



Dear High School Families:

I hope this letter finds you healthy and safe, and that you all had a wonderful summer spent with families. It was a different summer for us all, but it also gave us the wonderful gift of spending more time with those closest to us. Another school year is upon us, and I am excited to send a warm welcome to you all. We have welcomed some new faculty members to our High School team, each of whom will strengthen our High School team even more.

Ms. Wenqing Chen – Post-Secondary Counselor

Ms. Natalie Jacus – Post-Secondary Counselor

Ms. Maria Palacios – Grade 9 to 12 Spanish

Mr. Drew Wheeler – Grade 10 Science, Grade 11 and 12 Biology, and Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

I know that this year brings with it different feelings and emotions, but I want to reassure you that we have worked diligently to not lose the care and “family feel” of Meadowridge as we enter a new phase of teaching and learning in this challenging time. As always, the health and safety of our community is our top priority.

Daily Schedules & Routines

All procedures have been developed and implemented following the BC Government’s guidelines for Back to School. We are complying in all areas, and exceeding in many. You can reference these important documents anytime online:

B.C.’s Back to School Plan

Provincial Covid-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings

Students will be divided into learning cohorts

We are beginning the school year in Stage 2 of the BC Ministry of Education’s phases of return to school. At this time, it is our understanding that we will be in full-time attendance and students will be grouped together in cohorts of no more than 120. This is something that is currently being reviewed at the Ministry-level and we will adapt and change as needed.

We will have two learning cohorts in the High School:

Grade 9 & 10 students

Grade 11 & 12 students

Students do not need to keep 2 metres apart while in their cohorts, although they are still encouraged to minimize physical contact.

Students will arrive during designated pick up and drop off times

The Elementary, Middle and High Schools will have their own designated pick-up and drop-off times to minimize cohort cross-over and limit contact.



High School Schedule

Drop-off from 8:05am to 8:15am
First class starts at 8:20am

Pick-up from 3:40pm to 3:50pm

Students must leave school promptly at dismissal. Students are not allowed to stay after school. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff is paramount, so this will be a strict expectation.

Each cohort will have their own lunch time and space

Each cohort will have their own designated lunch time and space. To accommodate more outdoor eating space, we've added an additional three tents and many more picnic tables – some of which were built by your children in Design class!

Locker access will be limited

Locker access will be limited to certain times of day. Students will not be allowed to congregate or socialize at their lockers for extended periods of time. Additionally, the exterior of students' lockers will be extensively cleaned and sanitized throughout the day.

Students may wear their PHE strip to school on PHE days

To minimize changeroom use and access, students are allowed to wear their PHE strip on days when they have PHE. After PHE class, students are to change into their regular school uniform.

Health & Safety**Frequent handwashing is required**

Frequent handwashing is key to minimizing the spread of COVID-19. Students must wash and/or sanitize their hands upon entrance to the school as well as anytime they enter or leave a classroom.

Classrooms and common spaces will be sanitized frequently

Our maintenance team will be cleaning classrooms and common areas throughout the school day. Students' desks will be sprayed and cleaned at the end of each class.

Masks must be worn in common spaces

Students in Grades 6 to 12 must wear masks in all common spaces (hallways, cafeteria, etc.) where other cohorts might be present. We've designed our timetable to reduce cohort cross-over, but this is a rule that will be enforced. Masks must also be worn when entering and leaving the school.

Washrooms and stairways will be cohort-specific

Each cohort will have a specified washroom and stairway.

Stay home if feeling sick

Any child exhibiting signs of illness must stay home and not attend school. It is imperative that we all follow this guideline to maintain the health of our whole community. Teachers will connect with students who stay home and, at times, may be able to livestream classes.

Teaching & Learning

We are excited to see and teach your children face-to-face again! Our teachers love interacting with the students and it was greatly missed at the end of last year.

Timetable structure

Timetables have been designed to minimize cohort interaction while maintaining the rich learning environment we are proud to offer at Meadowridge.

Adaptations to in-person instruction

All classes will be taught in person, with a mindfulness of limiting group activities and being creative in delivering some of the content; teachers are conscious of the need for limiting physical contact and will plan lessons accordingly.

Co-curriculars

Our core focus on teaching and learning is supplemented by a range of athletic, club, and fine arts offerings, house activities, assemblies and more. We intend to make the necessary adjustments so that we can continue to offer a strong and varied co-curricular program. As school reopens, we will maintain a dedicated time within the school schedule for clubs and assemblies, as well as some time after school for athletics. We will communicate these details as we finalize them in the coming weeks.

First Week Of School

Your child's advisory teacher will be shared in the Hub on Wednesday, September 2. Please make sure to log in to the Hub to see who your child's advisory teacher is. This is important, as students will go to their advisory first thing on Tuesday, September 8 when school begins. Advisory information will be available the morning of Wednesday, September 2. These lists will not be physically posted at the school until the first day of school.

Student expectations for the first day of school

Students should arrive to school during their designated drop off time (8:05am to 8:15am) on Tuesday, September 8 ready to begin classes promptly at 8:20am. Students should have their laptops, textbooks, and other materials with them. Once lockers are assigned, students can store their materials in them. Parent Curriculum Night to move to new, online format

This year's Parent Curriculum Night will be online. Please look for an email from your child's advisory teacher with details on how to access the information.

Week Without Walls trips cancelled this year

Due to travel and field trip restrictions, our Week Without Walls trips have been cancelled for the fall. Mr. James Willms, our Outdoor, Experiential, and Ecological Education (OE3) Coordinator, has created some activities that will set the foundation for the year and strengthen relationships. These activities will all take place on the Meadowridge campus.



I know that this letter has given you a large amount of information to process and sort through. I also hope that it has given you confidence and the knowledge of the care that we are taking to prepare the school for your children. I look forward to an incredible year with your children, and together we will navigate this new reality and move forward as we always do—by learning to live well, with others and for others, in a just community.

Please be sure to reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you might have.

Warm Regards,

Ms. Kristal Bereza

