



## School District No.59 (Peace River South)

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September 8, 2020

Dear Students:

(Parents/Caregivers please direct your child to read this or read it to them. Thank you!)

Welcome Back!

We have finally arrived at our first week back to school. For some of you this is your first time back since before Spring Break. We are excited to see you and we have missed you. We can't wait to show you our new way of doing things. You probably already know that your school will look different on the inside and some daily routines will change. You may have specific entrances to go to, different breaks and lunch times, and you may be told that you have to stay in a certain area while using the playground. Even though things will be different, I know that you will adapt to these changes and still have fun while at school. Plus, you may even find that you like some of these new rules, because with less students on the playground, you might even get more time to spend on your favourite equipment or playing your favourite games.

You are now in a learning group or cohort. These two terms mean the same thing. This is a group of people you are going to be spending a lot of time with when you are at school. Your teacher is in your cohort and some educational assistants may be in your cohort as well. It is important that all of you go through your health check list before you come to school. If you are feeling sick, you must stay at home. This keeps everyone safe. You may have other teachers come to teach you gym, music, French, or something else, and because they are not in your cohort, they will distance from you or wear a mask. Please respect their space.

One thing you will really notice is the amount of hand sanitizer you will be putting on your hands, or the amount of times you wash your hands. In the past, we probably didn't keep our hands as clean as we could have, so you will notice it more now. You will hear the adults telling you to practice good hand hygiene, and this is what they mean. A good habit to start practicing is not touching your face. This makes sure that if a germ does get on your hand, you never put it on your face.

If you are going to high school, you will be getting a new timetable this week. These timetables were created to put you in new learning cohorts and minimize the amount of people you come in contact with when you are at school. Our goal is to have you in your learning cohort most of the day. However, we know times may come up when you are outside of your cohort. When that happens, we are asking you to physically distance and if you cannot, then put on a mask that we have supplied you. This will help keep all the people in your cohort safe.

If you or your parents still have questions or concerns, please contact your school directly.

Try to get back on a good sleep routine, and we are so excited to see you Thursday!

Christy Fennell, Superintendent