



September 2020

Dear Students, Parents and/or Guardians,

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year at Johnston Heights! I am very excited to be joining the Johnston Heights staff and community. I have been an educator in Surrey for 25 years, 13 years as a secondary classroom teacher and the last 12 as a vice principal at Queen Elizabeth Secondary, Enver Creek Secondary and Tamanawis Secondary. This continues to be an interesting year but we feel ready to welcome your children into the building.

I would like to welcome back Ms. Baillargeon, Mr. Donnelly, Ms. Dosange, Ms. Lay & Ms. Marshall.

We have also been fortunate to hire new staff that will be joining our strong community. A warm welcome to our new teachers Mr. Box, Ms. Del Cid Castro, Ms. Han, Ms. Chu, Ms. Crocker, Ms. De Vries Stadelaar, Ms. MacDonald, Ms Sandhar and Ms. Williamson and to our support staff, Mr. Bedi, Ms. Davidson, Ms. Ludvoice, Mr. Melhado, Mr. Sawatsky, Ms. Tran & Ms. Wong.

Johnston Heights is an authorized IB World School with a three-year Middle Years Program (MYP) for all of our students in grades 8 through 10. We are also a candidate school for the IB Diploma Programme that will provide a choice for our grade 11 and 12 students, which could start in the 2021/22 school year. At Johnston Heights, we are committed to developing knowledgeable, caring young people who can look forward to successful futures and contribute to making the world more harmonious and peaceful.

I know that the return to school each year can create both excitement and nervousness. The first days of school are designed to help students transition back from their summer break and into the new school year. All information in this letter is to provide you with important information to make the return to school easier. This year, there are many changes including school schedule, break times, locker use and procedures for the first week. Please do read the information carefully and if you have questions, please reach out to the school.

NEW STUDENTS

For students who are new to Johnston Heights, and perhaps feeling a bit nervous, the school will be open **Friday, September 4th from 10am until noon**. This is a time for students to come in for a tour through the school and get comfortable in the building. We will have student volunteers available to help and show students around the building. Please call the school in advance to book an appointment. 604-581-5500

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for Grade 8s and 9s: Thursday, September 10th

The first day of school is staggered for our Grade 8 and 9 students. We want to give our grade 8 students time on their own to get familiar with our school and routines as well as learn about the new Health and Safety protocols. **ONLY** grade 8 and 9 students attend school on Thursday.

Grade 8

08:20	10 min	Warning Bell
08:30 – 08:45	15 min	Block A – H&S Protocol and School-based Start-up Items
08:45 – 09:15	30 min	Block A – Continues with course information
09:15 – 09:20	5 min	Break – class change
09:20 – 10:00	40 min	Block B
10:00		Dismiss

Grade 8's - Please make sure to log in to MyEdBC to check your schedule to find out who your Block A teacher is. Once you know your teacher name, please head to the back of the school to the field and find your Block A teacher who will be holding signs with names. If you are unable to log into MyEdBC, lists will be available on site, but for distancing reasons, we would prefer you find that information before arriving.

Grade 9

10:20	10 min	Warning Bell
10:30 – 10:45	15 min	Block A – H&S Protocol and School-based Start-up Items
10:45 – 11:15	30 min	Block A – Continues with course information
11:15 – 11:20	5 min	Break – class change
11:20 – 12:00	35 min	Block B
12:00		Dismiss

Grade 9's - Please make sure you know who your Block A teacher is and what room you should be heading to. If you do not know, please check the signs on the three main entry ways.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for Grade 10s, 11's and 12s: Friday, September 11th

ONLY students in grade 10, 11 and 12 attend school on Friday. Please check your schedule and proceed to your Block A classroom.

