

# Pitt Meadows Secondary School

## Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows

19438 116B Avenue  
Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 1G1  
T: 604-465-7141 [www.pmss.sd42.ca](http://www.pmss.sd42.ca)



Dear Families:

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. We have so many things to celebrate about September. Specially, our students are following the important health and safety protocols and adjusting to the quarter system. Thanks to our staff for their resiliency with embracing a new learning system with creativity and positivity. We are thankful to share time with your child. We recognize that this is a unique year, but we are grateful for the collaborative efforts of our school community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

All the best,

Mrs. Schwarz  
Principal

Please note that Mr. Drapeau is away for hip replacement surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery. In his absence, Ms. Sarah Van Nuys will be acting Vice Principal. You may email her @ [sarah\\_vannuys@sd42.ca](mailto:sarah_vannuys@sd42.ca)

#### **Administrative Assignments:**

Mrs. Schwarz – Principal  
Mr. Lozinski – Vice Principal  
Ms. Van Nuys – Acting Vice Principal

Grade 12  
Grades 9, 11  
Grades 8, 10

[cheryl\\_schwarz@sd42.ca](mailto:cheryl_schwarz@sd42.ca)  
[gary\\_lozinski@sd42.ca](mailto:gary_lozinski@sd42.ca)  
[sarah\\_vannuys@sd42.ca](mailto:sarah_vannuys@sd42.ca)

Thanks for Masking!

#### **Counselling Department:**

Ms. Elizabeth Morrow – Grades 8, 10, International  
Ms. Alisha McLaughlin – Grades 9, 11, 12 Counselling  
Ms. Penny Griffin – Grade 12 Academic Advisor  
Ms. Tory Flavin – Youth Care Worker

[elizabeth\\_morrow@sd42.ca](mailto:elizabeth_morrow@sd42.ca)  
[alisha\\_mclaughlin@sd42.ca](mailto:alisha_mclaughlin@sd42.ca)  
[penny\\_griffin@sd42.ca](mailto:penny_griffin@sd42.ca)  
[victoria\\_flavin@sd42.ca](mailto:victoria_flavin@sd42.ca)



## **STUDENT FEES \$28.00**

Have you signed up on the Parent Portal? Preferred payment for all fees is through the Parent Portal. For cash payments, please contact our accounts clerk [Tammy\\_Tucker@sd42.ca](mailto:Tammy_Tucker@sd42.ca)

## **EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!**



### **Oct Early Bird Special \$45**

Purchase after October for the regular price of \$55. *Personalized books are not available this year*

Preferred payment for all fees is through the Parent Portal. For cash payments, please contact our accounts clerk [Tammy\\_Tucker@sd42.ca](mailto:Tammy_Tucker@sd42.ca)

## **PITT Stop Café**

### **YES, we are open for business**

We are open for business! Our menu is expanding starting October 13<sup>th</sup>. Cash will be accepted. Please purchase the **Lunch Card \$21.00** on the **Parent Portal** or contact the office to purchase your card with cash.

## **PHOTO RE-TAKE DAY Wed, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>**

Missed the Photo Day? No problem, we are having another session! Photos will appear in the yearbook. In conversation with the Photography company they will ensure that all expected safety protocols will be followed.



**LIBRARY BOOKS** PMSS students love to read! Have you finished reading your book? We'd love you to bring them back! There is a marked box outside the main office as well as access to return your books at the Library.



## **Attention Grads of 2021**

Grad Photo Dates have been set for Nov 30/Dec 1 & Dec 2. Sign-up will be open on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> on the Mountain West Studios website. See the PMSS website for all details.

## **October special dates to remember**

Oct 1 – Yearbooks on sale now!

Oct 5 – PAC meeting - postponed

Oct 7 – Collaboration Date (Late Start)

Gr 10-12 at 9:45 / Gr 8/9 at 10:00)

Oct 12 – **Statutory Holiday Thanksgiving**

Oct 15 – Grad Photo Sign-up (See PMSS Website)

Oct 23 – Non-Instructional Day (no classes)

Oct 28 – Re-Take Photo Day



Check out the sites listed below to help you connect with what's happening at Pitt Meadows Secondary.

❖ **PMSS Website:** [pmss.sd42.ca](http://pmss.sd42.ca)

❖ **PMSS School App:** This app is an important communication tool that parents & students can access easily on their phones. This technology provides daily updates to the calendar and schedule, your timetable, homework notifications, etc., can all be accessed **using 'the app'** Check it out by going to the App Store or Google Play <https://myschoolday.app/download>

❖ **Parent Portal:** <http://parents.sd42.ca>  
This website features District & School announcements; Consent & Policy forms; Field trip forms; Pay School Fees (\$28.00); Pay Yearbook Fees (\$55.00); Grad Fees (cost to be advised); Purchase Pitt Stop Café Lunch Cards \$21.00

❖ **MyClass:** <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass>  
(Student Attendance/Reporting Card Information/Classroom resources and Communicate with Teachers)

❖ **Find us on Twitter:** @Pittsecondary

## **STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS**

These forms are now on the Parent Portal. Please review to ensure we have the correct updated information for your student.



