



GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS SECONDARY SCHOOL

 Grandview36

 @Grandview36

December 17, 2020

Dear students and parents,

Welcome to Grandview Heights Secondary.

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family well. I wanted to provide you with an update from the letter you received from Assistant Superintendent Lynda Reeves, on December 4th. If you have specific school catchment questions, I ask that you please contact your current school, as they will be able to assist you.

For many of our secondary school families this is my first introduction. I am excited and honored to be your Principal, and I look forward to working and learning with you in the coming year. I am also excited and pleased to share Grandview Height's Newsletter. Although our school is scheduled to open in September 2021, these Newsletters will be an important means of communication as we build and shape our school culture together. Newsletters will also be posted on our school website and shared through Twitter and Instagram.

You can reach us by phone at 604-542-3320 or by email at grandview@surreyschools.ca

We would also like to invite you to follow us on our website and social media for the latest news with regards to the school's ongoing construction, developments and updates.



www.surreyschools.ca/grandviewheights



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GH Parent Transition Committee

I am pleased to announce that our Grandview Heights Parent Transition Committee is complete and up and running. This committee is made up of one PAC parent representative from each elementary and secondary school that feeds into Grandview. The purpose of our group is to work together in ensuring a smooth transition of our students into Grandview Heights come September 2021.

Please contact your school's PAC chair for further information regarding this committee and the information shared at our monthly meetings.

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The Beginning of a Legacy

I know that for some of our students and families that change is not always easy and that many of our Grandview Heights students will be coming from several surrounding schools in our community. These are places that you have called home for many years, places that are familiar and full of friends. Leaving what is familiar is not an easy thing to do. I understand this completely. However, I hope you will work with me in making a positive and memorable journey to our amazing new school.

Very few students, parents, teachers, and administrators get the chance to create a school community and culture from the ground up, and have an opportunity to learn and work in a truly modern and state-of-the-art secondary school. I look forward to our journey together!

If you have not had a peek at our school's virtual fly through video, simply click on the rendering image to view the YouTube video.



Grandview Heights Secondary School | CHP Architects
Station One Architects

Creating a New School Culture and Mascot

A significant aspect of creating a new school culture is the identifying and naming of the school mascot. Throughout the fall our students have had an opportunity to submit recommendations and ideas for our school Mascot. I thank all those students for their participation in this process and I am excited to announce and that we are now the home of the **Grandview Heights Grizzlies!**

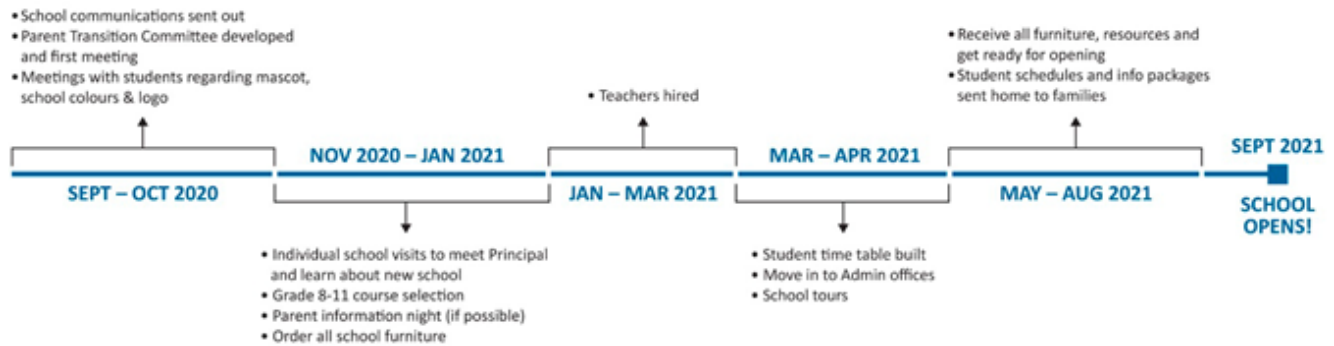
The Grizzly bear is an iconic Westcoast animal that has inhabited our lands for millennium. It is recognized as an important and powerful species by many local indigenous groups. The local orthography and phonetic pronunciation of the grizzly is k^weyəcən (kwe yuh tsun). The grizzly bear is recognized for its attributes of strength, courage, respect, family, a protector, leader, and having the confidence to overcome adversity. I could not think of a better mascot that represents the attributes and characteristics we strive to instill in each of our Grandview Heights students.

We are currently working on the design of our logo and I am looking forward to sharing it with you in the very near future.

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Our Timeline to Opening

We are currently located in a temporary office for Grandview Heights at Semiahmoo Secondary school. I am excited to have Karen Ponuick working alongside me in the office as our head clerk. Together we are busy planning, preparing and implementing the many details needed for opening-up our great school. The school is approximately 80% built and at this time still on schedule for opening in September 2021. Here is our rough timeline:



Student Course Requests January-February 2021

After the Winter break Grandview Heights students will be starting the process of requesting their courses for the 2021-2022 school year. We will be working in conjunction with our feeder schools to complete this process. Students who are in grades 8-10 will work with their current school and will follow the normal course request process at each of their schools. The only difference will be that when they log into MyEdBC they will see Grandview Heights courses. Please watch out for further instructions sent out by your school in the new year. Grade 7 students will work with their grade 7 teachers to complete their course requests and we will be working with each school to help with this process. Grandview Heights will offer a wide range of academic and elective courses to our students. It is extremely important that when requesting courses for next year that students and parents make informative and accurate choices. Your requests are used to hire our staff and build our timetable for the following year. Please visit our website in January for further information and course descriptions.

I look forward to our journey together in creating a positive, inclusive, and vibrant school culture and I am excited to move into our innovative and state-of-the-art facility. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions or inquiries.

Wishing you and your family good health and a well-deserved Winter break.

Warm regards,



Darren Bedard
Principal