



FH COLLINS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER September 4th, 2020

As we begin to build routines in our new learning environment, I want to acknowledge the effort that everyone is making to ensure that the first semester of 2020/21 is as successful as possible. I can see that students are eager to engage with their peers, and are embracing the work in their new courses. I have also been extremely impressed with the efforts that students are making to practice the Safe Six and follow the Covid-19 procedures that we have implemented at our school. Our 2020/21 implementation plans are malleable as issues arise. We will continue to make tweaks and adjustments as needed. We are very grateful for your patience.

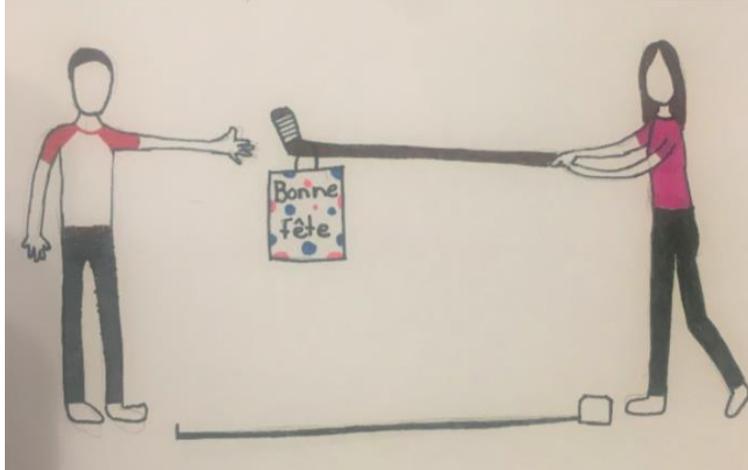
In addition to settling into routines in school, it is extremely important that students and families settle in to routines to accommodate the online portion of learning this semester outside of the building. The expectations for the online learning aspect are NOT the same as what took place in the spring. I have included a brief write up on blended learning in this newsletter. Developing routines for blended learning are skills that will help students prepare for post-secondary learning.

I want to extend a sincere congratulations to the Class of 2020. We are finally able to hold our Cap & Gown ceremony, albeit in a very different setting compared to traditional graduation ceremonies. Students were finally able to gather to celebrate their graduation from high school. We are all very proud of you!

Last year, I highlighted a photo that was created by a student in a Sciences Humaines 10 class (see below). I am going to continue to include it in our newsletters this year, as I truly feel that it illustrates how students are feeling in this environment.

Sincerely,

Jay Thomas, principal



Wood Street Warriors

(from Mike Toews, Vice-principal for Wood St Campus)

Many thanks for all your patience and cooperation. School is well underway and I think we are off to a great start. Please be advised the phone number at Wood St. is 667 8414. If your child is going to be absent please call or email wendy.solonick@gov.yk.ca to excuse the absence. A reminder that lunch is 11:40 – 12:25. To go downtown at lunch, students must have submitted a permission form. Expectation of students is that they are good citizens when downtown and are back at school ready for class at 12:25. Regarding cellphones: responsible cellphone use is encouraged. This means phones are to be used at break and lunch only. Use of cell phones in-class is at the discretion of the teacher, for example to use as a calculator. Improper use of a cellphone will most likely result in confiscation and a phone call home. YOU CAN HELP! Please avoid texting/calling during class time.

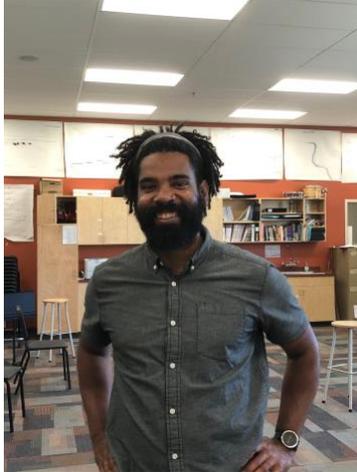
Wood St. Schedule

8:40 – 9:55	A Block
9:55 – 10:05	BREAK – all students outside
10:05 – 10:20	(in B Block class) - SILENT READING or WORK (no phones)
10:20 – 11:40	B Block
11:40 – 12:20	Lunch – Students w. permission may leave school property. All students must leave building at 12:00
12:20 – 1:30	C Block
1:30 – 1:40	BREAK – all students outside
1:40 – 2:45	D Block
2:45 – 3:05	(in D Block class) – SILENT READING or WORK (no Phones)

