



TEMPLETON SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year!

Dear Respected Parent, Guardians and Students,

On behalf of the Templeton staff, I welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. I recognize this summer and this year have not been typical. I do hope you had an opportunity to disconnect and recharge over the summer. I would like to extend a special welcome to our incoming Grade 8s and their families.

With the reopening of schools while still in a pandemic there are a multitude of adjustments we need to make to ensure we are following Provincial Health Guidelines. The biggest adjustment is moving to a quarter system from a linear one. In a nutshell, instead of taking 8 courses at the same time for the entire year, students will take 2 courses every day for 10 weeks and then a 2 new courses for 10 weeks, 2 new courses for 10 weeks and then the final 2 courses for 10 weeks. Courses will alternate between face-to-face and remote learning. This will essentially divide the school population in half between morning and afternoon. Masks will be provided to all students (and staff) and are to be worn in situations where physical distancing cannot be followed or when traveling in common areas like hallways.

A full-year calendar with the blocks and quarters is attached to this newsletter. Please note that the MyEd Family Portal for Templeton will be live on Tuesday September 8th. This is later than usual as we need additional times to create the quarters and divide students into their respective sections.

Homerooms will be assigned to students 1-1 class. This is to ensure we are remaining with the cohorts established. Grade 9 to 12 homerooms will take place on Thursday September 10th and Grade 8 homerooms will take place on Friday September 11th followed by a physically distant tour of the building. Details on when and where to arrive will be sent out by homeroom teachers on Tuesday September 8th.

Lunch service will not be provided this year and our cafeteria will not be accessible to staff and students. Students on our lunch program will receive either daily or weekly meal packages based on preference. Our cafeteria is the distribution center for the entire district and will be locked for this reason.

Students in our Life Skills program will be contacted by the classroom teacher. Our Life Skills program will run full-time

As educators we persevere and find ways to make a difficult situation manageable. I believe it is part of our DNA. Education is such an important part of society that the integrity and maintenance of it is a great responsibility. Safety is also a great responsibility and a key component of our opening plans. There will be facets of this plan that serve some students well and others not. As a school community it is our responsibility to ensure everyone has a place and feels that they can thrive and reach their potential as people and pupils. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions

In closing I would like to welcome some new staff members to the Templeton family. Mr. Tim Ross will be teaching English and Career Life Connections; Mr. Joe Ritchie is our new Grade 8 counsellor and Ms. Jasmin Lundy will be here assuming the remainder of Ms. Bell-Irving's parental leave. A warm welcome to our new educators.

Continue to stay safe and well. 2020 has proven to be a year of unpredictability but it has also proven to be a year of resilience. With that I look forward to working with you all in the coming year and thank you for your patience and support as we commence the new school year.

With Respect,

Raza Mirani

Raza Mirani
Principal