

NEW SCHOOL INFORMATION – IMPORTANT!

Good day, everyone!

We are now rapidly approaching our move date to the new school. We hope you are as excited as we are!

The schedule we have indicated below is tentative, as usual, mainly because construction time lines are difficult to predict and thus exact days are hard to pin down. We want to make sure you are in the loop now because there are two move days, as you will notice below, that will require your cooperation.

It has been close to four years since we started this process and it looks like we are almost there. The school is 90% finished, with just the gym floor, some painting, and flooring left to do. Caretakers have already started to work in the building. We are just starting to accept delivery of furniture in certain areas of the school. I should, however, warn you of one thing created by factors that we could not control - Namely, there are some things that will not get done in time, most due to purchasing delays. For example, there will be a smart board in every classroom, but they have yet to be delivered and also take a considerable amount of time to install. Each classroom will have a sound system and they have not even been ordered yet. There will be other things like this as well.

We have an extensive furniture and equipment budget and have saved a substantial amount so that when we get in to the school we have additional funds to cope with immediate needs. You will notice virtually everything inside the building will be brand new, which is really great news when you think long term.

Final details of busing have yet to be fully addressed but you should know that there will be busing from HSS to CES in the morning and back in the afternoon. For example, in the morning, buses will arrive at their usual times at HSS. Bus students heading to CES will simply stay on their bus while those CES students that live close to HSS will have the opportunity to board a bus at HSS and join bus students for the ride to the new school. Those who choose this option will also board the assigned bus after school at CES for the ride back to HSS. We will send out notification on how this will work and a permission form for town students, at some point before we open. Please note that unless you sign up for this service, you can not use the “shuttle” to and from CES/HSS. There will be no exceptions to this. Bell times will change for CES (slightly later start/earlier dismissal for CES, but bells at HSS will remain the same).

Parking/Dropping Off/Bus Loop – yes, this should be much better than our present situation. There are two driving loops, one for buses and the other for parents (the “hug and go” lane). There is also some public parking as well. School personnel will be out in full force the first day so we can establish routines right away. These routines will be sent out to you before we open. Please observe all signage – we need to make sure that safety is our first priority.

Well, here is the tentative schedule:

- School construction is due to finish at the end of February or thereabouts.
- A “blow out” period of three weeks will then take place (to get rid of smells, etc) – this is part of an environmental school program, called LEEDS – this takes us to around the third week in March.
- March 22-24 – these days will be used to move boxes, etc. over to the new school (our maintenance department will help us).
- **March 25/26 - In addition, as has been the custom for past new school openings, Chinook’s Edge School Division has granted us two school days to help in moving, unpacking and setting up the school. These days would normally be instructional days (with students), but you will need to keep your children home on these two days. So, again tentatively, March 25/26 will now be non school days for students.**
- The new school will likely open Monday, March 29.

We will send out other newsletters (in agendas) with updates as we get closer to the move in (eg. new bell schedule, confirming two days mentioned above, busing, etc).

I do hope we can all work together to make this move as enjoyable and efficient for everyone as possible. The good news is we have a brand new school to move into.

Stay tuned!