

September 3, 2021

Dear Sangster Families,

We hope that you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. I am thrilled to be returning to Sangster Elementary. For those of you that I haven't met before, my name is Camille McFarlane and I am Sangster's new Principal. I was previously at Sangster as the Vice Principal where I also taught grade 4 and 5. Our small school is filled with an amazing group of educators, kind and innovative students, and a dedicated parent community. I look forward to connecting with all our students and families in the coming weeks.



A few important pieces of information:

First Week

- The first day of school is Tuesday, September 7th and it is a half day: **8:45-11:55am**
- Students will be returning to their **last year's class**. Please have your child line-up in the same place as last year, except Nature K. Nature K students will line-up outside of your Nature K classroom.
- Our new 2021-2022 Kindergarteners will start school on Monday, September 13th with gradual entry. Their first full day of school is Wednesday, September 15th.
- Our school is at capacity, as are most of the schools in the district, therefore we will be waiting until later in the week to transition to new classes in order to capture as many new registrations as possible.
- Students will not need their school supplies until they transition to their new classes.
- *Parents/guardians: if you are receiving this email and your child is not returning to Sangster, then please contact me at cmcfarlane@sd62.bc.ca*

Health and Safety Protocols

- Masks are *required* for students in Grades 4 and 5, and are *recommended* for K-3
- We are no longer required to have cohorts or staggered recesses and arrival/release times
- We will return to all students playing outside first at lunch hour, and then eating second
- Handwashing protocols will be continued from last year
- Parents/guardians are able to walk with their children to their line-up, however we ask that adults maintain distance from other children/adults and that you leave the school property after drop-off
- Visitors wearing a mask are allowed entry into schools *with an appointment*. Please call the office at 250-478-4441.
- Please read and complete the student Daily Health Care Consent form here: <https://consent.sd62.bc.ca/apps/OnlineConsent>
- ***Daily health checks are required. If your child is sick, please keep them home until symptoms resolve***

Absences

- Please email sangster@sd62.bc.ca if you are going to be away next week, but will be returning at a later date
- Please continue to use the sangster@sd62.bc.ca email to report absences throughout the year

Pick-up and Drop-Off

- Busses will be running starting on Tuesday.
- Please try to walk or ride to school for pick-up and drop-off if possible
- Our staff has grown and all of our parking spaces are needed for staff, therefore we ask parents to find parking off-site and walk to school to pick-up. Please do not park in the Bakery/Convenience Store parking lot.
- In order to keep the flow of traffic, the parking lot will be used as a drive-thru area (only stopping to let children out safely). More information to come about this in the future.

School day schedule

- 8:40 first bell to line up outside
- 8:45 classes begin
- 10:15 – 10:30 recess
- 11:55 – 12:55 Lunch Hour
- 2:53 end of day

Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, September 7th – First day of school – early dismissal at 11:55am
- Monday, September 13th – Kindergarten Gradual Entry begins
- Monday, September 27th – Non-instructional Day – no school for students
- Thursday, September 30th – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – all schools are closed in order to commemorate the history and ongoing trauma caused by residential schools and to honour those who were lost and the survivors, families and communities who continue to grieve. Our school year calendars have been updated [here](#).

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions. Have a great long weekend and see you next week!

Sincerely,

Camille McFarlane
Principal, Sangster Elementary

