



Hello to all NBES family's,

On behalf of the staff at Nanoose Bay Elementary, I would like to say thank you to all those who participated in our District Survey relating to what your plans were for September in regards to programming for your children. This information is very helpful in allowing us to try to prepare the best we can for our September start up.

We are currently planning for the latest changes as directed by the Ministry to create cohorts within the school and address any changes in protocols for staff and students to follow in regards to directions from the Ministry's of Health and Education. We will essentially be following protocols that were in place in June, but also know that there will be some changes. An updated information sheet in regards to our new protocols will be sent home before students come to school. This will cover information about what to do prior to arrival at school, the morning drop off, end of the day pick up and what will happen if there is an illness that arises during the day.

For the week of September 8th – 11th:

September 8th and 9th is for staff only

September 10th is for students in **Grade 1-7 Surname A-L**

September 11th is for students in **Grade 1-7 Surname M-Z**

September 14th All students in Grade 1-7 will start coming to school.

On the 8th and 9th staff will be collaborating on the cohort and home support model, preparing their classrooms in regards to the new protocols and will be contacting you to let you know who your child's teacher will be. On the 10th and 11th, half the students will be coming on each day to allow teachers to familiarize students with the new protocols and expectations to help ensure a successful start to the year.

Our Kindergarten students, as usual, will have a gradual start and the return dates will be confirmed with Kindergarten parents as soon as possible.

As there has been a reduction in the school day by 30 minutes, the school day will start at 8:12 and will finish 1:30.

If you have not already done so and are still considering your options for school supplies, please refer to the school webpage. I would also like to remind you that we are going to be trying to have students outside in alternate learning environments at times as well as having staggered recess breaks, so please have your children prepared to be outside in all weather conditions.

There have been a few questions lately around the requirement for masks. More information will come with the protocols next week however, here are two motions that were passed by the BOARD last week:

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) direct staff to require that all children and staff wear masks when accessing, riding or leaving school buses, whether as part of the bus runs to and from school or as part of field experiences.

THAT students in grades 5 through 12 and all adults be required to wear masks when they are outside their learning groups and likely to be within 2 metres of others.

We are working hard to follow the directions of the Ministry's of Health and Education to create a safe environment for our staff and students. We also know that we have not had our "regular" programming in place since last April so will be focussing on building connections with our students, communicating with our families, and providing students with a welcoming environment where they can play, create and learn together.

As a reminder there is a zoom town hall meeting with our Medical Health Officer, Dr Michael Benusic, on Wednesday, September 2 from 6:00 to 7:30. Dr. Benusic will do a presentation and then take questions from participants. The link is <https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/7703011399>.

We appreciate your patience and support and look forward to seeing you soon!

Kevin McKee
Principal

Reuben Friesen
Vice Principal