



Hawthorne Elementary School

Office Hours: 8:30 am -3:30 pm

Principal: Mr. J. Hope Vice-Principal Ms. B. Bryan

Administrative Assistants: Ms. W Hunt and Ms. D Richardson

Twitter @ElemHawthorne

January 13, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Hawthorne Parents and Guardians,

The first week back after an extended break has gone quite well. We have experienced only a few staffing shortfalls this week and have been able to adjust internally. The priority is to ensure every classroom has a teacher which means we may have to redistribute our gym/library staff, learning support staff, and school administration to cover teaching duties. These are all temporary arrangements that we look at on a day-to-day basis with the goal of distributing the potential reduction of services across the school and not negatively impacting one group of students over another.

I have been circulating the school each day spot-checking for compliance with the safety measures. The staff and students have been doing an excellent job of putting the plans into action. I want to thank the parent community for completing the Daily Health Check and keeping sick kids at home. Also a big thank you to parents for ensuring the kids come with a supply of well-fitting masks and are reinforcing the need to follow the health and safety rules along with the Hawthorne rules of "Take Care of Self, Take Care of Others, Take Care of This Place".

J. Hope
Principal

COVID Update

The plans in place for schools are based on a multi-layer approach to provide the best protection possible to keep students and staff healthy. In addition to recommended vaccination, the main safety measures in place are:

- 1) [Daily Health Checks](#) for staff and students
- 2) Keeping students (and staff) at home if there is any sign of any illness
- 3) Sanitization of frequently touched surfaces
- 4) Hand hygiene which includes hand sanitizers and washing with soap and water
- 5) Mandatory mask wearing for all staff and K-12 students
- 6) Any public health measures put in place by Medical Health Officers (including any that may be implemented, at their discretion, onto specific communities, groups of schools, individual schools, or school districts if needed)
- 7) Limitation of visitors to the school
- 8) Directional arrows in halls and rooms to direct flow of traffic to reduce congestion
- 9) Students will be spaced out as much as possible from one another in the classroom and where possible all students will sit facing the same direction
- 10) All meetings will take place virtually to avoid in-person meetings when possible
- 11) Occupancy limits for common staff spaces
- 12) Temporary cessation of most extra-curricular activities
- 13) Temporary cessation of hot lunch days
- 14) Students lining up in designated areas outside their classrooms for entering the school
- 15) Staggered access to cloakroom areas during transition times in each pod
- 16) Parents maintain as much distance as possible from other parents and students during pick up and drop off and head home right away
- 17) Parents please have alternate people available to pick up children if they become ill at school

For some additional information, please see the [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) website.

As mentioned earlier, individual notification letters for exposures are not happening in schools. Instead, attendance is monitored and an increased level of absenteeism will trigger a response, *if the absences are due to illness*. **Please help us keep accurate information by giving a reason (illness, vacation, appointment etc.) when calling in a student absence as that is what drives the decision to notify health authorities.**

The guidelines are being frequently revisited and we will keep the community advised of changes as we implement them. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and understanding as we guide the school through these unprecedented times.

Change of Clothes

Our school grounds are a wet, muddy mess in the winter months. Quite frequently kids will get into puddles that are a little too high for their boots, or they will have a slip in the mud; we've even seen some kids sitting in puddles pretending to have a bath. Points for imagination, but not great for sitting in school all day! Please help us make the kids more comfortable, and reduce the interruptions to parents, by supplying a complete change of dry clothes for your child at school. This would apply to any age as we make calls home for kids from Kindergarten to Grade 7.

Phone System

Our facilities department has been doing some upgrading of the phone system here at Hawthorne. If you are experiencing challenges phoning in, please email our secretary at whunt@deltaschools.ca. We should have all the bugs worked out of the system now. Please note the school phone number doesn't change, it is more of a hardware and software upgrade. Our general office line continues to be 604-946-7601 and the absentee line continues to be 604-946-3055.

Parking

A reminder that the parking in front of the school is very limited. When the school was built 50 years ago, it was unusual for kids to get a ride to school in a car, so the site was not designed for large volumes of traffic. We continue to ask for our community's help and cooperation around vehicle access to the school.

Students are encouraged to walk or ride to school as much as possible, even if it rains. If driving is necessary, we suggest using the Hawthorne Park parking lot, Grove Road or Central Ave to park and then walk into the school site. The paved parking lot remains for staff only and it is not available for drop off or pick up of students. We also recommend arriving at the school, if driving, a little closer to 8:37 when supervision starts in the morning to avoid the morning rush. In the afternoon, it is best to come a few minutes after 3:00 so the bulk of traffic can clear and the students have time to walk from their classrooms to the traffic circle where they can then quickly get in a vehicle as it arrives and depart without delay. We have staff on supervision outside until 3:15.



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EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL FEB. 15
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DIVISION	SEASON	AGE
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TYKE	April-June	7 & 8
NOVICE	April-July	9 & 10
PEE-WEE	April-July	11 & 12
BANTAM	April-July	13 & 14
MIDGET	April-July	15 & 16

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