If you have any concerns about your child's education or well-being at Wood Street, please do not hesitate to call or email: Michael.toews@gov.yk.ca Vice-principal @ Wood St., FHC.

Welcome New (and Returning) Staff!

We are happy to welcome the following new (and returning) staff to FH Collins for 2020/21:



Alex James- Band/ music



Justin Quigley- grade 8



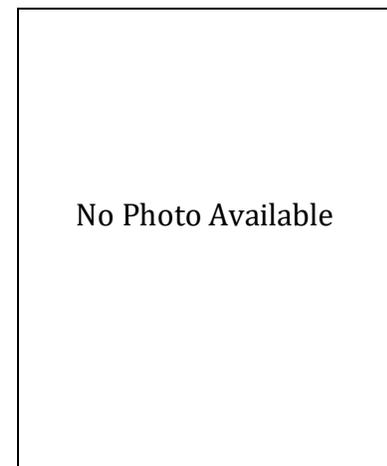
Susan Brooksbank- EA



Maggie O'Connor-Brook- EA



Susie Leaman- Foods



Gilles Menard-
French Immersion

Food Services for Grade 8's & 9's

Lunchtime food services for grade 9's only at this time will begin Thursday September 10th. Students will pre-order their meals and pay when they receive them. Cash or Gift cards are accepted and exact change is appreciated to limit the amount of money handling. The menu is available at www.fhccafeteria.com and pre-orders will be open on Monday September 7th.

Grade 8's at Wood Street will have the opportunity to order a meal for every Friday. Students and staff can pre-order on www.fhccafeteria.com under Wood Street Meals

or by letting the admin at Wood St know by Wednesdays each week. Meals will be \$5.- cash or gift card accepted upon receipt.

Follow @fhccafeteria on Instagram for upcoming meals and treats.

Mental Wellness Supports Available

Jasmine Rosentreter, a Youth Outreach Worker from Health & Social Services, will continue to provide counseling support for youth ages 13-19 at our school. Her focus is on students who have significant barriers to accessing traditional counselling (such as lack of supportive family to attend appointments, substance use & other high risk activities, ambivalence to change, not attending school, etc.), as well as provide short-term drop in counselling for students on Thursday's at the main building. Outreach support will look different for each youth depending on what they need – some may be receiving counselling while others may be supported through activities or skill development.

If a youth does not fit the Outreach criteria, Jasmine will bring the referral to Intake at CYFTT where they will be assessed and put onto a waitlist until a counselor is available.

Blended Learning – Advice for Parents

COVID-19 protocols in Yukon schools may mean that opportunities for teaching approaches that involve close physical contact may need to be limited/modified in the face to face setting.

Also, as Grades 10-12 students are in school with their teachers and classmates for a half day, they may be required to engage in digital activities with technology and online tools when not in school.

Blended learning strategies, working in concert with other experiential / place-based, service-learning activities, enable teachers to maintain student-centred learning approaches and meet curriculum requirements amidst social distancing requirements.

While not in class, teachers may be asking students to:

- Participate/contribute to discussions in online course forum.
- Post evidence (photo, comment, quote, questions) in course forum to show they are engaging in course material.
- Collaborate on assignments with other students using digital tools including Microsoft Word / Google Docs / etc.
- Submit assignments through an online platform (Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams).

- Access course content (video, text, slides, or podcast) that a teacher posts in the class forum.