# COVID 19 INFORMATION – THINGS TO KNOW

## BEST PRACTICES:

- Students will be provided 2 reusable masks from our school district. Masks should be regularly cleaned after each use and stored appropriately. May we suggest that your child stores them in a special case or paper bag.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle, and utensils for lunch.
- Please note that all our schools will practice *pack it in and pack out lunch waste*. We should all reduce and reuse before we recycle.
- Students are not able to share supplies. Please ensure that they have their own school supplies for each subject of the quarter. Teachers will not be able to have shareable bins of pens and pencils as per Health and Safety Guidelines.
- Staff and students are not permitted to share food as per Health and Safety Guidelines.



## WEARING A FACE COVERING

Masks are not required within learning groups (cohorts) but are mandatory for secondary students and staff when they are outside of their learning groups and in high-traffic areas where physical distancing cannot be maintained (e.g. in buses, hallways, school office, library and some classrooms). The school district will provide two reusable cloth masks to all secondary students. Staff who interact with multiple learning groups will be required to wear a mask and face shield when they are unable to maintain physical distancing.

## VENTILATION AND ENHANCED CLEANING AND DISINFECTION ROUTINES

Ventilation systems in all school district facilities will meet **WorkSafeBC** requirements, and all air filters will be replaced on a regular basis. All schools will be cleaned in accordance with the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings. General cleaning (including single-use surfaces like student desks) will occur once every 24 hours, while frequently touched surfaces as well as all shared equipment, appliances, manipulatives, and tools, will be cleaned and disinfected twice every 24 hours. The school district has hired additional custodians to meet the demands of these enhanced cleaning routines

## DAILY HEALTH SELF-ASSESSMENT

Everyone entering the school environment is expected to do a Daily Health Assessment. This is a personal review of the signs and symptoms of Covid - 19.

It is not necessary to print or submit. Further detailed information can be located on the SD42 website.

Please review the form in the attached link: [Daily-Health-Assessment-Checklist](#)

## SYMPTOMS / ILLNESS

The BCCDC guidelines for schools are mandatory. If a student, staff member or any other adult has any symptoms of a cold, influenza, COVID-19, or any other infectious respiratory disease, they must not enter the school. <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/symptoms>

Students, staff members and any other adult must stay home and self-isolate if they have:

- ❖ Travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days
- ❖ Identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak
  - ❖ This includes the children of essential service workers.

## AS PER PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE PROTOCOL IF A STUDENT/STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS OF THIS ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school, schools should:

- ❖ Provide the student/staff with a non-medical mask if they don't have one (exceptions should be made for students/staff who cannot wear masks for medical and/or disability-related reasons)
- ❖ Provide the student/staff with a space where they can wait comfortably that is separated from others.
  - The student is to be supervised and cared for, when separated.
- ❖ Make arrangements for the student/staff to go home as soon as possible.
  - Contact the student's parent/caregiver with a request to have their child picked up as soon as possible
- ❖ Clean and disinfect the areas the student/staff used.
- ❖ Encourage the student/staff to seek assessment by a health-care provider.
- ❖ Request that the student/staff stay home until COVID-19 has been excluded and symptoms have resolved.

Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness should not return to school until they have been assessed by a health-care provider to excluded COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved.

Schools and school districts should notify their local medical health officer if staff and or student absenteeism exceeds 10% of regular attendance, to help with the early identification of clusters or outbreaks.

## PROTOCOL IN THE EVENT OF A CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE IN A SCHOOL

If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, and were potentially infectious while they were at school:

- Public health will perform an investigation to determine if there were any potential close contacts within the school.
  - To learn more about contact tracing visit the [BCCDC.ca](http://www.bccdc.ca)
  - Students and staff who have interacted with the confirmed case may be asked to stay home while public health completes their investigation.
- If it is determined that there are close contacts within the school, public health will notify the school administrators to request class and bus lists to assist with contact tracing and provide guidance on what steps should be taken.
- Public health may then:
  - Recommend 14-day isolation if necessary (for confirmed close contacts)
  - Recommend monitoring for symptoms if necessary
  - Provide follow-up recommendations if necessary
- Schools must continue to provide learning support to students required to self-isolate
- Together, schools/school districts and public health officials will determine if any other actions are necessary.

## DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

All parents, guardians, and/or caregivers **MUST** conduct a Daily Health Assessment of their child(ren) before sending them to school. Keep this checklist in a well-frequented area (like your kitchen) and incorporate the assessment into your morning routine before leaving for school.

| 1. Key Symptoms of Illness          |   | Do you have any of the following new key symptoms?<br>Please circle ONE for each line. |    |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|----|
| Fever                               |   | YES  | NO |
| Chills                              |   | YES  | NO |
| Cough or worsening of chronic cough |   | YES  | NO |
| Shortness of breath                 |   | YES  | NO |
| Loss of sense of smell or taste     |   | YES  | NO |
| Diarrhea                            |   | YES  | NO |
| Nausea and vomiting                 |   | YES  | NO |
| 2. International Travel             | Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days? | YES  | NO |
| 3. Confirmed Contact                | Are you confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19  | YES  | NO |

If you answered “YES” to one of the questions included under ‘Key Symptoms of Illness’ (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered “YES” to two or more of the questions included under ‘Symptoms of Illness’ or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

### When a COVID-19 test is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 test is **recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough. If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to school when symptoms improve and you feel well enough.

Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19). If you answered “YES” to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

A health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor’s note) should not be required to confirm the health status of any individual.