Grade 10

08:20	10 min	Warning Bell
08:30 – 08:45	15 min	Block A – H&S Protocol and School-based Start-up Items
08:45 – 09:15	30 min	Block A – Continues with course information
09:15		Dismiss

Grade 11

09:35	10 min	Warning Bell
09:45 – 10:00	15 min	Block A – H&S Protocol and School-based Start-up Items
10:00 – 10:30	30 min	Block A – Continues with course information
10:30		Dismiss

Grade 12

10:50	10 min	Warning Bell
11:00 – 11:15	15 min	Block A – H&S Protocol and School-based Start-up Items
11:15 – 11:45	30 min	Block A – Continues with course information
11:45		Dismiss

Grades 10-12

01:00 – 01:45	45 min	Block B, on-line check-in – Grades 10-12
01:45		Dismiss

FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION FOR ALL STUDENTS: Monday, September 14th

All students are expected to be in class on Monday, September 14th following the new school schedule. All grade 8 and 9 students will be in session for the entire day with face to face instruction. Students will be placed into learning groups (includes the same students and staff) and will remain with this group for both their morning and afternoon blocks.

For grades 10-12, students will be with the same students for their Block A class and will be face to face. For their afternoon block, students will be required to socially distance. The afternoon looks different as it is remote learning on the Monday and Friday and one-third of the class will come in for face to face instruction on either the Tuesday or the Wednesday or the Thursday.

All students will be taking two courses for a 10-week period and then will switch to their next two courses and a different learning group. This will happen four times during the year, giving students an opportunity to complete a total of 8 courses.

Grade 8 and 9

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

Grade 10, 11, 12

8:30-9:00	Blended 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 time	30 min

STUDENT TIMETABLES

Student timetables will be made available to students through MyED BC on Friday, September 4th, although changes will continue to happen until the first day of classes. Please log in to confirm your schedule before coming to school on the first day.

COUNSELLORS

The counsellors will be available next week to work with students in grades 10 - 12 on their timetable concerns. We are giving priority to those students with incomplete timetables, or changes related to graduation and /or post- secondary admission requirements. These requests will be addressed with your counsellor over the telephone at a time that will be booked on-line in advance.

We look forward to working together to create a smooth transition so that all students are settled into schedules as quickly as possible.

Our counselling department consists of four counsellors who typically see students based on last name.

- A – E Ms. Tifenbach (Department Head)
- F – Le Mr. Szutu
- Li - O Ms. Flack
- P - Z Ms. Domingo

Students who are new to JH will be assigned counselling appointments upon completed registration. All other students needing appointments about timetables will need to book on-line appointments at <https://jh.counsellorappointments.com/>

LOCKERS

Students will not have access to lockers this year. The expectation is that students can carry all of their supplies with them for their two classes.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING SYMPTOMS

Any student demonstrating symptoms while at home should remain at home. Parents are advised to call 811 (Healthlink BC) in this case. Students who are at school and demonstrate symptoms will be isolated while parents and Fraser Health are contacted.

HAND SANITIZING/WASHING

The expectation for all students and staff is to wash their hands with soap in the bathroom or to use hand sanitizer upon entering the building. The main entrances to the building will have hand sanitizer for students to use.

TRAFFIC FLOW

There will be signage and tape to divide the flow of traffic and the expectation is that students stay to the right when they walk through the halls.

COMMUNICATION

We are hopeful that parents and students will utilize all of our communication tools to stay informed about news at Johnston Heights and the School District.

Our school calendar is located on the school website (under Calendar) and lists many important dates. This calendar is also accessible through the **Eagletime** app. Please take a moment to look at all our communication options and download it at your convenience.

- www.surreyschools.ca/schools/johnht (Johnston Heights website)
- **Eagletime** (free Johnston Heights app)
- @JohnstonHeights (JH twitter account)

The Surrey School District will provide updates through the following means:

- www.surreyschools.ca (School District 36 website)
- @Surrey_Schools (SD36 twitter account)
- **SchoolLink** app (free School District 36 app)
- **MyED Portal** (report cards, schedule, etc.) <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspn/logon.do>

The office will be open, with administrators and clerical staff available to answer your questions. Office hours are 8am – noon and 1pm – 3pm. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the school at 604-581-5500 or at Johnstonheights@surreyschools.ca.

I look forward to meeting you and learning alongside you. We are looking forward to welcoming your children back to school for a successful school year!

Sincerely,



Kim Sadhra
Principal