 **St. John Paul II Academy**

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SJP II Academy Update

Wed. Aug. 26, 2020

Dear SJP II Academy Students / Parents,

**Important 2020-21 Start-up Information**

I trust that the summer break has provided you with a much needed opportunity to rest and re-charge your batteries for what will be the most unique school year that I have ever experienced in over 38 years as we continue to battle the spread of COVID-19.

Following Minister of Education, Rob Fleming, and Provincial Health Officer, Bonnie Henry’s announcement on July 29th regarding the K-12 Education Re-Start Plan, we have been busy putting together our Independent school **Stage 2 – Education Restart Planning** document along with a Health and Safety Plan for St. John Paul II Academy. Those documents were sent to the CISVA on Aug. 21st and this was followed by an extraordinary staff meeting on Aug. 24th to finalize our initial plans for when school resumes on **Thurs. Sept. 10th @ 8:30 am** for all students. The later start date is one that was mandated by the Ministry of Education and to my knowledge being adhered to by most public and independent schools.

The announced plan is part of the **Five Stage Framework for K-12 Education** which outlines expectations for B.C. elementary, middle, and secondary schools for learning during COVID-19. The **goal** of the Framework is to maximize in-class instruction for all students while adhering to the COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings. This is supported by four foundational principles:

* Maintain a healthy safe environment for all students, families, and staff
* Provide the services needed to support the children of our essential workers
* Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance
* Provide continuity of educational opportunity for all students

In Stage 2, which is the phase all of our schools will be entering in Sept consists of **Learning Groups** or **Cohorts** at the high school level of **no more than 120 students** and **full time instruction for all students** for the maximum instructional time possible within cohort limits. The Ministry defines a learning group as “a group of students and staff who remain together throughout a school term and who primarily interact with each other.” Learning groups are a recommended public health measure to help reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Organizing students and staff into learning groups helps to reduce the number of different interactions and potential exposure to COVID-19 and support better contact tracing if there is a confirmed case in a school community.

**How does the Stage 2 Return to school impact SJP II Academy?**

Our hope all along when the staff were planning for the 2020-21 school year was to have a 100 % return of all staff and students and full in-school instruction. As a result of our small school population – 50 students / 9 staff – we fall well within the maximum number for a Learning Group and will be able to **provide all our students** with 100 % **full resumption of in-school instruction** – 5 days per week – on our linear (full year), 10 course, Day 1/ Day 2 timetable starting on Sept. 10, 2020 as noted below.

**ST. JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY TIMETABLE 2020-21**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Day 1 | | | | Day 2 | | | |  |
|  | Grade 8 | Grade 9 | | Grade 10 | Grade 8 | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | |  |
| A | PHE | CE | | PHE | CE | PHE | Career | | F |
| B | English | AD | ST | Science | Socials | Math | CE | | G |
| C | ADST | Science | | English | Math | Career | Socials | | H |
| D | Science | English | | Arts Ed | French | Socials | Pre | WP | I |
| E | Arts | Ed | | ADST | Career | French | | | J |

Subject Areas: CE = Christian Education; Career = Career Education; ADST = Applied Design Skills & Technology; PHE = Physical Health Education

**Elective Rotation = ½ year Sept – Jan / Feb - June**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Gr. 8** | | **Gr. 9** | | | | **Gr. 10** | |
| **Term 1** | **Term 2** | **Term 1** | | **Term 2** | | **Term 1** | **Term 2** |
| ADST  Digital Literacy | ADST  Robotics | ADST  Textiles | ADST  Robotics | ADST  Robotics | ADST  Textiles | ADST  Computer Studies | ADST  Computer Studies |
| Arts Ed - Combined  Drama 8/9 & Art 8/9 | | Arts Ed - Combined  Drama 8/9 & Art 8/9 | | | | Arts Ed  Visual Arts | ADST  Textiles |