As a parent you can support us in these efforts by:

- Letting the teacher and/or school administration know if your child is having difficulties accessing the online platforms.
- Checking in with your child regarding their comfort level with digital requirements and forwarding any concerns to the teacher..
- Keep in contact with teachers about your child’s learning progress during the year.

Mask Use at FH

The use of non-medical masks in schools has been recommended by the Chief Medical Officer of Health for students aged 10 and above in situations where physical distancing is not possible. These situations could be:

- Riding on the bus
- In hallways during high traffic times
- Other times when close contact between students or between students and staff occurs

Our school is currently providing disposable masks to any students who require a mask. Non-disposable masks have been ordered, and will be provided once they arrive.

FH Collins is asking for students to please wear masks when they are in the hallways and when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Grade 9

Early Dismissals

As was sent out over the summer, grade 9’s will have an early dismissal every other Wednesday. On these days, grade 9 students are dismissed at 1:39pm. Here are the early dismissal dates for the year:

September 2nd, 16th, 30th
 November 18th
 January 6th, 20th
 March 3rd
 May 12th, 26th

October 14th, 28th
 December 2nd, 16th
 February 3rd, 17th
 April 14th, 28th
 June 9th

These early dismissals are to provide staff with an opportunity to engage in professional development and collaborate with colleagues. Students do not lose any

instructional time with the early dismissals as we have made every other day in the year slightly longer. Students who need to wait for the bus during the early dismissals are welcomed to wait in the study hall and work on homework until their busses arrive.

Lunch

We now have our final numbers of grade 9 students who have permission to leave during lunch time, and who will be staying for lunch at the school. For students who leave during lunch time: it is extremely important that they are back in the building on time for the afternoon. For students who are remaining in the building during lunch: we have designated supervised lunch rooms for students to eat their lunch. From 11:55-12:35, students have the opportunity to go to one of three locations for supervised activities.

Semester 1 Assessment Dates

Here are the assessment and reporting dates for 2020/21:

September 25th- Informal Reports Must Go out by then
October 15th/ 16th- Three- way conferences (format to be determined)
November 5th- Midterm progress reports will be sent out
January 11th- 14th- Exam Week (format to be determined)
January 28th- End of Semester 1 Reports will be sent out

School Photos

School photos for grades 9-12 will take place on October 26th, 27th, and 28th. More information will be provided as we get closer to these dates.

2019/20 Yearbooks on Sale

2019/20 yearbooks are available for sale. They are \$50 each and can be picked up at the office.



Cap and Gown Celebrating Class of 2020

A big congratulations to our Class of 2020! Although not exactly as per tradition, Cap & Gown was celebrated Tuesday August 25th in our gymnasium and was livestreamed for families that could not attend in person. Grad 2020 photos are up and ready. You can access the gallery at www.fhcollinsgrad.com The gallery password is WARRIORS. This gallery will remain live until next June (when it will be replaced by the 2021 grads - hopefully) - so remember to download your images. Here are some of the photos from the ceremony:



Study Hall

Our study hall is open for students in grades 10-12 from 8:15am- 3:30pm every day to work on homework, use computers, receive help from teachers and EA's on assignments or classwork, and study for tests or quizzes. The study hall is also fully accessible during the entire midday break (11:05am-12:45pm).

In addition to the study hall, we also have tables above the atrium reserved for grade 12's who need to do homework. As a reminder, there is only one student per table.



Attendance

FH Collins takes attendance for every period in a day. We have an automated call out to the parents of students who are recorded as having an unexcused absence. Please be sure to call the school, or email the attendance email address, to report an excused absence. This will prevent these calls being unnecessarily made to you.

Track Is Now Officially Open

On Tuesday, September 1st, the track and field on our campus was officially opened. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful facility on our campus, and we are very eager to get out and use it!



Important Upcoming Dates

September 7th- Labour Day (no school)

September 25th- Deadline for you to receive a phone call or email from teachers about progress thus far