

North Peace Secondary School

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Friday, August 27, 2020

Dear North Peace Secondary Main Campus Families

On behalf of main campus staff, I would like to welcome you to the 2020/21 school year. It will be a much different year than any we have ever experienced! Many changes are in place due to the COVID 19 pandemic. However, I am confident that the experience our students will get from this year, while different, will still allow them to reach all their goals, hopes, and dreams.

The school office will be open starting on August 31. Office hours are 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Visitors will need to report to the office. Parents should call first if they have questions or want to talk to someone ie. Counsellors about courses. It would be appreciated if visitors would wear a mask.

In terms of safety, we will be following the PHO's and Northern Health's directions. We worked hard in June to create a back-to-school safety plan. We are currently updating this safety plan and we will have more information to send to you next week. Masks will need to be worn while in the halls and cafeteria/library, and in some classes where physical distancing is not possible. More information will come out next week.

One of the major changes will be a move away from the semester system to a quarter system. We will have four quarters in a year, with two classes per quarter - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Some other changes that will be in place include not having lockers be available for students to use this year. Entry, exit and hallway procedures will be similar but modified. Lunch and nutrition breaks will be regulated. Information is currently being updated and will come out to parents early next week.

Students' course selections have not been changed in any way, so far. Quarter 1 and 2 classes will correspond to the old Semester One classes and Quarter 3 and 4 classes will be from Semester Two. Classes that were scheduled in the morning are still in the morning and same for the afternoon. Course changes will be very limited with preference given to Grade 12 students. More information about courses will be coming out next week.

The first day of attendance back for students is Thursday, September 10, when we are inviting our Grade 10 students to main campus. This is our normal procedure and it is for the morning only (8:44 - 11:18). This year the day will be spent on orientation to the campus with regular procedures and new safety procedures. It is important that **ALL** students are here for this day. Friday, September 11, in the morning only, will be for **ALL** grade 11 and 12 students. The day starts at 8:44 am and ends at 11:33 am. Bus students will need to leave the building and find a way home or come back to main campus at 3:15 pm for the bus ride home. Again, major changes to safety procedures will be presented. It is imperative that **ALL** students attend.

We are hoping that Monday, September 14 will be the first full day of classes for all students.

Next week I will be sending out a survey to all parents. We know there is still a lot of uncertainty and anxiety when thinking about sending your kids to school. The survey will ask if you are considering exploring alternative options for some of your child's courses. Please be patient about this issue. We want your kids back in our school as soon as possible. I do not have the ability to offer every single course we offer in an online format, but there may be some limited options available.

Information will be posted regularly on the school website as well as via email. Thank you for your patience as we work through all the changes. I know there are many questions. Unfortunately, the answers have changed quite often, sometimes in as little as

24 hours. So I have waited to have concrete information to send out. There will be an opportunity for questions next week. It is far too early to be asking about Grad, Prom and Gradfest. :-)

We look forward to starting the year up on September 10th. It will be great to have the students back in the building.

Sincerely,

Randy Pauls
Principal
North Peace Sec. School
ELC and Main Campus