



Dear Future Orcas,

We hope this letter finds you and your families well in these unprecedented times. Given our current situation, we are having to do things a bit differently this year and we thank you for your patience as we reorganize. Please know that we are still thinking about you becoming a part of the Elgin community in September, and are working on different ways to make this transition as smooth and as comfortable as possible. We will make every effort to communicate along the way, and to let you know if and when, there have been any changes. Here is what we have been working on and what you can expect so far:

Parent Information & Student Orientation (April – ASAP!)

- We are currently working on creating a presentation and virtual tour introducing you and your families to Elgin Park Secondary.
- We will introduce you to some staff, include information about courses and some things to expect as a Grade 8 student, as well as provide ways for you to access further information and/or ask questions.

Course Selection (April)

- Grade 8 timetables require very little selection; the primary choice is whether a student would like to take Band **OR** the Fine Arts rotation.
 - **We have asked Grade 7 teachers to collect this information from you so we can schedule you appropriately**
 - We have also asked them to indicate student interest in Math 8/9 accelerated (the process for selection tba)
- More detailed information about the Grade 8 Program will be included in the presentation

Communication with Grade 7 Teachers & Course Selection (April)

- We have connected with your Grade 7 teachers and have asked them to share with us any additional information that will help us support you as a learner and member of the Elgin Community next year
- This is how we gather information about LST and/or any other programs/supports students may have accessed and may continue to need as they enter Grade 8
- Our Elgin Counsellor-Admin teams will be meeting with Grade 7 teams at the end of the month, as we do each year, but this year it will be virtual!

Whale of a Day: TBA

- A chance to spend a morning or afternoon at Elgin Park. The Elgin Staff, and some of our student leaders are all very excited to meet you and introduce you to our school as soon as we are able
- Become a little more comfortable finding your way in the building and have the opportunity to meet some of the teachers, students and staff, before your first day of classes at Elgin

Overall, we would like your introduction to Elgin Park to be the first step in forming the foundation for a happy, healthy, secondary school experience. We know it will be different this year, but we will make it work! Welcome to Elgin!