

Students will be provided with two masks by the school, we ask that all students bring a mask with them to school every day. All students and staff are required to wear a mask when moving through the halls and other common areas of the school. It is optional for students to wear masks in their classroom as this is their cohort group. At Grade 8 & 9, cohort sizes are no larger than 60. Cohorts will stay together for the entire 10-week quarter and will not mix with other cohorts. At Grades 10-12, cohorts will be approximately 30 students based on their Block A (morning) class. In the afternoon (Block B), classes will only have 10-12 students so there will be enough room in classes to physically distancing. Teachers and support staff will also physically distance when working outside of their cohort.

Grade 8-9 – Total 325 instructional minutes

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------|--|
| 8:30 – 10:00 | Block A | 90 min | |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Nutrition Break | | |
| 10:15 – 11:30 | Block A | 75 min | |
| 11:30 – 12:15 | Lunch | | |
| 12:15 – 2:55 | Block B | 160 min | |
| | Total | 325 min | |

Grades 10, 11, 12 - Total 325 instructional minutes

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Blended Learning Time | 30 min | |
| 9:00 – 11:15 | Block A | 135 min | |
| 11:15 – 12:15 | Lunch | | |
| 12:15 – 2:25 | Block B | 130 min | |
| 2:25 – 2:55 | Blended Learning Time | 30 min | |
| | Total | 325 | |

Students will work with the same cohort, in the same classroom, and with the same two teachers for a 10-week period. During that time, two courses will be completed. At the end of this quarter, students will move into a new cohort for another 10-week phase. There will be four quarters during the 2020-2021 school year and students will have the opportunity to complete all 8 classes. We have been able to maintain almost all our elective courses so students will receive most of the courses they selected and Grades 10-12 students will have access to all courses required to graduate.

Once a quarter has started, there will be no course changes for the two classes in that quarter; this will ensure our cohorts are not compromised. Course changes will be considered for future quarters, but options are limited as our classes are quite full. Students should contact their counsellor by email to request a course change. All afternoon classes for Grades 10-12, will use a blended model of instruction where students meet with their teacher in small groups, once per week. The remainder of the time, they will work from home using online platforms like TEAMS. This schedule will be maintained for the entire 10-weeks. Students will receive more information about their courses during the two orientation days. Teachers will review how to use the Microsoft TEAMS platform so we are prepared for any potential learning interruptions.

I realize there are still many questions and a few unknowns as we start the school year. I assure you, we are fully prepared for a safe start-up and will be ready to react quickly to any new developments. Our District and school leadership teams have met extensively over the summer to ensure we have the most up-to-date health and safety information and are focused on the care of all students and staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly.

Thank you and take care,

James Johnston

Principal
Clayton Heights Secondary