

May 26, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Our teachers and staff have been working hard these last weeks to connect with their students to gather the necessary information to plan our a partial return to in-school learning. We will use this information to organize staffing, reconfigure Matheson and ensure we meet health and safety protocols such as physical distancing and balance both onsite and remote learning.

As we embark on this challenging task, we want you to know that we have student and staff health and safety top of mind. We are continuing to follow guidelines set by the Ministry of Education, Provincial Health Office, BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafeBC. We will be ready to adjust to any changes in the coming weeks.

Please remember, as we transition to this next phase of learning, our teachers and staff may be managing both in-school learning and remote learning and may need to prioritize their time allotted to tasks/students as needed. Please note the changes in your teacher's online availability.

LA Matheson New Schedule: June 1 – June 19, 2020

Starting June 1, students will be able to attend one session per day (1 hour) on Mondays (Period 1 classes), Tuesdays (Period 2 classes), Thursdays (Period 3 classes), and Fridays (Period 4 classes). Attendance is voluntary, and classes will focus on offering support with work already assigned online.

Students, who want to attend a class, will sign up with each of their teachers on MS Teams and will be scheduled into a time slot. For example, student X in Mr. Stipp's P1 English 9 class is scheduled for Monday from 1:42 to 2:45.

When you arrive at Matheson, you will find that all students will be lined up at the school's front doors, maintaining a two-meter distance (signage and masking tape are in place) to be let in for their scheduled timeslot. Students can only enter through the front doors.

All students will be asked to leave the building and school grounds immediately after their classes through the cafeteria's large garage doors.

Students should bring all school supplies, learning materials, and devices needed daily, to be productive during their time at Matheson. Lockers will be unavailable for use. Locker pick-up information to come later this week.

We will do our best to accommodate students who need help beyond their scheduled time. Some will be contacted by Matheson staff for additional opportunities for learning support. *Please remember that students who remain on the pure virtual program will not be penalized in any way*.



This opportunity for face-to-face learning is the choice of parents. The decision to whether or not to attend face-to-face learning will remain open for the 3 weeks in June.

Juniors (Grades 8-10)	Seniors (Grades 11-12)	Session #	Monday Period 1 Classes	Tuesday Period 2 Classes	Wednesday (X)	Thursday Period 3 Classes	Friday Period 4 Classes
8:30-9:33	8:35-9:38	1			No sessions Remote learning day		
9:38-10:41	9:43-10:46	2					
10:46-11:49	10:51-11:54	3		1			
Lunch							
12:34-1:37	12:39-1:42	4					
1:42-2:45	1:47-2:50	5		11			

As you have noticed, our schedule looks and feels different. There will be fewer students, smaller class sizes, and the classrooms may look slightly different. All of these changes are intended to support increased physical distancing and reducing contact. The BC Centre for Disease Control guidelines for schools state:

Physical distancing (i.e., maintaining a distance of 2 meters between two or more people) is challenging in a K-12 school setting, particularly with younger students.

We also need some information from you to help us in your planning. Please take <u>this survey</u> (if you have not done so already) to inform us if you do or do not intend to send your child(ren) to school. We need this information to help us plan for bus routes and class structures.

We have all worked together to deal with the pandemic that has impacted us all. This next phase is essential, and as we transition, no doubt, there will be new challenges for us, but we know we will adjust and move forward.

Thank you for your support and patience as we navigate toward June 1st and this new normal for learning at LA Matheson.

Sincerely,

Peter Johnston Principal