August 18th, 2020



Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to provide you with an update on what you can expect as we approach the first day of school set for September 10th, 2020. Knowing that this is a challenging time, I'd also like to provide you with links to information that you may find useful.

We continue to rely on Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, to provide guidance, and we are currently working with the new guidelines (link below) that set out the conditions we need to meet in order to ensure safe learning spaces for our students and staff. You may find the link below to Dr. Henry's thoughts on the need to return to school interesting.

Thank-you in advance for your patience as our staff takes time to work with those guidelines to plan for healthy learning spaces in our schools.

As details are finalized for students transitioning back to school, plans will be posted on our website at <u>www.sd19.bc.ca</u> and will come directly to all parents already registered at school via email. For new families, please connect with your school principal (see the attached for contact information).

I will provide updates as new information comes available, and we expect to have more detailed information ready for you by August 26th, 2020.

For information on the return to school plans and safety guidelines, check the links below:

BC's Back to School Plan (link below) https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school

Dr. Bonnie Henry – Return to School (link below) https://globalnews.ca/video/7256665/dr-bonnie-henry-on-why-the-cost-of-keeping-b-cschools-closed-is-too-high

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have questions, ideas, or concerns at <u>mhooker@sd19.bc.ca</u>.

Sincerely,

Mike Hooker Superintendent of Schools