



École Élémentaire MARTHA CURRIE Elementary School

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May 26, 2020

To the Parents/Guardians of Martha Currie Students,

With thanks for your patience, we can now share with you our return-to-school plan from June 1st-25th. This is a rather lengthy newsletter, but it has significant information, so please read through it all.

When will my child be in the school?

Starting Monday, June 1st, students will be welcome back to the school.

-This will be organized by your child's last name. That decision was made to make it as convenient as possible for families to come to school on the same days.

-*Grades K to 5 students* (2 days/week)

-Students with last name starting with A to M = Monday and Thursday

-Students with last name starting with N to Z = Tuesday and Friday

-The students in a *grade 5/6 class* will follow the same schedule as above (the K to 5 group)

-*Grade 6 students* (1 day/week)

-Students with last name starting with A to M = Monday

-Students with last name starting with N to Z = Tuesday

-*Grade 7 students* (1 day/week)

-Students with last name starting with A to M = Thursday

-Students with last name starting with N to Z = Friday

*If there are any issues with the days, please consult your classroom teacher asap. They may also connect with you to make some adjustments.

Who can be in school for five days a week?

-Students who have extraordinary special needs

-Martha Currie children of Essential Service Workers

-they will be with their regular peers on Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri.

-on Wednesdays, they will be supervised by our support workers

Where will I drop off and pick up my child(ren)?

-*Primary classes* (grades K to 3) will be on the back grass field

-*Intermediate classes* (grades 4 to 7) will be on the gravel field

-This includes the *grade 3/4 class*

*On your first morning, look for signs/cones indicating where your class is to line up

-When your child lines up, PLEASE have them practice social distancing

*This was done as the safest method, given that most of our classrooms do not have outside doors.

Am I allowed in the building?

-Please remember we are still under pandemic regulations. Unless you need to be in the school, we are asking parents to NOT enter the building.

-If you must enter, please ONLY enter through the front door and go straight to the office

-During this time, please do not meet with any staff or admin without first making an appointment

-Please send your child to school WITH their lunch/snacks. Do not drop lunches off.

What is the schedule over the day?

- Students will line up by 8:30am at their designated spots. This is when the Welcome Bell goes.
 - Please ensure your child is not late. If the student is late, please send them to the office (as usual) but do not enter the building with them.
- Teachers will pick up their students and start the day at 8:35am (as usual)
- Recess will be staggered:
 - Odd divisions will be 10:00-10:15
 - Even divisions will be 10:25-10:40
- Lunch will be staggered
 - Odd divisions will go outside from 11:35 to 12:05
 - these students will eat in their classes with their teacher at 12:10pm
 - Even divisions will go outside from 12:15 to 12:45
 - these students will eat in their classes with their teacher at 11:45am (or so)
- *This is designed to minimize the number of students outside at the same time

- The school day will still end at 2:30. You can pick up your child where you dropped them off.
 - *Please do not be late to pick up your child, and please leave the school grounds immediately. We still need to minimize the amount of public gathering we are doing.

What is happening with handwashing/cleansiness?

- Teachers will ask students to wash their hands during every transition. This includes the start of the day, leaving the room to enter another room, and returning to the room.
- The District has plans to put hand sanitizer stations in every class without a sink.
- *If a student is refusing to follow these safety precautions, you will be notified, as the student may be putting others at risk.
 - Please remind your child about the importance of handwashing frequently.

- Also, a daytime custodian will be on site to clean high-touch areas daily.
- Wednesdays will be set aside for a deep-clean of each of the classrooms.

Who will teach my child(ren)?

- The classroom teachers are continuing their remote learning. The in-school learning is designed to enhance the students' learning. However, please recognize that some of our staff will be unable to work in this face-to-face environment. Once we have an idea of how many students will be returning, final decisions will be made about which teachers will be with which classes, if a change is necessary.
- On Wednesdays, none of our teachers will be working on site. Our support staff will supervise the few students of ESW who will be in the building.

What should I send with my child every day?

- Your teacher will let you know what supplies to bring every day.
- Your child will bring all their supplies home at the end of the day.
- The *Kindergarten* teachers will have individualized ziplock bags that the students can keep at school.
- The cloak room will not be available, as we want to minimize any potential for spreading viruses.
 - the students will leave their coats on their chairs
 - students do not need to bring inside shoes
- Your child is encouraged to bring their own water bottle to minimize sharing fountains.
- If your child brings a personal item from home, please ensure it is a hard item that you can clean/disinfect easily. Please do NOT send any soft items (ie: stuffies) to school.

Whose responsibility is it for checking my child's health?

-PARENTS/Guardians are responsible for checking the health of your children. If your child displays any of the symptoms of COVID or is at all ill, please do NOT send them to school! We want to minimize the chance of spreading any viruses. Please be mindful of protecting each other's health.

-If your child displays any symptoms while at school, he/she will be isolated and you will be called to pick him/her up immediately!

*Once again, please do not send your child to school if they are at all ill.

-The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to other respiratory illnesses including the flu and common cold. They include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat and painful swallowing
- Stuffy or runny nose
- Loss of sense of smell
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite

How will I let the school know my plans for my child?

-Please recognize that a return to school is optional. While we would love to see all of our students, we acknowledge that many family circumstances will make that undoable.

-Our school will respect any family's decisions to keep your student home and exclusively learn remotely.

*Later today, each classroom teacher will be sending home a survey asking about your plans. Please reply to the survey asap! Please complete the survey sent to you by the classroom teacher of EACH of your children.

-On the survey, you will have an opportunity to identify whether or not your student is a child of an Essential Service Worker.

Will this stay the same throughout June?

-The plans are in place given current circumstances in this pandemic. As the Health Officer changes rules, that may impact the directives we are getting from the District.

-Also, when we see how many children are actually attending school, that could change some of the plans.

-We need to continue to be flexible and adaptable as we move forward.

With that information in hand, we leave it to you to decide how you would like to proceed. Once again, please respond to the survey as soon as possible. We are excited and sincerely look forward to seeing many of our students back where they belong!

Sincerely,

Bobby Samra and Rachel Ladd
(Principal) (Vice-Principal)