



## **FH COLLINS SECONDARY SCHOOL**

1001 Lewes Blvd.  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 3J1

**Phone: 667-8665**

**Fax: 393-6385**

### **SCHOOL NEWSLETTER November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

We are in very interesting times: there was a closely watched election in the United States at the beginning of the month, travel restrictions have changed for us in the Yukon, and we are watching the second wave of Covid hit many parts of the world, including here in the Canadian north. On a personal level, in addition to monitoring our situation here in the Yukon, my family has been closely watching the outbreak in Nunavut, particularly in the town of Arviat: I lived and worked in Arviat for twelve years, and this is my wife's hometown. We are keeping family and friends in our thoughts as this virus runs through the town.

As the second wave of Covid-19 hits the north, we must do our part to ensure that everyone remains safe and healthy. The Chief Medical Officer has now made masks required in all public spaces in schools. In this newsletter, I have included the protocols for required mask use at FH Collins. I am confident that we will all do our part to keep each other safe. Recently, I sent out correspondence from the Department about responding to, and reporting, cases of Covid if and when they reach schools. I have included this information again in this newsletter. With the recent announcement that the MAD program is relocated back to the Wood St campus, we have revised our Covid Operational Plan to reflect this; we have also included changes since the beginning of the year. You can find this on our website: [www.fhcollins.ca](http://www.fhcollins.ca).

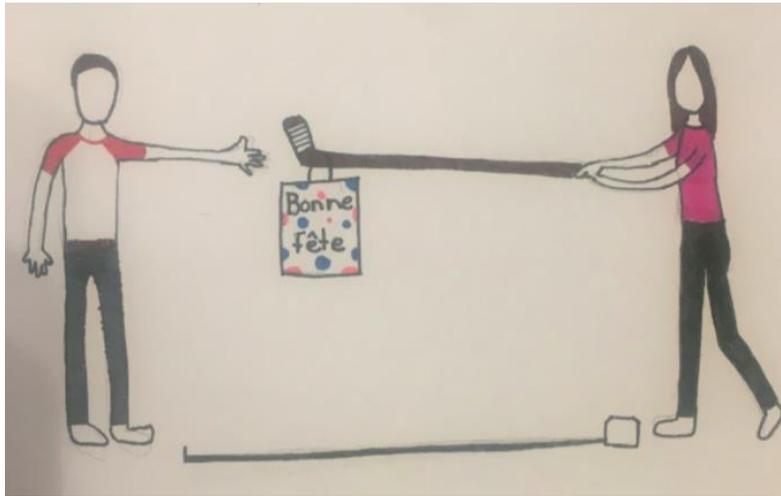
The Department has also announced that, for semester 2, we will maintain the same blended learning model that is in place for semester 1 for grades 10-12. In second semester, students with the last name M-Z will be in the morning, and students with the last names A-L will be in the afternoon.

Finally, I want to give a big shout out to all staff for doing such an amazing job at making this year as successful as possible in the middle of a pandemic. Please take send a quick note to your child's teachers to acknowledge the hard work that they are doing. They truly are doing their best to make the best tasting lemonade out of the lemons that we all have been handed in this pandemic.

Sincerely,



Jay Thomas, principal



### **New Staff at FH Collins**

I am pleased to announce that Amber Anderson and John Plante have joined the FH Collins team at the Wood St campus. Amber is a grade 8 generalist teacher, and John is a grade 8 options and Core French teacher.



In addition, I am also pleased to introduce Annie Broadhurst as the new grade 9 French Immersion math/ science/ PE teacher.



### **Required Mask Use at FH Collins**



### *Strategies to Be Used*

We will take the approach of compassion, integrity, and accountability

- Masks will be available in all classrooms for students who need one.
- Students are asked to get their own mask.
- Students will now make it part of their end of class routine to put on their masks in the same way that they make packing up books and binders.
- Students will not be permitted to leave their classroom until they have put their masks on.
- Admin and those on duty in hallways will walk around with boxes of masks and enforce the mask requirement to those not wearing masks.

- Students will be required to put their mask on prior to entering the building.
- Students will be asked to put a mask on by all staff if they are not wearing one.
- We will take an educational approach, which includes posters & reminders. Videos will be shown in class to students.

### *Roles of Students*

Everybody must do their part to make this successful:

- We will all be role models for each other on how to properly wear masks, which is covering chin to nose in all public spaces.
- We will respect each other's safety by wearing a mask.
- Everyone must build it into their practice and routines.
- Everyone must respect this new requirement.

