



HOPE SECONDARY SCHOOL

PO Box 249 • 444 Stuart St • Hope, BC V0X 1L0

August 21, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

As you are aware, all schools in British Columbia will open to in-person instruction this September. The Ministry of Education Five Stage Framework for K-12 includes a comprehensive COVID-19 health and safety measure plan. The five stages may be viewed on the following link:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school/five-stages-framework>

Supporting this framework are the detailed guidelines from WorkSafeBC outlining COVID-19 Education (K-12): Protocols for returning to operation located at the following link:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-returning-safe-operation/education>

B.C.'s plan includes new health and safety measures, increased funding for protective equipment like masks and new learning groups to help keep everyone safe.

Start Dates:

As September approaches, we will be sending a short survey asking about your student's enrolment, at Hope Secondary, for the 2020-2021 school year as well as any supports you may require in the event we need to shift to remote learning.

We are planning a gradual re-entry to school in September. All staff will return to school on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. During September 8 and 9th, staff and administration will be working together to ensure these principles and guidelines are explained, reviewed and established for returning students.

All students in grades 7-9 will return to school on Thursday, September 10. All students in grades 10-12 will return to school on Friday, September 11. On these days, we will be working with the students to ensure they receive all the usual back-to-school information, meet with their classroom teachers and will also be facilitating a discussion/training on the new routines and safety protocols to ensure everyone's safety. All staff and students will attend school on Monday, September 14, 2020.

Learning Groups/Cohorts:

Students will be organized into cohort groups, as much as possible, in order to limit physical contact and exposure. Homerooms will be restructured so they are grade specific and not multi-grade as we have had for many years. Locker assignments will be based on these groups. Please note, even with restructuring the timetable, we will have students, particularly in grades 10 to 12, who will be in more than one cohort. An example of this is Woodworking 10-12. The grade 10



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students will need to physically distance from the grade 11 and 12 students, as they are not in the same cohort and vice versa.

Our timetable is being restructured so that all grade 8 – 12 courses are on the semester system. This means all students, in these grades, will have 4 courses per semester. The grade 7 students will remain on the linear system. In order to accommodate teacher prep time, our students will be released, at noon, every Wednesday. Bus students will be picked up and all others may walk home or be picked up by a parent.

We have also restructured the enter/exit points for students. All students in grades 7 and 8 will enter/exit the building through the west doors (bus area). The grade 9 and 10 students enter/exit the building through the main doors located by the office. Their lockers and homerooms will be located in the library hallway. The grade 11 and 12 students access point to the school is by room 21 (Mrs. Anderson's classroom—southeast exit). These will also be the pickup/drop-off locations for parent/guardian providing transportation to their student(s). Students will be expected to stay in their designated area of the school prior to the warning bell, signaling that students should proceed to their first class. Everyone will be required to use the hand sanitizing station when they enter/exit the school.

Safety Measures:

As we begin the school year, safety measures include physical distancing, minimized physical contact, hand washing/hand sanitizer, as well as frequent cleaning of the school. We will have a day custodian on site to clean frequently touched surfaces like door handles, toilet handles, tables, and desks during the school day. The school will also be cleaned every evening. We will also have signage indicating traffic flow and reminders of physical distancing, and frequent hand washing.

The Ministry of Education is requiring that all staff and students wear a mask while in the hallways or any common area of the school. As well, all students who ride a bus will have to wear a mask. So, upon entry to Hope Secondary, everyone must wear a mask until they begin their first class, where a mask may not be required. Of course, students may wear a mask in all of their classes if they so choose. To support physical distancing, Hope Secondary asks that all staff and students 'keep to the right' when it comes to moving through the school.

In order to minimize the number of students in the halls during lunch, we have set-up two 30-minute breaks. While the students in grades 10-12 have their flex block, which is after their period 2 class, the students in grades 7-9 will have their lunch break. When the junior students finish their lunch break, they will go to their flex block, which will be held in their period 3 class, and the senior students will have their lunch break. As was our practice in the spring, Hope Secondary will be a closed campus and all students must remain on campus, including the lunch break, unless they have a scheduled appointment outside of the building. Our day will end at 2:40. We will stagger the release times of our students so they may go to their lockers, get their



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belongings and leave at their appointed exit to be picked up by parents, walk home or get on the bus.

Access to lockers will be limited, so students must prepare themselves for a full morning or afternoon of learning and ensure they have all materials they will need for their morning or afternoon classes. Students will be able to access their locker prior to their lunch break and before their third block class. **Additionally, students will need to bring their own school supplies as sharing of supplies/resources is not permitted between students/staff. We suggest students bring a backpack to school that stays with them for the day.** To ensure physical distancing in the hallways, lockers will not be available during the morning or afternoon break.

Our adjusted bell scheduled is as noted below:

Warning Bell	8:25
Period 1	8:30 – 9:45 (75 minutes)
Break	9:45 – 9:50
Period 2	9:50 – 11:00 (70 minutes)
Lunch/Flex	11:00 – 11:30 Lunch (gr 7-9); Flex (gr 10-12)
Lunch/Flex	11:30 – 12:00 Lunch (gr 10-12); Flex (gr 7-9)
Period 3	12:00 – 1:10 (70 minutes)
Break	1:10 – 1:15
Period 4	1:15 – 2:35 (80 minutes)

We recognize there are many new protocols in place and to support all who enter the school, signage and posters will be displayed around the school to support the new safety procedures for all. Please note that students who have an IEP will continue to be supported by our Inclusive Education Department. Our Indigenous students will receive ongoing support from our teachers, counselling staff and First Nations Support Workers. As always, our counsellors are available to support students who require additional emotional support.

All visitors should enter the school through the main entrance only. Everyone will be required to use the hand sanitizing station when they enter/exit the school.



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Daily Home Procedure:

Parents need to assess their children daily for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory disease prior to sending them to school. Students with symptoms should not come to school. The Ministry of Health has developed a Self-Assessment tool that can be accessed at <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en> Please contact the school if you need to keep your student(s) at home.

Infection Prevention and Control:

Students and staff with cold, influenza, or COVID-19 like symptoms should stay home, self-isolate and be assessed by a health care provider. Testing is recommended for anyone with any of these symptoms. All staff/students that have travelled outside of Canada are required to self-isolate for 14 days.

If after reviewing all the above noted protocols, safety initiatives and information via the links, please let us know if you have any concerns about returning to school. You may contact us via phone at 604-869-9971 or email: rosalee.floyd@sd78.bc.ca or karl.koslowsky@sd78.bc.ca.

We hope you and your family are safe and well as we navigate the start of the school year.

Sincerely,

Rosalee Floyd, Principal

Karl Koslowsky, Vice Principal