

## THOMAS HANEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

Member of the Canadian Coalition of Self-Directed Learning
Principal: Mr. Grant Frend
Vice Principals: Mr. Wayne Chow / Mrs. Andrea Clayton

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August 26th, 2020

On July  $29^{th}$  2020 the BC Ministry of Education released the K-12 Education Restart Plan to school districts. Upon release of this plan, we have been working to re-build our timetable as well as implementing extensive health and safety measures following the guidelines set forth by BCCDC, WorksafeBC, and the Ministry of Education.

We have been working to create a plan that provides the necessary safety structures, but also retains elements of the self-direction and self-management that are the foundation of the THSS model. This includes regular opportunities for students in grades 11 and 12 to work from home. Our school will be moving to a quarter system where students take 2 courses at a time for 10 weeks. With our grade 11 and 12 students we will utilize a blended learning model which is something our students are used to. For many of our academic courses, each student will have <u>one</u> set class a week in school with the teacher and the remainder of time spent in blended learning at home, including one additional online set class. Some courses will require more time in a learning space ie shops, computer labs etc, and we will work with staff to determine the appropriate amount of in-school vs. blended instruction for these courses; this would likely mean 2 meetings per week. Senior students who are in the building but not assigned to a class will be assigned a seat by administration in a work space. Students in these spaces will be a minimum of 6 feet apart and be required to wear a mask.

Senior Timetable/Bell Schedule

There will be staggered start/lunch/end times for our students by grade. Our senior student schedule is below:

Courses running in Block A will be in learning groups. Classes in Block B and Options will be mixed learning groups so these smaller student groups will be required to wear masks and be required to maintain 6 feet of physical distancing. We had originally tried to have blocks A and B in learning groups, but we encountered numerous issues while hand timetabling students that would have impacted student choice of electives.

1st Bell	8:25
Block A	8:30- 10:10
Block B	10:15-11:55
Lunch	11:55-12:30
Options Block 1	12:35-1:35
Options Block 2	1:40-2:40

## Other changes include:

- Assigned entry/exit points for all students for school arrival/departure
- Clear handwashing protocols
- Students will be required to wear a non-surgical mask in common areas of the school ie in hallways, when entering/exiting the school etc. SD 42 will provide a mask for every member of our community.
- Hallways will have a designated traffic flow with markings
- All water fountains are closed; students are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles
- There will no distribution of lockers for student use as this reduces hallway congestion and lockers would need to be disinfected daily if used
- If students stay for lunch, lunch will be eaten:
  - o In their cohort classroom or
  - Outside, but 6 feet apart from students not in their cohort
- Our cafeteria will be open and will be following all food service WorksafeBC and CDC recommendations.
- We have made changes to the school ventilation system improving filtration, increasing air flow and increasing active system time

There will be additional communication from the school over the coming week, including information about our senior student orientation date/time. The primary focus of this orientation will be on our health and safety measures and our expectations for students. Student timetables will be ready for viewing in student MyClass accounts on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

Our plans continue to evolve, and I ask that you please check the Parent Portal regularly for up-to-date information. Please note we have launched a new website (schools.sd42.ca/thss) and plan on updating the information regularly.

I thank you advance for your patience and support as we work through the challenges this year's school start up presents us.

Sincerely,

Grant Frend Principal