

Summer Message - July 11, 2018



To PMSS students and families:

As another school year has ended, school and district staff are well under way in their preparations for next year. Currently the painters are power washing and prepping to paint the exterior; electricians are updating our lighting; and the gym floor is in the midst of resurfacing. Our own caretakers are working hard throughout the school and our office staff is already well prepared to welcome over 100 staff and 1200 students to the 2018.19 year. The work completed over summer is often unseen by the greater community but very much appreciated.

Mid-August, we will send start up correspondence to highlight specific dates and procedures for the first few weeks of school and to recognize some of the comings and goings that regularly take place over the summer.

Between now and our August return I would like to answer four common summer questions:

Question - Do you have a school supplies list?

No. Teachers will indicate course specific materials when introducing the course syllabus at the start of the semester. In general, the regular supplies of binders, paper, pens/pencils, dividers, and a calculator are sufficient. Proper PE strip is required for students in a PE course. All students have the opportunity to request a locker and lock during the first week of homeroom.

Question – How can I get my schedule?

Current students had preview schedules issued in June and course corrections reviewed at that time. Timetables will be issued in homeroom on September 4th. Grade 9s, and new students, will receive schedules during the August 30th orientation or in homeroom on September 4th if unable to attend the August 30th orientation tour (10am to noon).

Question – When is the school open?

Our office is open during the summer for pick up of report cards, transcripts and registration of students new and living in our catchment. The rest of the school is closed for summer maintenance. I recommend you call ahead (604-939-6656) to confirm hours and finalize arrangements prior to coming in.

Our counsellors, coordinators and administration team will return on Monday, August 27th. The counselling department's focus will be registering new students, hosting orientations, and updating timetables in relation to courses taken during summer school. In general, students are assigned alphabetically to one of our three counsellors and three vice-principals.

Alpha (tentative)	Counsellor	Vice Principal
<u>A – Hua</u>	<u>Ms. Cindy Campbell</u>	<u>Mr. Andrew Lloyd</u>
<u>HUB – Ph</u>	<u>Mr. John Gibney</u>	<u>Mr. Brent Taylor</u>
<u>PI - Z</u>	<u>Ms. Megan Carruthers</u>	<u>Ms. Sharon Starr</u>

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Question – What is the regular bell schedule?

Port Moody's daily schedule reflects our programming needs for both the IB programme and Dogwood program. Blocks 0, and 6 are primarily for IB courses at the grade 11 and 12 level. For most other students a regular day is blocks 1, 2, 4, and 5. We have a common lunchtime, also referenced as block 3, when some classes (music) run in that time slot.

New this coming year, we have added FLEX to our weekly schedule and it is recognized instructional time (Tuesday to Friday) where students will have the opportunity to engage in their learning in more self-directed ways. We will provide more information and instruction on FLEX starting with our August communication and orientations. In the meantime, I think this [article](#) from the North Delta Reporter is as helpful an introductory read as any to understanding what it is, and why it is becoming more common in secondary schools as we collectively review our scheduling models in relation to the new curriculum.

Block	Monday Schedule
0	7:19 – 8:26 (before school)
1	8:30 – 9:37
2	9:41 – 10:49
3 / Lunch	10:49 – 11:39
4	11:43 – 12:50
5	12:54 – 14:01
6	14:05 – 15:12 (after school)

Block	Tuesday – Friday Schedule
0	7:10 – 8:26 (before school)
Flex	8:30 – 8:55
1	8:59 – 10:15
2	10:19 – 11:35
3 / Lunch	11:35 – 12:25
4	12:29 – 13:45
5	13:49 – 15:05
6	15:09 – 16:25 (after school)

I wish you all a memorable summer vacation.

Yours truly,

Glen Conley
Principal