



# Guildford Park Secondary School

"Everyone Matters"

Website: [www.gpsabres.ca](http://www.gpsabres.ca)

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10707 146 Street, Surrey, BC V3R 1T5 • Phone 604-588-7601 • Fax: 604-588-7762

2022-01-07

We hope that everyone had a healthy and safe winter break. On behalf of the entire Guildford Park staff, we wish our families and students a Happy New Year.

No one planned that we would have a delayed start giving the students an extra week off. COVID seems to keep coming back when we least expect it. The Omicron variant is proving to be resilient and spreads easier than other variants.

Guildford Park staff has been working hard this week to prepare for a Functional Closure and have also been reaching out to their students who need support and may be at-risk of failing a course this semester. When we return on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, there are only three weeks left in the semester.

Many staff did attend school in person to welcome many of our students with special needs. Their day of learning was much different, and it was quiet and not crowded at all. We had up to 10 students per day this week. The other surprise this week was the 6-7 inches of snow Thursday morning. It was a slick and icy parking lot as well as the local roads.

The main purpose of this message is to connect with our families, caregivers, and parents to share the possibility of a Functional Closure. We also have some timely information regarding updates on COVID health protocols, the upcoming PAC meeting and Dry Grad.

## **Functional Closure**

This term is not new and has been around for a while. Schools in the past have had to close due the spreading of a communicable disease. This would happen with Norwalk or SARs, etc. When school was closed in March of 2020, it took a long time to adjust to online learning for staff and students. This week, our staff made plans to pivot to online learning at home within one day. There are many questions on this process.

### **Who will initiate a Functional Closure?**

This will be decided with school administration, the Superintendent's office, and Fraser Health Authority.

### **What will cause a Functional Closure?**

If there are too many staff sick with no replacements and we cannot safely supervise and teach our students, the school will be closed. A closure may be triggered by a large number of cases in a school. Closing the school will help stop spread the virus and keep everyone safe.

### **How many days will the school be closed?**

The school can be closed up to 7-10 days (5 school days).

### **How much notice will be given to staff and families when the Functional Closure happens?**

This will happen very quickly. The notice will happen the day before the school is closed, most likely. Learning will stop for one day to transition. Students will have the opportunity to pick up their items for learning (limited numbers at a time). The next day online learning will commence.



- **Daily Health Check:**
  - Students and Staff are to do the daily Health Check (see below).
  - This check is important to ensure those who have symptoms, stay home and prevent spreading.
  - If students exhibit symptoms during the day, staff will administer the health check with the student and the students may have to go home.

**Student's Daily Health Check QR Code and URL Link:**

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>



- **Direction Arrows**
  - We are bringing out the arrows and signage from March 2020.
  - Students and Staff must stay to the right and follow the arrows and signs.
  - This will help ease congestion.
- **Cafeteria line up**
  - Staff will only allow a limited number of students and staff in the service area of the cafeteria.
  - The line will be distanced and single file.
- **Extracurricular Activities**
  - Sports games will resume next week with no spectators.
  - Tournaments are cancelled, teams can only play one team per day.
  - Most clubs will continue but will have enhanced health protocols.
  - Going online or using a bigger space.
- **Cleaning Hands continue**
  - Cleaning your hands is still required. More hand sanitizer stations will be in the halls.
- **Lunchtime congestion**
  - We are asking small groups of students to eat lunch in teachers' classrooms.
  - Teachers will inform their students if they will allow this. Students are expected to be seated while eating and put their mask on when finished.
  - Students must respect the space in the classroom.
  - Students can not wander around at lunch nor can they go in and out.
  - Students must find a spot to sit (which many do now), eat, and socialize.
  - Meetings and gatherings will go online now afterschool.

These enhanced measures will be communicated in Block A classes on the first day back, school administrators will also go class to class to inform students of the importance of following these adjustments. Our students are caring and kind, they will adapt to this very well. Students can choose to go outside at lunch as well sit outside without a mask which is safe.

### **PAC Meeting – January 12<sup>th</sup>**

The next PAC meeting will be this Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Following the new enhances measures the meeting will be online. Please use this link below to join the ZOOM PAC meeting. The agenda items are:

1. Financial Report
2. Principal’s Report
3. Dry Grad

The Zoom link for the meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88569967395?pwd=UkFrKzhSSkZibFQ5czFhR0lIZDBxQT09>

### **Are you a Grade 12 Parent?**

The school staff are planning two of the traditional Grad Celebrations for this Spring. Of course, our plans are contingent on the safety protocols in effect this spring.

Grad Council and Staff are planning:

**Dinner and Dance at Newlands Golf & Country Club – June 10**  
**Commencement at Bell Centre - June 23**

Most schools have parents who organize another event following called Dry Grad. Like most grad events in the last two years, these events have not happened due to COVID restrictions. Dry Grad runs under the umbrella of PAC. At the next PAC Meeting (January 12<sup>th</sup>), we are hoping there will be some Grade 12 parents who want to discuss Dry Grad. See you at the ZOOM meeting!

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeff Johnstone, Principal  
Guildford Park Secondary

“School App”

Please see information below to download our school app “GP Sabres” from the app store or click on QR Code.

