



Coast Meridian Elementary School

8222 - 168A Street, Surrey, BC V4N 4T8 Tel: (604) 574-6036 Fax: (604) 574-8126

Friday, May 29, 2020

Re: Re-opening of School to Face to Face Learning

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope that you and your family are doing well. We would like to extend our appreciation for the support and understanding that members of our school community have shown as we transitioned to remote learning following Spring Break. Your efforts have helped to ensure that student learning has continued over the last two months.

Thank you also to those who have responded to our survey. The information you provided has helped to assist in our planning for the weeks ahead. We have been busy preparing to welcome back those students who will be returning to the classroom for face-to-face learning beginning June 1. We look forward to seeing staff and students at Coast Meridian Elementary next week.

We write this letter to inform parents and families of the new routines they can expect for school.

As we have been planning for the return of students, we have been guided by our shared commitment to ensuring the safety of all members of our school community. We will be reminding our students of the importance of following the guidelines around frequent hand washing, physical distancing and staying home if they are feeling sick.

Access to our building will be limited to students and staff, unless prior arrangements have been made through the principal. This includes picking up or dropping off children, coming into the school to discuss issues with the administration or teachers, or to drop off lunches. Please ensure that your child has their lunch and a filled water bottle. Should you need to pick up your child early, or need to contact the school, please call the office at 604-574-6036.

We have put in place plans to help with physical distancing and minimizing physical contact. Physical distancing can be challenging in a school setting, particularly with younger students. As such, it is reasonable to establish different expectations for varying age levels and activities. For example, younger students should be supported to have minimized physical contact with one another, while older students and adults should seek to maintain a safe physical distance of at least 2 metres from others whenever possible.

Please be reminded that parents and caregivers are responsible to assess their child(ren) **each day** before going to school. If your child is experiencing symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory disease please keep your child home until there has been an assessment by a health care provider AND the symptoms have resolved.

Given the small number of students returning we have organized the school into grade groups of 6-9 students from different classes. (e.g. 8 students Gr. 1, 2, 3 or 9 students grade 5/6 will work in one room together with 2 or more teachers/school staff supporting them throughout the week). If your child's teacher is returning for in-class instruction, we have placed the child with him/her. If your child's teacher is not returning for in-class instruction, the teacher will still connect with each child via the virtual learning program, while your child is supported in school with another teacher. The teachers will be in communication throughout the week as well. Please keep in mind that your children will continue to work on their on-line program on days they are not in the school and for children who are not returning face-to-face the on-line program will continue, but there may be some shifts in scheduling as many teachers are now in the school each day as well.

Our school hours are the same: 8:33 a.m. - 2:25 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday morning, we will have grade level signs for a socially distanced line up outside. Please look for the labeled cones on the back-side of the school. The teachers(s) working with that grade group will meet the group outside and walk the group to the outside door of the classroom they will work in. Please pick your child up at that door at the end of the day.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back into the building. We are in this together and appreciate your patience as we all get used to the changes in practice.

Sincerely,

Amber Flanagan
Principal