

Queen Elizabeth Secondary School

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August 25, 2021

Dear Queen Elizabeth School Community,

We wish you a warm welcome to the 2021-22 school year. We hope you and your family had a restful and relaxing summer. We want you to know that we are hard at work making preparations for the learning ahead. We know that students are excited about their courses, their teachers and getting back to see their friends. Below is some information that should make this easier for all.

This year, all secondary school classes at Queen Elizabeth will be face-to-face full time. However, for everyone's safety, masks are required to be worn when in classrooms, hallways and common spaces. We will continue our focus on good hygiene, including washing and sanitizing hands often and avoiding touching one's face. At this time, our district is working with the Ministry of Education to determine further strong protocols to keep everyone safe.

All students should be able to access their schedule for this coming year very shortly on [MyEDBC](#). It appears that we will be returning to the Semester System this year, and so your student will return to taking four courses at a time. One semester will run from September to the beginning of February and another from February through the end of June. When students access their schedules on [MyEDBC](#), as they have in the past for schedules and report cards, they will see their classes grouped into Semester 1 (S1) or Semester 2 (S2). Grade 8 students will also receive a print copy of this schedule in the mail shortly. Many hours have committed to building this year's schedule by our counselors, support staff and administrators. As part of this process, students were given chances to make changes and adjustments in the spring and early summer. At this point, we have very limited ability to make further changes. At this time, Grade 8 to 12 students that are missing a course (have less than 8 in their schedule), grade 10-12 students that took summer school courses, and grade 12 students missing a course required for graduation, may complete the [Course Change Request Form HERE](#) and will be contacted with more information about the process. Students needing a meeting with staff to make changes will be given an appointment next week (August 30th to September 3rd).

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 7th. We will welcome all students in grades 9—12 to meet their A block teacher from 10am to 10:45am in their classroom. We will welcome our new grade 8 students at 12pm in the main gymnasium. As you may remember from our final message in June, our school is undergoing a seismic upgrade this year. As a result, we have had to take on 14 portable classrooms, and there is additional construction equipment and workers on campus. Because of this, we would like to reduce vehicle traffic coming and going. If it is possible for your student to walk or take public transit to school on September 7th and through the year, please have them do so. Parking will be very limited and so we also ask that senior students avoid driving to school.

As always, we look forward to meeting you and speaking about your student's progress this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please do connect with us here at the school. We are available by phone in the Main Office from 10am through 2pm Monday to Friday until we return to regular school hours (8am to 3:30pm) on Tuesday, September 7th.

Sincerely,

Graham Magnusson
Principal