### *Consequences*

#### Reminders

- We will take a default "reminder" approach to students who are not wearing masks. If the student puts the mask on after we remind them, we consider the issue resolved. We are confident that the significant majority of students will fall in this category.

#### Refusal/ Disrespectful Behaviour

- For students who refuse to wear a mask after being asked by a staff member, the issue will be brought to admin's attention.
- If a student puts a mask after admin is involved, a reminder to be respectful and put the mask on will suffice.
- Students who continuously refuse to wear a mask after being asked, but adhere to wearing a mask after admin becomes involved, will follow an escalation of progressive consequences,, which includes an educational detention, contacting parents, in-school suspension, etc.
- Admin will create a Google doc to track these users.
- Students who out and out refuse to wear a mask even after admin has gotten involved will be sent home immediately. Prior to a student returning, the student must attend a meeting with their parent with admin.

### **Roles and Responsibilities if a COVID-19 Case is Connected to a School**

#### Yukon Communicable Disease Control and Chief Medical Officer of Health

- Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC) receives COVID-19 test results.
- YCDC notifies the patient if there is a positive result.

- YCDC, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, investigate the case. This includes starting the contact tracing process by contacting any close contacts and providing direction on who may have to stay home and self-isolate.
- YCDC and the Chief Medical Officer of Health notify the Department of Education's Deputy Minister, Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of Schools and Student Services and the school administration on a confidential basis and makes recommendations on impacts to school operations.
- YCDC and the Chief Medical Officer of Health also work with the Chief and Council of the local First Nation and the Mayor in the community to ensure they are involved.

#### Department of Education Central Administration Staff

- The Deputy Minister and ADM of Schools and Student Services may receive confidential information from YCDC and Chief Medical Officer of Health if there is a positive case connected to a school.
- The ADM of Schools and Student Services and YCDC advise the school administration.
- The ADM of Schools and Student Services works with school administration to ensure any YCDC recommendations are implemented.

#### School Administration

- School administration ensures YCDC recommendations are implemented at the school.
- School administration **does not notify** other students, staff or families. YCDC directly notifies those who may be affected.
- School administration **does not** need to contact YCDC if a student, staff or parent says they or a student has COVID-19. YCDC will contact school administration if there is a confirmed case connected to their school.

#### **Reminder: Upstairs Tables for Grade 12's Only**

As a reminder, the tables above the atrium are reserved for grade 12 students only. All other students are welcomed to use the study hall or the cubicles outside of the LA room.

These tables are workspaces and are not hang out spots. Students who are working there must wear masks, and students must maintain physical distancing in this area. Students who are working together may slide tables together to maintain distancing.

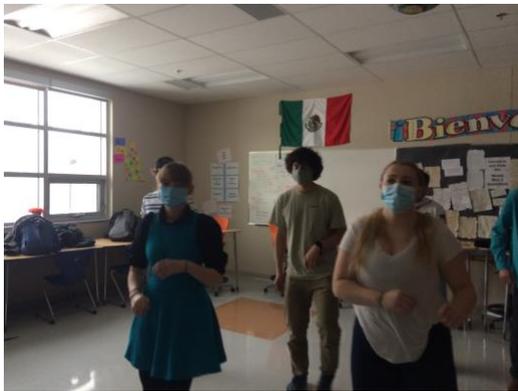
#### **Transportation To & From Extra Curricular Activities**

The following is a message from Standard Bus concerning students taking the school bus to extra-curricular activities at the main FH building:

Due to Covid, Standard Bus will not be able to accommodate transportation to extra-curricular events. Our ridership is specifically from and to their registered stop and on their registered bus. This will help us should we need to do contact tracing for Covid. Specifically, we have a group of students from Wood St jumping on buses to FH on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

### **Grade 12 Career Life Connections**

Our potential Class of 2021 has been participating in numerous activities through their Career and Life Connections program. Here are some photos of some of the activities in which they have been participating:



Latin Dance Class!



Pilates!



Entrepreneurship!

### **Remembrance Day 2020**

This year, we held our Remembrance Day ceremony through our Facebook page. It included student speakers and performers to commemorate the event. Thank you to all of the teachers who helped out with the assembly. Here are some photos of the event.



## Great Volleyball Funday

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, grade 8 students participated in a volleyball fun day at the main FH building. Here are some photos from the event:





### **Some More Great Art**

Our art classes have been producing some more great works of art. Here are some more examples of the work that the art classes are creating. Thanks to Hayley Thiesen for her work with the art students:



### **Important Upcoming Dates**

November 20<sup>th</sup>- PD Day- No Students

November 23<sup>rd</sup>- Required Mask Protocol Is In Effect

December 18<sup>th</sup>- Last day of school before Holidays