

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Información importante - Por favor traducir

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

重要な情報-翻訳してください

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

August 28, 2020

Hello Eagle Mountain Community,

Eagle Mountain Middle is getting ready to welcome students back to school in a safe and controlled manner. The Ministry of Education has announced that BC schools will open in Stage 2 and students are encouraged to attend daily as schools will not be able to provide the remote learning options that we did in June. The first day of school for students is Thursday, September 10th (only a short day). You can read more from the government here about their return to school plans:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-education-restart-plan.pdf>.

We have worked under the guidance of public health authorities and the Ministry of Education to develop a plan so that students and staff can learn and work together safely. We are quickly getting ready to welcome your child back to school. We will strive to keep learning as the focus, but school *will* look different as health and safety are critical factors in our planning. Some of the many actions taken to safely restart school this September include:

Health and Safety

- Daily health screening check for students (by parents) and staff before arriving at school.
- Students who are ill (cold, flu or [showing Covid-19 symptoms](#)) must stay home. If a child becomes ill during the school day, they will be isolated from their Learning Group/class and the parents contacted to come and pick up as soon as possible.
- Families arriving from outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days before entering school.
- There will be enhanced cleaning protocols especially focused on high touch points (doorknobs, faucets, etc.)
- Teachers will be encouraged to take their class outside more frequently.
- A staggered schedule will be adopted to promote physical distancing at drop off/pick up; and nutrition break (recess) and lunch times.
- There will be no large gatherings (assemblies, special events, open house, team meetings) at this time.
- **Masks are expected in hallways and common areas at the middle level***. The only exception is for staff and students with a medical condition that precludes them from wearing a mask. ***please note this is a change from the district letter sent home on Wednesday, August 26th.**
- No sharing of food or drink.
- Parents and visitors must make an appointment to meet with staff. There will be limited access to the building by parents and visitors. All visitors must sign in for the purpose of contact tracing. Virtual meetings will be an option for staff and parents.
- Caretaking and cleaning protocols will be in place during the day and each evening.
- Water fountains and unused spaces have been closed to reduce touch points and cleaning.
- We ask parents to practice physical distancing (staying apart 2m) when on school grounds. This is for your safety, the safety of staff and students and is good modeling for our students.

Learning Groups

- A [Learning Group](#) is defined as a group of students and staff who remain together for an extended period of time and who interact primarily with each other.
 - In the Coquitlam School District, the Learning Group will include your child's classmates and any staff assigned to work with the students on a regular basis, like your child's teacher. All middle schools in Coquitlam will be following the guideline of 1 Core class = 1 Learning Group.
 - Within the learning group, while there will be less opportunities to physically distance in the classroom, physical contact will be discouraged. Masks will not be mandatory within a learning group, however, if an individual outside a learning group enters the space, they will be expected to stay physically distant / wear a mask (ie. exploration teacher, TOC, other teacher providing support).
 - The learning group will stay together. Students will learn, eat and play together. We will minimize any movement in the building – students will remain in their own classes for instruction except PE. Exploration teachers will visit students in their own classroom.
 - Class size limits have not changed therefore grade 6-8 classes will have no more than 30 students in the group. Class sizes at Eagle Mountain are currently 28 students in a class.
 - The Ministry of Education has stated that Learning Groups cannot exceed 60 people at elementary and middle school. Therefore, Learning Group sizes will be under the provincial limits outlined in Stage 2.
- Morning, recess, lunch and afterschool schedules and routines will be adjusted to keep Learning Groups apart as much as possible.
 - We will have 3 different start times to the day: 8:35, 8:45, 8:55. These will correspond to end times of 2:40, 2:50 and 3:00.
 - Each team will have specific entrance and exit protocols. We will be utilizing our front doors, but also our emergency doors by the gym and rear entrance to minimize congestion and crowding.
- If children interact with students or staff from other learning groups, they will be expected to practice physical distancing. In some cases, specialist teachers who work with children from different learning groups (ie. Learning assistance or English as a Second Language) will wear a mask if they cannot maintain physical distancing. Again, students and staff in common areas of the building (halls, courtyard etc) will be expected to wear masks unless medically unable to do so.
- Parents and students will learn who their child's teacher and Learning Group/ Class is before school begins on Monday, September 14th. We expect Learning Groups to be finalized and students attending full days beginning Monday, September 14th. Once learning groups are established, we will not be able to make any changes until possibly end of term.

