



# FRANK HURT SECONDARY SCHOOL

13940 – 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surrey, BC V3W 5Z4  
Phone: 604-590-1311 Fax: 604-590-9013

January 7, 2022

Dear Guardians,

Happy New Year! As you know, the return to school for students has been delayed to Monday January 10 to enable our staff and school to adapt to the impact of the Omicron variant.

This week we have been working at implementing the enhanced health and safety measures announced last week(below), develop contingency plans to continue to support learning in the event of a functional closure (should we be required to close due to insufficient staff to supervise or provide learning) and support the limited number of students needing to attend school.

## **The enhanced health and safety measures:**

- Using all available space to maximize space between people:  
For example, different common space, classroom and learning environment configurations (e.g. avoid face-to-face seating arrangements where possible).
- Implementing strategies that prevent crowding during class transition times.
- Holding school gatherings and events (e.g., assemblies, etc.) virtually.
- Holding staff-only gatherings (e.g., meetings, professional development activities) virtually whenever possible.
- Limiting visitors to those who are supporting activities that directly benefit student learning and well-being (e.g., teacher candidates, immunizers, meal program volunteers, etc.).
- Pausing extracurricular sports tournaments.

To this end, we ask all community members for their cooperation in implementing some additional actions and prevention measures to keep everyone safe and learning. These precautions will be continuously assessed and adjusted as needed.

- **Day Start:** Please enter the school through the door closest to your class and walk immediately to your classroom. **DO NOT** enter other buildings that are not necessary.
- **Limited locker use:** Please carry all of your belongings with you so that you can move from one class to your next class with no stopping. You may need to obtain some items from your locker only for the first couple of days. Please do not use this as an opportunity to socialize/gather.
- **Study Blocks:** make arrangements not to be on property if possible. There will be spots available in the library if required to stay on property.
- **Lunch:** will be in your period 2 class or off-site (leave directly). There will be no eating in common areas. **WE ENCOURAGE ALL STUDENTS TO GO HOME FOR LUNCH IF POSSIBLE.**
- **Day End:** students will immediately leave the building that their fourth-period class is in. Unless students are participating in an activity under the direction of staff, they should leave the property immediately.
- **Additional signage:** Please follow all directional and limit signage throughout the building. (ex. West Stairs Up, East Stairs Down)
- **No spectators** at any events.

- **Wash** your hands, **Wear** your mask, **Stay** home when sick, keep **Space**.

### **Lunch**

This is a time of much concern when many students gather and socialize. If at all possible, we encourage students to go home for lunch. If students are staying at school for lunch, they will be eating in their block two class. Students should not leave their classes and go to other classes. No eating will occur in common areas (halls). Again, if students are leaving the property at lunch, we would appreciate them doing so quickly, not stopping to gather.

### **Masks**

Masks are an integral part of the safety protocol for COVID-19 at this time. Under the public health order, everyone who is able to (i.e. does not have a mask exemption) must wear a mask. When layered with other recommended public health measures, a well-constructed, well-fitting and properly worn mask can help prevent your child and others from being exposed to COVID-19. No matter which type of mask your child is wearing, proper fit is a key factor in its effectiveness:

- Make sure the mask completely covers your child's nose, mouth and chin.
- Check for gaps between your child's face and the mask.
  - o Check the top, sides and bottom of the mask.
  - o Check the edges of the mask for air leaks and adjust if necessary.
- Improve mask fit so it's snug and has no gaps.
  - o Adjust the ties, bands or ear loops.
  - o Adjust the nosepiece.

Students should come to school with two to three clean, well-fitting masks each day to ensure they have back-ups available at school. Also, please remind your child to maximize the distance between themselves and others even while wearing their mask, both inside and outdoors.

### **Daily Health Check**

The best way to prevent COVID-19 from spreading is to **stay home when ill**. Please continue to complete a daily health check with your child before sending them to school. The [K to 12 Health Check website](#) app is an easy way to decide if your child should attend school based on their symptoms. It includes current health guidelines and offers an age-appropriate user experience for K to 12 students. Alternatively, Daily Health [Self-Assessment](#) are available in many languages here on the BC Government website.

### **Functional Closure:**

We have also been planning for the possibility of a functional closure. A functional closure is when we cannot adequately supervise or instruct children. We often direct children home during snow days, power outages, water main breaks, and other unique circumstances. In this case, the situation could arise that due to staff illness, we have insufficient staff to provide safe supervision of children, or to provide instruction for an extended duration.

If this happens, students will need to move to a period of learning from home. This period is intended to be 7 days and materials and support for this time will be provided by the classroom teacher. We will also continue to safely offer our meal programs in a way that respects this period of home learning.

We recognize that any closure is stressful for our school community, and we appreciate the fact that any change in routines will cause disruption and inconvenience for many. We will aim to communicate the potential for a move to home learning as quickly as we can so families can plan accordingly.

Our hope is that we do not need to move to a place where students need to be learning from home, but we want to be prepared. Please ensure that we have your updated contact information, including your phone and email to ensure you receive all communications.

Thank you to all of our staff who have been working extremely hard preparing for next week. We understand that these constant changes and adaptations are a strain on you and your loved ones. **However, it is through us all working together that ensures all of our safety and the greatest chance of staying in person learning.** We all want both of these! Thank you to our school community for your constant support and cooperation. We look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Monday, January 10th.

Take care and stay safe.

*Brian Tait*

Brian Tait  
Proud Principal  
Frank Hurt Secondary