

2017 June 16

Dear Centennial School Community;

It's the busiest time of the year with so many events happening in and around Centennial. Congratulations to all the award recipients over the last 3 recognition events in the school. I felt it was time to update families on all the changes about to happen.

Moving Time!

Patience pays off, and we are finally ready to take possession of the new building. Beginning this week, we will be moving some items to the new building. A moving company is hired to do the bulk of the moving later this month. The movers will deal with heavy objects, desks & chairs, boxes, and many other large items. The new building is still closed to the general public while we are in transition, but an open house is already scheduled for parents to take their first look on the evening of September 21, 2017.

Our plan is to have moved our items out of the old school by July 7, 2017. The quick timeline is because the construction company will take possession of the old Centennial building in order to begin the deconstruction process. After July 7, no one will have access to the old building. We do, however, get to keep the full functionality of the Blue Gym, as well as our weight room which will move to the portables near our old front door.

New Grade 9 welcome day will take place in the new building on August 31, 2017 at 10am. It's our very first official event in the new space.

Changes to Daily Schedule

Our daily schedule is changing effective September, 2017. We will be returning to a 5-block schedule that is very similar to the one in-place up to June, 2015. We are eliminating the school-wide common lunch block to avoid a very early start time and late dismissal time, which we have found poses difficulties for our students who commute a long distance or are involved in significant after-school activities.

This major change is being done in order to accommodate all the extra classroom space we will need following the recent province-wide changes to education funding. Most schools in the district that were using a 4-block schedule are converting to 5 as well. The new schedule will align closely with our closest neighbouring schools. The new starting time will be 8:25am, with dismissal at 3:15pm. Wednesday will still have a dismissal time 5 minutes earlier, and will continue to contain a Tutorial Period at 8:25am.

Please note: Almost all Grade 9 students will have a lunch block at the same time: Period 3. Grade 10's may have been assigned a lunch block anywhere from 1 to 5, depending on the specific course selections they made. A child with a Period 1 lunch can arrive at school in time for Period 2, or arrive earlier and consider it a breakfast block.

Student Timetables

Today, all families were emailed the link schooldata.ca/schedule to check their courses for next year. Students are asked to confirm their course selections, and inform us of any errors or other issues. Please refer to the letter posted on our website from the Superintendent of Schools. The letter refers to our district-wide course change policy that is now in effect. Timetables will not show teacher assignments at this time, but will show which period a class is in. All timetables are subject to block changes due to the strict rules we must follow to build balanced, appropriate class sizes. Another updated timetable will be provided to students on the first day of school in September.

More information

A year-end newsletter will be published soon with more information about year-end, summertime, and September start-up.

Regards,
Centennial Admin Team

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Veronika Farnell, VP
Kelly Zimmer, VP