



To our incoming new students,

On behalf of the entire staff, we welcome you to Port Moody this upcoming September. We are sending this correspondence to acknowledge this year has created gaps in how we traditionally introduce ourselves to one another (typically starting in February with a school tour), and how we facilitate the general transition from middle to secondary school. Rest assured that our return to school plans will address many of the questions you have, and any uneasiness will likely be resolved by the end of the first week of school (for parents this feeling may last a little longer). By the second week you will be comfortably making your way around the school as high school experts. If at any time you are needing assistance, know that the staff and our leadership (SOAR) students will be happy to help. The most difficult part for you will be your willingness to ask. I can assure you your question is being thought of by several others so simply go for it and ask.

In the latter part of August you will receive a start up package by email. In it will be information, instructions, and calendar dates for a variety of considerations. For now, I leave you with these three (3) pieces of start up information that will help you start your high school experience:

1. There is no specific school supply list for secondary that must be purchased before Labour Day. Purchase the typical supplies (binders, pens, pencils, paper etc.) but know that any additional materials specific to the courses you are in will be addressed in the first week, of either semester, by your teacher. Further to this, you are not expected to have a laptop as some schools do (BYOD – Bring Your Own Device). We encourage you to bring a device, as it is a valuable learning tool, and you will be enrolled in a Digital Learning course that teaches tech skills and citizenship; however, it is not required, and we do have labs and laptops for use while at school.
2. We communicate with students using school district accounts not personal email addresses. With both a MyEd provincial account and a school district account you can access: Office 365 apps; timetables; report cards; and receive / send email. The particulars of account information and access support will be provided starting in August, but you will miss school information during the year if you neglect the habit of checking your district accounts.
3. The current expectation for the fall is to open at full capacity on a semester schedule. Schools will still have COVID-19 guidelines and procedures to navigate, however we do not have the details yet. In the summer communication we will have further explanations in relation to updated guidelines but attending our in-person school tour is most valuable. Please save the date: Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10am – 12:00pm for a start of year orientation. No need to RSVP and if you are unable to attend, we again host a shortened tour on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> is designated time for our incoming grade 9s and new students to PMSS.

Again, welcome to Port Moody Secondary but first, enjoy the much-needed summer break!

Mr. Glen Conley  
Principal & Head of IB School