

Pierrefonds Community High School

Principal's update to Parents

January 15th, 2021



Health & Safety

It is understandable that our community is anxious about the return to school on Monday January 18th. I feel that our staff and students worked well together in the Fall to keep each other as safe as possible and considering the size of the school did a good job at preventing infection within the school. The small number of isolated cases we managed in the Fall due to community or family infection did not create an outbreak within the school.

I am conscious that the increase in the number of cases in the Montreal area means that we have to be extremely vigilant and continue to work together as a community to protect each other. The administrative team will be implementing some minor changes to our school routine and procedures in order to keep each other safe.

In this newsletter, I have outlined the main points that I encourage you to share with your children before their return to school on January 18th. Administration will be visiting classes on Monday and Tuesday morning to reinforce these rules and expectations.

Covid symptoms and attendance

If your child is demonstrating Covid like symptoms they are expected to remain at home. The Regional Public Health Authority is now recommending that children displaying symptoms get tested as soon as possible.

The Public Health Authority has indicated that students should isolate if:

- They received a positive test result
- Your child is waiting to get tested or waiting for a test result
- Your child was in contact with someone who tested positive for Covid-19
- Your child has returned from abroad (14 day isolation period)
- A member of the family bubble has symptoms and is waiting for a result

It is essential that you inform the school immediately if our child has symptoms or has tested positive. The reporting of absence by parents is critical at this time.

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Student expectations

- To sanitize hands upon entry to the building and classrooms
- To maintain social distancing
- To wear a procedural mask on the school bus and school grounds
- To respect the rules and procedures put in place to keep everyone safe



Procedural masks

Students are now expected to wear a procedural mask on the **school bus** and upon entry to the school grounds.

Students will be provided with procedural masks by their **period one teacher and the period following lunch**. Additional procedural masks will be available for students should they need to replace a mask during the school day.

Procedural masks may be removed when directed to do so in Physical Education classes if social distancing can be respected. Students are permitted to wear their mask throughout PE classes, and may only remove them when directed to do so by the teacher.

Procedural masks may be removed whilst eating, students may only eat in the building:

- When sat in their classroom at their desk during breaks
- When sat at their designated homeroom table in the cafeteria

Students and staff must wear their procedural mask during class and whilst moving throughout the building and on school grounds.

Arrival and lockers

Students are not permitted to enter the building before 7:30am.

Students will now enter the building via the bus entrance, the car drop off entrance or the main reception entrance. The door that Grade 7 students previously used in their hallway will now be closed.

Upon arrival at school all students are expected to report to their homeroom classroom after placing their belongings in their locker.

Individual assigned lockers may be used to store winter boots and jackets by students, school work and valuable belongings should be brought to class. Students do not have access to lockers during

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class time. Locks are not permitted on lockers for sanitary reasons and to speed the transition for groups of students in those areas.

Breaks

We encourage students to remain in their classroom during breaks. They have the option to go to the washroom, go to their designated grade level zone or outside. The student zones have not changed.

Lunch

We have reconfigured the layout of the cafeteria to ensure students have sufficient space to sit and eat their lunch. We will be showing the students where their designated tables are in the cafeteria. We expect students to sit at their designated tables to eat.

Our school cafeteria remains closed. We started a Lunch Club before the holidays and provided packed lunches to students who were in need of a lunch. If your child would benefit from having a free packed lunch I would be happy to help you and your family out at this difficult time and provide this to them. Please reach out to myself or any staff member and we will organize this for your child.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club serves a nutritious breakfast each morning from 7:30 - 7:45am in the cafeteria and Grade 7 zone.



YMCA - Got your back!

This free service which some of our students have used is Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm at the YMCA's Teen Zone they provide:

- a safe space that is conducive to academic activities with access to technology;
- supervision by a qualified counsellor, who encourages motivation and helps students develop their own working methods;
- and access to selected recreational equipment during breaks and at lunch.

For more information, contact Teen Zone Coordinator: viral.desai@ymcaquebec.org



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Academic Support Programs

We will be restarting our after school Academic Support Programs (by invite only) on January 26th. Teachers will recommend students for the second session of the Academic Support Programs.

Dress Code

Following the extended break from school, it is important that students remember to come dressed appropriately for school. I consider school their place of work and expect a certain standard of dress, this does not include ripped clothing nor wearing hoods or hats inside the building.

Evaluation

Term One report cards will be released on the Mozaik Portal on Friday January 22nd.

The Minister Education has announced that all end of year Ministry exams have been cancelled this year. We are awaiting confirmation to the weighting of each term and any in school evaluations that may take place.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

We will be holding virtual interviews on Thursday February 4th. We will start scheduling sessions by teacher invitation only, prioritizing students who were unsuccessful in term one. We will then open any remaining time slots to parents interested in meeting with the teacher.

Important School Dates

Monday January 25th - LBPSB PED day

Thursday February 4th - Interviews 3:00 - 5:00 and 6:00 - 8:00pm

Friday February 5th - PCHS PED day

Monday February 8th - LBPSB PED day

Wednesday February 10th - Late entry day

Monday February 15th - LBPSB PED day



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Schedule

Here is the schedule for the month of January and February, please make note of the change for January 29th: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HIBW7_gr9GScpbPd7S5v6TtgQcQZrah8/view?usp=sharing

Community Learning Center

We have launched our new CLC website and social media pages, please take the opportunity to learn about and connect with our CLC:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PCHSCommunityLearningCentre>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pchs.clc/>

Website: <https://sites.google.com/lbpearson.ca/pchs-clc/clc-home>

Chromebooks

Grade 7 & 8 students who borrowed a school chromebook for online learning must return it on January 18th to the office.

Contact us

If you have any questions feel free to contact the Administrative Team:

Sec. 1 & 2 - Mr. Swirsky bswirsky@lbpsb.qc.ca

Sec 3 & 4 - Mr. Oliphant poliphant@lbpsb.qc.ca

Sec 5 & Alt. Programs - Ms. Desbiens-Leighton adesbiensleighton@lbpsb.qc.ca

CFER & International Students - Mr. Hayter nhayter@lbpsb.qc.ca

Help and support

The staff at PCHS are committed to helping PCHS families during these difficult times. If your family or a member of our school community is in need of support, whether this be food, clothing, financial or mental health support please let us know. We will work with our CLC and community partners to help as much as we can.