**Teacher Academic Assignments**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mr. DesLauriers  Gym | Ms. Yuson  101 | Mr. Walters  102 A | Mrs. Akyuz  102 B | Mrs. Jansen  200 | Mrs. Perez  103 |
| PHE 9 | English 8 | CE 9 | Math 8 | CE 8 | Learning Resource |
| PHE 8/10 | English 9 | Career Ed 8 | Math 9 | CE 10 | Subject Support |
|  | English 10 | Career Ed 9 | Math 10 | ADST 9 |  |
|  | Socials 8 | Career Ed 10 | Science 8 | Arts Ed 8/9 |  |
|  | Socials 9 | WP Math 10 | Science 9 | Arts Ed 10 |  |
|  | Socials 10 | ADST 8 | Science 10 | French 8 |  |
|  | Arts Ed 8/9 | ADST 9 | ADST 10 | French 9/10 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

* Returning students will be very comfortable with this timetable format as it is very similar to what was implemented the previous school year. We will ensure all our new students will be well acquainted with this schedule during student orientation starting on the 1st day of classes. Students will be informed as to whether we are having Day 1 or Day 2 through a variety of means but most notably on the school calendar which is posted on the school website and on bulletin boards throughout the school.
* **Elective classes** – Arts Education & ADST will be made known to the students when they arrive for the start of classes.
* **Lockers –** along with a school lock will be assigned to students on the 1st day of classes.

**Daily Schedules**

**10-block Regular Day Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Welcoming / Arrival | 8:25 |
| Advisory / Opening Prayer | 8:30 – 8:40 |
| Period 1 – Block A / F | 8:40 – 9:40 |
| Period 2 – Block B / G | 9:45 – 10:45 |
| Break | 10:45 – 11:00 |
| Period 3 – Block C / H | 11:00 – 12:00 |
| Lunch | 12:00 – 12:35 |
| Period 4 – Block D / I | 12:40 – 1:40 |
| Period 5 – Block E / J | 1:45 – 2:45 |

**Collaboration Day Schedule (Abbreviated)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Welcome / Arrival | 8:25 |
| Advisory / Opening Prayer | 8:30 – 8:40 |
| Period 1 – Blk A/F | 8:40 – 9:30 |
| Period 2 – Blk B/G | 9:35 – 10:25 |
| Break | 10:25 – 10:40 |
| Period 3 – Blk C/H | 10:45 – 11:35 |
| Lunch | 11:35 – 12:10 |
| Period 4 – Blk D / I | 12:15 – 1:05 |
| Period 5 – Blk E / J | 1:05 – 1:55 |
| Collab Meeting | 2:15 |

**Weekly Mass Schedule (Abbreviated)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Welcome / Arrival | 8:25 |
| Advisory / Opening Prayer | 8:30 – 8:50 |
| Mass | 9:00 |
| Period 1 – Blk A /F | 9:35 – 10:25 |
| Period 2- Blk B / G | 10:30 – 11:20 |
| Break | 11:20 – 11:35 |
| Period 3 – Blk C / H | 11:35 – 12:25 |
| Lunch | 12:25– 1:00 |
| Period 4 – Blk D / I | 1:00 – 1:50 |
| Period 5 – Blk E / J | 1:55 – 2:45 |

**Monthly Mass Schedule Sept -Jan**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Welcome / Arrival | 8:25 |
| Period 1 – Blk B / G | 8:30 – 9:30 |
| Period 2 – Blk C/H | 9:35 – 10:35 |
| Break | 10:35 – 10:50 |
| Advisory | 10:50 |
| Mass | 11:00 |
| Lunch | 12:00 – 12:35 |
| Period 3 – Blk D/I | 12:40 – 1:40 |
| Period 4 – Blk E / J | 1:45 – 2:45 |
| End of Day Prayer | 2:45 |

**Monthly Mass Schedule Feb - June**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Welcome / Arrival | 8:25 |
| Period 1 – Blk A / F | 8:30 – 9:30 |
| Period 2 – Blk B/G | 9:35 – 10:35 |
| Break | 10:35 – 10:50 |
| Advisory | 10:50 |
| Mass | 11:00 |
| Lunch | 12:00 – 12:35 |
| Period 3 – Blk C/H | 12:40 – 1:40 |
| Period 4 – Blk D / I | 1:45 – 2:45 |
| End of Day Prayer | 2:45 |

**What will be different for the 2020-21 school year at SJP II Academy?**

The biggest difference for our staff and students for the upcoming school year will be how we conduct ourselves in accordance with the **HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN FOR ST. JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY.** (See attached document). This important document will outline the various safety measures the school will undertake to keep students and staff safe during the school day. Parents and students **will need to sign** the attached **Letter of Expectation** that informs the school that you have read, understood, and acknowledged the Health and Safety Plan for SJP II Academy. This letter will be returned via your sons or daughters or by e-mail directly to Mrs. Susan Kelly – [skelly@sjp2academy.com](mailto:skelly@sjp2academy.com) – on or before the 1st day of classes on Sept. 10th.

