

Dear Parent/Guardian of Current Grade 7 Students,

My name is Mr. Stefan Stipp and I am the principal of North Surrey Secondary. We are excited to begin the new year planning for our future Spartans. Although it is February, the next few months will fly by and before you know it September will be here. Grade 7 students are enjoying their last year of elementary school and we are looking forward to welcoming them soon. The first two years of high school are designed for students to acquire a deeper understanding of a variety of learning areas and to begin to explore the Arts and Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) modules. We refer to our grade 8 and 9 years as the Exploration Years at North Surrey. After grade 9 students enter the Graduation Years and begin to refine their learning pathways as they approach graduation.

Beginning high school can feel overwhelming but our hope is to provide you with a timeline (backside of this letter) of the various steps and opportunities to connect with our staff here at the school prior to September. Many of you might have children currently attending North Surrey or have students that are part of our alumni, or this might be the first time you attend our school. Regardless, we are excited to begin the learning journey with you. Below you will find a timeline and a description of what you can expect at each step along the way.

Exploration Years – Grade 8

In the Exploration Years (Grade 8), students are immersed in both Arts Learning and Design Learning

The **Arts Learning** courses are:

- Humanities (Integrated English and Social Studies)
- Languages (French or Intensive French)
- Arts Learning
 - The Arts module(s) will include the following:
 - Visual Art, Choir, Dance and Drama, or
 - Band

The **Design Learning** courses are:

- Science
- Math
- Physical Health Education
- Design Learning
 - The ADST module(s) will include the following:
 - Intro to Technology Education
 - Intro to Home Economics
 - IT/Web 8 & Careers 8

Timeline of Articulation

March 1-3, 2023

- North Surrey Principal, Mr. Stipp, will visit elementary schools
- The North Surrey Learning Guide 2023 is available for additional information.
- Go to the school website learn more about our school.

March 6, 2023

- Grade 7 Parent Night and Tours 6:00pm at North Surrey Secondary
- Review the Exploration Years Planning Tool attached

March 8, 2023

- Prior to this date, Grade 7 students will let their teachers know if they are interested in Band and Intensive French (available only for students currently in Intensive French)
- Grade 7 teachers will inform North Surrey of choice

April 11-14, 2023

• North Surrey staff visit elementary schools (virtual visits where necessary)

May 8 & 9, 2023

• Grade 7 Student Visits to North Surrey

August 30 to September 1, 2023

• Students receive opening package via email

September 5, 2023

First day of school