Educational Programming

- Our school will be focused on in-class instruction during Stage 2.
- Students will spend most of their educational time in their classroom. There will be reduced movement of students between learning spaces. Outdoor spaces and the gym will be used safely.
- Student well-being will be guiding educators in planning and supporting the successful return of students to school.
- Explorations teachers will continue to offer programming, but this will look significantly different with exploration teachers coming to student classrooms, maintaining social distancing and/or wearing masks if the students are not part of their Learning Group.
- Student Services and other learning / social supports will of course continue, but we will ensure adults providing supports outside of Learning Groups will maintain social distancing and/or wear masks.

- Regular health and safety practices (frequent hand washing) will be part of the educational program. Extra hand washing stations will be set up to support the portables and outdoor spaces. Hand sanitizer will also be available throughout building.
- Students will continue to receive report cards.
- Parents of children who are medically diagnosed as immunocompromised by a physician should contact me by Tuesday, September 1st. The following links are provided for your reference:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19-IS-Children-FAQ-BCCH.pdf>

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID19-easing-social-distancing-IS-children.pdf>

Some other Eagle Mountain Information:

- Start/End times: As mentioned start times for school Teams will be staggered each day to reduce traffic (cars and people) and allow for adequate social distancing. Each Team will have a specified start time and building entry protocol. These will be shared with parents and students by team. We want students to be able to come into their classroom / learning group space as quickly, safely and efficiently as possible.
- Nutrition Break (Recess) / Lunch Times: Team / class breaks will be staggered to allow for more space for students to move around safely. Various locations in the school and outside property will be designated, supervised and in some cases scheduled for students. We recognize that students need to move around (and we know Eagle Mountain has limited space) so we will do our best to keep structured and safe spaces for students. Supervision will be present for all outdoor spaces during break. Remember, outside of the learning group, and in common areas, kids will be expected to maintain social distancing and wear masks (unless medically unable to).

Nut break will be 15 minutes. Lunch will include 15 minutes of in-class eating and 30 minutes of outdoor time.
- At this time, lockers will not be assigned. All school supplies (lunch/backpacks) will be kept in their homerooms. This is to reduce congestion in the halls and minimize touch points in school. We will assess this as we progress through September.
- Washrooms will be one person at a time. All washrooms will use our 'button light' procedure put in place in June. When students enter, they bump the light to turn it on, indicating it is in use. When they leave, they bump to turn it off! (yes, I forget to turn the lights off too – they do have a 4 minute timer!)
- Opportunities for clubs, leadership, sports teams and band will be assessed as we move through September. We know extracurricular activities are amazing opportunities for students to learn, grow and connect. We will evaluate how things are going at start up and communicate opportunities as they arise.
- Drop-off/Visitor Procedures: please contact the office / teachers to set up meetings. This can be done by phone or email – a directory will follow in September. We want to limit all outside visitors into the school – so please have your children remember their lunches before they leave! 😊

What is next:

[Please complete the survey](#) as soon as possible!

Week of September 8th:

On Tuesday, September 8th and Wednesday, September 9th staff will be reviewing and implementing safety procedures within the school.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school for a short time on Thursday, September 10th and for a slightly longer time on Friday, September 11th:

- Thursday, September 10th: Students attend school for a welcome and head count. Duration: 15 minutes. Students will come based on grade / alpha groupings. We are planning to meet students on our grass field adhering to all social distancing protocols. Attendance will be taken and information provided to the students about school expectations and what they will see Friday and Monday. We are hoping to provide a little more attention to our grade 6's, many of whom have not come into the building yet and could really use a socially distanced tour and a positive / uplifting Eagle Mountain welcome!
- Friday, September 11th: Students will attend safety orientation sessions. Duration: 60 minutes. These again will be done by grade level and in groups of less than 10 to adhere to social distancing and safety.
- More details and schedule will follow when we have a better understanding of how many students will be attending.

Please note: students will be provided with a mask and will be asked to wear it when in common areas in the school on the first two days as learning groups will not be established. If a student already has a mask, we ask that they wear it to the safety orientation.

I will be sending out further information regarding the times that students will attend on Thursday, September 10th and Friday, September 11th in part based on the survey results collected this weekend.

Please note that the Provincial Health Officer and the Ministry of Education may decide to move to different stages in response to Covid-19 situation in British Columbia and we will inform you should this occur, advising next steps.

Please find attached a document for your review titled 'Stage 2 Health and Safety Protocols: K-12 – For Teachers and Support Staff'.

I will be following up with a more information early next week.

Please email me with any questions that you have and I will do my best to answer as quickly as possible. I

This is all overwhelming at times...but what keeps me positive and hopeful is looking forward to the opportunity to work with your children again this year.

Sincerely,

Darren Macmillan

Eagle Mountain Principal