

May 29, 2020

Dear DCS Families,

We look forward to welcoming many students back to school on a part-time basis next week, as well as continuing to work remotely with families who have decided to remain home in June. Approximately 70% of families have made the decision to return to school in June. Whatever your decision, we value your presence in the DCS community and we look forward to ending the school year positively.

Families who are returning to school next week should have received an email, text or phone call from the school confirming your child's schedule. If you have not heard from us or may have missed the message, please contact the school office.

Included in this link you'll find the health and safety plans that are in place at DCS, which may expand upon the two orientation videos we've provided this past week from Mr. Terpstra and one of our amazing secondary students, Lakota.

Many of you have been asking what September may look like. Although there are no guarantees, we do expect September to look more "normal" than June with safety protocols continuing. Our understanding is that the BC Government's hope is to have students back to school fully or most of the time in September. At DCS, we are planning for a full return, with the possibility that we may also see "most" students at school "most" of the time.

Regarding athletics, music, and theatre programs, we expect that these programs will be running in the fall, although there may be some modifications to how they run in an effort to lower health risks. There is recognition from both DCS and the BC Government that these programs contribute significantly to the overall health and wellness of our children. Secondary school athletics associations are working hard to adapt to COVID-19 times so that there can be a safe resumption of school sports in the fall.

The health of our kids and communities is obviously the key priority as we look to re-open schools both now and in September. No one can completely eliminate all risks; however, we are working hard to reduce risks to levels that are deemed very safe, based on guidelines provided to schools by the government, while also balancing the need to support the mental, social and emotional health of our children.

In all of this, we are reminded that God continues to impact lives in positive and powerful ways. We are thankful for your part in the DCS community. We pray that God will sustain your family during these times, remove fear, and bring you closer to Him. Please let us know if the school can be of support to you or your family.

Sincerely, Jeremy Tinsley Principal