



County Central High School

Box 390, 504 – 4th Avenue South

Vulcan, Alberta T0L 2B0

Phone: (403) 485-2223 Fax: (403) 485-2959



Exceptional Education

Principal: Ms. Leanne Hellman, B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A., M.Sc.

Vice-principal: Mr. Donauvon Monts, B.Ed.

August 15th, 2022

Dear parents & guardians:

As the start of a new school year approaches, I'd like to share some important information with you about start-up and what the new year will look like for our students. In an effort to help students ease back into the building after their summer break, we will be having a staggered start to the school year:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| → Grades 7 & 10 | Tuesday, August 30th |
| → Grades 8 & 11 | Wednesday, August 31st |
| → Grades 9 & 12 | Thursday, September 1st |
| → All Students in Class | Friday, September 2nd |

Over the first three days, students will come to school for one day as per the above schedule. All students will return to regular classes together on Friday, September 2nd. It is our hope that this schedule will allow us to go over expectations for students in smaller groups, and will allow us to provide a proper orientation for our new students - especially our Grade 7s and new Grade 10s.

Upon arrival at the school during the staggered start, students are asked to report to the CRC where we will introduce staff members and hand out timetables. Students will then head to their first classes. Please note that these first three days are full days and that teachers will be starting their courses. Once in class our first priority will be to get an understanding of where each student is in relation to the curricular outcomes, and determine which outcomes may need to be revisited and reviewed. We will also be distributing textbooks and helping students ensure they are able to log into our Chromebooks and to access the guest wifi with their own devices, and students will have their lockers assigned to them.

Any students in Grades 10-12 wishing to make a timetable change or needing to fill empty blocks are asked to pick up a Course Change Request Form from the Main Office, complete the form, and hand it into the Main Office. Students will then be called down one at a time to meet with an administrator.

This same process applies to students wishing to enroll in an online course through Palliser Beyond Borders. For the sake of accurate student counts, we request that students waiting for a course change attend the classes that are listed on their schedules until a new schedule has been provided.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know about some changes we are making to our operations this year. Firstly, the Palliser School Division has switched our student information system from Powerschool to a program called Edsembli. This program will be new for all of us, and it will take some time to get used to it. There is a parent portal that will be made available once the school year is underway. We will email login information and user instructions to our families once the system is up and running.

Secondly, we are continuing to offer our CHAT (Community-Building, Homework, and Tutorial) period Monday through Thursday, but we will now be offering it at the end of the day. This change has been made in consultation with students, parents, and staff. Our thinking is that students will have been to each of their classes during the day and can then make better decisions as to what they need to focus on during CHAT and which teachers they need to see.

Another change is that - while students in Grade 12 will still be able to apply for a CHAT exemption if they have good attendance records, no missing work, and are on track to graduate - we will be requiring them to attend CHAT one day a week this year. We have found that CHAT can be a valuable time for graduation planning, post-secondary planning, and having regular check-ins with our seniors.

Lastly, we will no longer be distributing locks to all students at the beginning of the year. Instead, students who wish to have a lock may request one from the office. Locks used for school lockers must be provided by the school - students are not permitted to bring their own locks to school. We strongly encourage all students to lock their lockers in order to keep their belongings safe and secure.

We have four new staff members joining our team this year:

- *Mrs. Wendy McAdam will be teaching Senior English Language Arts*
- *Mr. Josh Holloway will be teaching Biology and Science*
- *Ms. Taylor MacLeod will be teaching Junior Social Studies*

You can check out our new staff members' bios on the school website shortly, and we look forward to introducing them to you at our "Meet the Teacher Night" in September.

While we are looking forward to starting a new school year with minimal COVID-19 safety measures in place, it is still imperative that students stay home from school if they are unwell. If your child has any symptoms, we ask that you keep them home until they are feeling better. Any students who become unwell while at school will be asked to go home. Our school will continue with our enhanced cleaning protocols and recommend students continue to practice good hand hygiene and physical distancing, and while masking is no longer required, we support any students or staff members who wish to continue wearing a mask while at school.

Our updated school calendar and new bell schedule can be found on the school's [website](#). I sincerely appreciate your help with getting the new year underway. If you have any questions about our 2022-2023 school start up, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

Leanne Hellman

Helpful Links from our Website:

[School Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[Junior High Supply List](#)

[Senior High Supply List](#)