

[Important time-sensitive link to Family Internet Needs Form](#)



September 3, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding as we make our way into this new school year. As we wrap up the first week back, I am pleased to share that the progressive return proved an effective model to receive the students after such an extended absence from school and under such new conditions for school operations. Our first day with all students in attendance ran smoothly thanks to having had the opportunity for some 'practice' runs for each level.

I feel I do need to reach out to you for your assistance and support. While most students are adjusting to the new rules and routines very well, respecting distancing for the most part, wearing their mask, and responding positively to staff interventions to remind them - sadly we have a concerning number of students who despite all efforts do not appear to understand the seriousness of the pandemic and the necessity for all to respect the measures directed by Public Health and unfortunately they are conducting themselves in a manner that compromises their safety as well as that of others. I ask that you please engage in ongoing serious discussions with your child(ren), assisting to impress upon them the necessity to respect all the rules in place for public health. If we continue to see these concerning behaviours we may be forced to add further restrictions to the circulation of students during recess and lunch which would be unfortunate for all the students who wish to spend time with friends from other groups. We must, however, put public health first. We will be following up with parents of students presenting chronic challenges and if there is no change in behaviour severe disciplinary measures will be applied. It is important that all understand these are severe offences as they compromise public health. **If schools are to remain open as safe learning environments all must contribute by engaging in behaviours that support a safe environment rather than compromise it.** For your reference, the detailed protocols previously sent to parents can be found at this link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V28P8_K5h6EEj-63mmDdDI0DWmsPIPAV/view?usp=sharing

Final wrinkles are being worked out with scheduling and timetables should be available on the portal for next week. Unfortunately numerous issues including multiple power outages have further complicated having these available. An important reminder of the

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information that accompanied course selection last spring - our courses offered and the formation of groups are built based on the results of the course selection. This means available resources are allocated to creating the groups to accommodate the courses required and desired by students. Changes to these afterwards, and particularly once the groups have been formed should not be taking place as it impacts across the organization of the school. As stressed in the spring, it is critical to take course selection seriously and to choose wisely. This year required 3 reorganizations of the school. With the requirement to run static closed groups where students could not be reorganized into other groups, flexibility was highly limited and arriving at a schedule that respected the parameters from the government while also accommodating the required classes of students and their selected options as much as possible - was quite a feat. It is important to know that the following priorities directed the groupings: Closed group for all classes; Required Math group (sec. 4 & 5); concentration program (where numbers permitted a closed group); post-secondary pre-requisite courses selected as options; common arts for the majority of the group...In order to give as many students as possible their required courses and as many of their desired courses as possible (based on their course selection) - set paths were required. This really does not permit flexibility for students to change their mind about courses. **Students will only be considered for movement by teacher recommendation (risk of not passing) or by placement error on our part.** Beyond the fact that the course selection drives the organization of class groups at all times, especially this year we do not have flexibility of movement under the constraints. **Requests should not come in for movement out of courses students prioritized in their course selection.**

Exceptionally this year, because of the obligation to keep students in closed groups, the government has allowed students to take a higher level Math class despite not having passed the previous year. This means that all students in level 5 are placed in a level 5 Math class and all students in level 4 are placed in a level 4 class. Students identified as at-risk for passing Math may also receive additional blocks of Math support through Resource assigned under a Study Methods class. Unfortunately the required structure does not permit us to have students take SN Math 4 or 5 if they have only passed CST Math. In order to support students completing SN Math who may not be able to do so during their regular classes, we will be offering a "bridge" course later in the year that will make them eligible to write both the CST and the SN exams and to receive credit for these classes should they pass.

As mentioned previously, students in levels 1, 2, and 3 (including MAPs & Challenges) are expected to attend school fully in person. Due to the complexities of options in levels 4 & 5, some sections follow distance education so that students can receive

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required and desired classes outside of their “closed group”. The expectations for these distance classes is outlined in the detailed protocols document. The following summary explains which sections are involved in distance learning days from home:

Sec. 4

- Group 01 2 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 02 2 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 03 2 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 04 Fully at school all days
- Group 05 2 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 06 Fully at school all days

Sec. 5

- Group 01 Fully at school all days
- Group 02 3 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 03 2 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 04 Fully at school all days
- Group 05 3 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)
- Group 06 3 days Distance Learning (shown as DL on timetable)

Families without internet are asked to complete the following survey by 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8th to provide the required information for the school board to provide you with the service information and data stick if required:

<https://forms.gle/Zb16uWgDswbRCKNN8>

Please note that buses now have 2 locations. In the morning students whose classrooms are in Yellow-Orange get dropped off at Door 2 and those whose classrooms are in Blue-Green get dropped off at Door 16 in the back of the school. Students who drive or who are driven to school may enter Door 2 regardless of where their classroom is. At the end of the day, the buses are parked as follows:

In Front of School

- R-36
- R-61
- R-54
- R-56
- R-60
- R-55
- R-74

In Back of School

- R-67
- R-65
- R-64
- R-51
- R-50
- R-62
- R-45

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R-73

R-79

R-46

R-44

R-37

R-53

R-38

R-39

R-22

R-23

R-26

R-31

Please be reminded that until further notice, appointments in advance are required for any visitor to the school. All ECA activities and field trips are also on hold until further notice.

All parents are invited to attend the Annual General Assembly of Parents taking place on Monday, September 14th in the school auditorium. This is an important meeting where parents elect their representatives to serve on the Governing Board as well as the Central Parents' Committee and also vote to form a Parent Participatory Organization (PPO). Under current conditions, measures will be taken to ensure physical distancing as well as limit the contact of shared items. Participants must be a parent of a child attending AGRHS (no guests please), must wear a mask at all times, and must sanitize their hands upon entering the school. A 2m distance is required between all adults not from the same home. Seating in the auditorium will require an empty row between each seating row, and 2 empty seats between adults not from the same home. Pre-sanitized pencils and paper will be provided upon arrival should a vote be required. Proxy voting is permitted provided the eligible parent has provided their written consent.

Best wishes,

P. McCourt
Principal