A significant part of this plan is for parents to conduct a **Daily Health Check** (see attached)with your sons or daughters prior to them leaving for school each day. This document **does not** need to be returned to the school as was the case with the previous health Consent Form.

**Frequently Answered Questions**

1. **Is the return to school voluntary?**

No. Under the current Stage 2 guidelines, all students are expected to return to school full time in accordance with the Health and Safety Plan.

1. **What happens if I am sick or say “yes” to any items on the Daily Health Check?**

If you are sick or answered ‘yes’ to any of the questions and the symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition (e.g. allergies) you should **NOT** come to school. Please contact the main office and let us know and check google classroom for any schoolwork that you will be missing. A **Faculty Advisor** will be assigned to you for you to contact so you do not fall too far behind in your studies.

1. **Will we still have extra-curricular activities?**

Yes. But it will look different as all **traditional interschool athletics** are not permitted at this time. We certainly value how important these activities are to the life of the school and will be providing an enhanced intra-mural (in-house) program consisting of both competitive activities and skill development both during the school day and after school.

1. **When does school start? Why the late start?**

Full classes will start on **Thurs Sept. 10th @ 8:30 am.** The later start date was implemented by the Ministry of Education to provide all staff ample opportunity to understand and implement the **Health and Safety Plan for SJP II Academy.**

1. **What should I bring on Sept. 10th?**

You will need to be in full school uniform and to bring all your school supplies as well as your lunch. The school supplies should include an agenda book where students can keep track of their homework.

1. **Will I be able to use the school lockers?**

Yes. An individual locker and school lock will be provided for all students. You will have limited access to your school locker during the school day in accordance with the **Health and Safety Plan.**

1. **Is there still on-line or remote learning taking place?**

No. The on-line experience you had last spring will not be in place as all students will be able to experience a 100 % return to school and face-to-face instruction.

1. **Will there still be a hot-lunch program?**

Yes. The school, in collaboration with parent volunteers and an outside distributor will be looking at an opportunity for students to order a lunch once or twice per week. It will be optional for students.

1. **Do I have to practice Social Distancing?**

Yes, as much as possible in accordance with our **Health and Safety Plan. Physical Distancing** is still the primary way to assist in the prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

1. **Will there be Weekly or Monthly masses at Star of the Sea church?**

Right now, there have been no daily or weekly masses (since March) being held at Star of the Sea Church next door to the school. Our Campus Minister, Mrs. Jansen, will be working alongside our school Chaplain, Fr. Guy to ensure that this valued part of our school life continues.

1. **Will I need to fill out the Health Consent Form everyday?**

No. But all parents and students are expected to go through the **Daily Health Check** (see attached) and will be verbally checked by staff during Advisory. Any student whom we believe to be sick will be sent home.

1. **I am scared. Will the school be safe to return to?**

We understand that students, staff, and parents will all have mixed emotions about returning to school during a pandemic. All I can tell you is that the safety of the staff and students is our top priority and we will do everything we can to ensure a daily safe environment for all in our school. Please keep all in the school in your prayers.

1. **Will Mr. DesLauriers still be providing those wonderfully entertaining Principal’s videos’?**

Thank you for asking. As of right now those will be put on hold until much further notice.

Parents, as you can see there is a lot of information to pass along and communicate with you as we prepare for the start of another very different school year. On behalf of the staff I want to express my utmost appreciation and humble gratitude for your prayers, trust, and support as we journey through something we have never experienced before.

By providing you with this information now it will give you time to reflect, share, and communicate with your sons or daughters some of the expectations to assist us in preparing them for the upcoming school year. Returning or coming to high school for the first time can be a very exciting but nerve-racking experience for our students. Let us work and pray together for a successful and smooth transition.

Thank you once again for your prayers and support.

God bless,

Mr. Michel DesLauriers

Principal