in our secondary schools, the District plans to have an adaptive and flexible structure in place to accommodate a hybrid learning environment. The Ministry of Education's plan requires that the District be able to move between each of the five stages in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on feedback about the June session, the District will move to a one-year semester model that maintains the Day 1 and Day 2 schedule. This will increase the frequency of teacher/student face-to-face time and allow students to focus more time on the courses they take in a semester schedule. Our goal is to keep students connected to their peers and teachers while providing quality educational experiences in their schools. As more information becomes available from the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Officer more specific details about students' schedules at each possible stage will be provided to families.

With their health, safety, well-being and learning needs as our highest priorities, we look forward to welcoming students back to school in September. Please continue to visit our [website](#) for updates, including [FAQs](#), throughout the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Rob Schindel

Rob Schindel
Associate Superintendent

Pedro da Silva

Pedro da Silva
Associate Superintendent