

Dear students and parents,

What a week?! We had a rough start to the school year with course conflicts and last minute emails from me. I am sorry for the confusion and anxiety that may have resulted from your child not knowing what cohort or class they were in until the last moment. There were many hurdles that we had to face and deal with which caused the delay. The kind words and understanding from you really warmed my heart and allowed the admin to keep going during those very late nights and early mornings.

I would also like to take this time to apologize for not being able to respond to your emails. My priority was to make sure that the school would be open safely and on time that everything else took a back seat. I plan to respond to all of your emails this weekend but should I come across reoccurring emails with the same theme, I will update everyone through an email instead of responding to individual ones. I have about 600 to go through and many are action items.

Unfortunately, our school will need to go final one last time to make sure that the other quads are in place correctly. This will not mean that every conflict or request will be completed by Monday and timetables will most likely change from the ones that were assigned on Thursday and Friday. But, I have received confirmation that whatever we change on Trillium will be reflected immediately on the TDSB Connects App. This is very good news as that means that a line up to pick up paper timetables will not be taking place. It will also remind everyone what day of the four day cycle it is. But, should your child not have a smart phone, we will print one out for him/her/they for the quad.

I understand that there is much confusion with the four day cycle. As classes have been reduced to about 15 students in one class, the in person classes that take place in the morning are split into cohorts A and B. Morning classes will be from 8:45 am till 12:30pm. Your child should be at school in class at least twice and maybe even three times per week. It will not necessarily be every other day, so please be mindful of which day of the cycle it is. I do not want your child to come to school unnecessarily. On the mornings that your child is not taking in person classes, they will be using that time to do homework and independent learning. As for the afternoons, there will be daily virtual synchronous learning taking place. These classes will NOT be in cohorts as physical distancing is not a concern. Your child will join their teacher with the entire class as a whole.

Monday will be a Day 3. Since we will not have a staggered start, we have designated different entrances for the two floors. If your child's class is on the first floor, your child will come through the front main doors. If your child's class is on the second floor, please have them enter through Exit 8 which is at the back of the school near the caretaker's entrance. This will ensure that a bottleneck entrance will not take place and allow for the possibly long line up to run smoothly. As the mornings are becoming cooler, your child should dress warmly. The earliest the doors will be open is 8:15am as we do not want to have students roaming the halls.

Please remember to download the NOW self-screening app and answer the questions every morning before they come to school. Since there will be a screening station before every entrance, have your QR code ready to be scanned by the staff at the doors. Again, if your child does not have a mobile device, a paper copy will be provided which they can take with them. They must date and sign it every day as we will need to check this every morning before one can enter the school. Everyone must wear their masks properly, above the nose and covering the chin. Also, students will need to sanitize their hands with the products provided.

Please be reminded to walk on the right side of the hallways, keeping a distance of 2 meters from another person as much as possible. Please yield in the halls when it comes to perpendicular hallways so that we will not bump into each other. Only two students will be allowed in the washroom at one time. Students will follow this rule on an honour system as there is too little staff to supervise these areas. It is strongly suggested that students open the door slight to ask if anyone is in the washroom. If there are already two students inside, they should wait outside. If there is more than one student waiting, students should be in line maintaining a 2 meter distance from each other. The first three floor decals have been posted outside of the washroom as an example. Also, there are only two sets of washrooms open for the duration of the school year. Two are on the main floor and the other two are on the second floor.

As classes will change with the rescheduling taking place over the weekend, some of the conflicts or holes that your child may have had in their timetable may no longer be an issue. A new google form from guidance will be sent to all parents and students on Monday as a result. I will therefore not be answering any emails on course changes. Those questions should be going to the guidance counsellors regardless. Take note that the guidance counsellors may not answer your emails immediately as they have been busy registering new students to our school and adding summer school credits to the students' database. Now, they will be working on conflicts. Keep in mind that the appointments with guidance are to be virtual as much as possible. Students and parents should NOT be lining up in front of the guidance office or main office for such requests. Guidance will let you know soon about their process.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy your day.

Sincerely,

*Jinah Park*

Principal