



School District No. 51 (Boundary)

Box 640, 1021 Central Avenue

Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0

PHONE: 250-442-8258 FAX: 250-442-8800

Website: www.sd51.bc.ca

August 17, 2020

Dear Families:

We are writing today to provide an update on SD51's Restart Plans for September. We recognize that many parents, staff and students are feeling anxious about school startup. Our hope is to alleviate some of your concerns by sharing information as it becomes available from the Ministry of Education.

As you have heard, we are making plans to have a full student return to schools in September using a learning group (cohort) model. The most recent update from the Ministry of Education is that student return will be delayed by at least two days. Students will report to schools on Thursday, Sept. 10 or Friday, Sept. 11 for their welcoming and safety orientation sessions. Regular learning will commence on Monday, Sept 14. Families will receive specific information about return to school plans from your child's school Principal in the first week of September.

Timelines

- August 21 – school districts are required to submit their Restart Plans to government for review and approval.
- August 26 – school districts must make plans public via their district and school websites and Facebooks.
- August 27 – public forum at 5:30 pm about school Restart with Trustees and SD51 Management Team via ZOOM videoconferencing.
- September 8 & 9 – school staff return to their schools.
- September 10 & 11 – gradual return of students.

We know many families have questions about what the return to school will look like. SD51 is working on a plan that ensures alignment to Provincial health and safety guidelines. Our direction for school opening is guided by the Ministry of Education and Dr. Bonnie Henry. We are working to establish plans to maximize a safe return including things like:

- Classroom organization within learning groups (cohorts);
- Heightened sanitization protocols;
- Controlled student movement in common areas including directional arrows/signage and staggered breaks & transition times;
- School bus protocols.

We will continue to post updates on our website www.sd51.bc.ca and SD51 Facebook.

To learn more about what the return to class will look like, the provincial government has created a website that I encourage you to visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school>

Sincerely,

Ken Minette,
Superintendent SD51