

# **ENVER CREEK SECONDARY SCHOOL**

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# Action required: Return to in-class learning

May 26, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On May 15th, it was announced that parents will have the choice of bringing their student back to class on a part-time basis in June, as part of BC's Restart Plan. The decision by the Ministry of Education and Provincial Health Officer to restart schools is based on the science that shows it is safe to bring students back to schools on a gradual and part-time basis.

The purpose of this letter is to:

- provide you with an overview of our proposed plan to resume in-class learning
- provide you with information about and ask you to complete a survey indicating
  whether you intend to send your student back to school in June so that we can plan
  accordingly
- provide you with Enver Creeks plan for June 1<sup>st</sup>

The transition to in-class learning is a voluntary option for families. Remote/online learning will continue however, it may be at a reduced level as teachers balance in-class learning with remote teaching. It is important to note that no curriculum will be covered via in-class learning that is not being provided via remote learning.

# 1. Overview of proposed plan to resume in-class learning

The Ministry of Education has a five-stage approach for resuming in-class learning in a measured way. Each stage is guided by health and safety guidelines, measures, protocols and orders, as well as the four guiding principles developed for continuity of learning during the pandemic, listed below in order of priority:

- a) Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees.
- b) Provide the services needed to support children of our essential workers.
- c) Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance.
- d) Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.

The province has created these five stages in order to be able to direct schools to deliver learning in the safest and most appropriate manner depending on the current level of risk posed by COVID-19 in BC.

Currently, we are in Stage 4, which means the majority of students are learning through online instruction. On June 1, as part of BC's Restart Plan, we will move to Stage 3 which includes an increase in face-to-face instruction for all students. As mentioned previously, all school districts are required to send a plan outlining their approach to the Ministry of Education for review and approval before they can welcome children back into their schools.

# **School Density Targets**

Each stage has school density targets to ensure the number of students in schools is manageable and maintains a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees.

At Enver Creek, we cannot exceed more than 20% of the school's capacity. As a result, remote learning will remain the predominant model for the majority of Grade 8 – 12 students.

At Enver Creek Secondary, the maximum number of students in attendance on any given day would be 294.

The number of students in any particular classroom or learning space may vary to ensure that it is managed safely with appropriate physical distancing.

# Schedule for in-class learning

Children of Essential Service Workers, students with disabilities, diverse abilities and those who require additional support may receive in-class learning opportunities up to five days a week, if they wish, in consultation with their Vice-Principal or case manager.

# Health and Safety Measures

In addition to the density targets, increased health and safety measures, as defined by the *Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings*, will be put in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

The measures we plan to implement include, but are not limited to, the following:

- students will have designated desks and will need to bring their own supplies
- desks will be separated to maintain two metres physical distance
- the flow of people in hallways and bathrooms will be managed to minimize contact and maintain physical distance
- students will be prevented from gathering in hallways or other common areas
- cleaning of high-touch surfaces like door knobs, toilet seats, keyboards and desks will occur regularly, and school buildings will be cleaned at least once a day
- students, educators and staff will be required to wash their hands upon entering school and throughout the day
- the school is well-stocked with hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies
- children will not be permitted to share food or personal items like phones, pens or pencils
- there will be regular verbal reminders for children to minimize physical contact with their friends
- health and safety signage to remind children and staff to wash their hands, maintain physical distancing and practice appropriate respiratory etiquette will be displayed throughout the school

- staff will be required to stay home if they have symptoms of a common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or any other infectious disease
- parents will be asked to assess their children daily and to keep them home if they feel ill or have any symptoms of a common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or any other infectious disease
- if any student or staff member has even mild symptoms, arrangements will be made for that person to be returned home
- consistent with direction from the Provincial Health Officer, access to the school is restricted to staff and students only. Parents will be required to remain outside the school.
- as per the Provincial Health Officer's guidance, there is no need for staff or students to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). For those who choose to wear their own equipment, such as masks, their choice will be respected

Please note: School districts follow the direction of the Provincial Health Officer. If new guidance is issued in the coming days and weeks, there may be additions or changes to the above measures.

# 2. Survey for families

To help us plan for in-class learning, we need to know how many students will be returning to school in June. Remote learning will continue for all students; however, schools will also be offering in-class tutorials, beginning on June 1st. In-class tutorials are optional and the decision of each family. We will continue to support students whether at home or as we welcome them back to school. In order to assist us with our planning, please fill out this brief survey about whether or not your children are returning to in-class instruction. We recognize that families may still be considering both options. If possible, please complete the survey by Wednesday May 27th.

# https://bit.ly/2yzPY47

We will use the survey results and density targets to alter schedules for a return to inclass learning if necessary. Please note, based on the survey results, the proposed approach outlined in this letter may change. We recognize that your decision may change over time and we will try our best to accommodate any changes.

# 3. Schedule for returning students

As I'm sure you can appreciate, this is a complex logistical process that has taken considerable time to work through. Our plan is to hold one block each day in multiple small sessions.

Weekly Schedule

Time	Monday (A)	Tuesday (B)	Wednesday (Remote Learning)	Thursday (C)	Friday (D)
8:30-9:50	<b>A1</b>	B1	Deep Clean	C1	D1
10:00-11:20	A2	B2	No Face to Face	C2	D2
11:20 -12:05	LUNCH		Remote Learning	LUNCH	
12:05-1:25	A3	B3		C3	D3
1:35-2:54	A4	B4		C4	D4
*Only a MAX of 8 students PER session					

# **Daily Set Up**

- 1. Each day is **ONE BLOCK**. Each block is split into **FOUR SESSIONS** in one day (see above).
- 2. Wednesdays all staff and students are offsite
- 3. Teachers will book a MAX of 8 students PER session on specific block days.
- 4. Students will book a time slot directly with their teacher who will confirm the time and location of the class.
  - 1. Example A student wants to see their B block Science 10 teacher. The student communicates with the teacher by email. The teacher will confirm a session (example session 2 on Tuesday from 10:00 11:20 in room 104).

#### In Class Process

- 1. **Face-**to-face sessions are tutorials or supplementary sessions to support student learning.
- 2. No new information will be shared in-class by teachers
- 3. At the end of each session, **students are to leave the building as soon as possible**. There is no quad access and students should NOT be seeing a second teacher\* (exceptions include support teachers/staff WITH appointments).

Please visit the school district's website for COVID-related information and resources, including the latest updates and guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Provincial Health Officer. The school district's plan as provided to the Ministry of Education will be available here.

If you have specific questions relating to your student's situation, please call the school to speak to me or either of the Vice Principals directly.

While we look forward to welcoming your student back into our school, we recognize this partial return to schools may be causing some anxiety and stress. Some of you may be fearful of sending your student back to school. We understand your concerns and will support whatever decision you make. Please know that the option to send your student back to school will be there when your family is ready.

In the meantime, thank you for your continued understanding, patience and support. I know we keep saying it, but these are truly unprecedented times, and together we will get through them.

Sincerely,

Mike Kilpatrick Principal