



# École Secondaire Robert A. McMath Secondary School

4251 Garry Street, Richmond, British Columbia, V7E 2T9 - T: (604) 718-4050 - F: (604) 718-4051

Email: [mcmath@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:mcmath@sd38.bc.ca) Website: [mcmath.sd38.bc.ca](http://mcmath.sd38.bc.ca)

September 2, 2021

Hello Students and Parents,

A big Wildcat welcome to a new school year! Hope you had a terrific summer with family and friends and were able to enjoy the sunshine safely away from smoke. We're looking forward to having students back, full-time, to reconnect and meet our newest students entering Grade 8.

We are closely following the expectations of the Provincial Health Officer and the Ministry of Education to ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible. We know that going to school, learning, and connecting with friends and teachers are all very important for our students' well-being and we're planning as safe a 'return to normal' as we can.

All students and staff are required to complete a 'mandatory daily health declaration' (see attached) and must stay home if they are feeling unwell. Masks are required indoors. Students will be reminded to wash their hands regularly, or hand-sanitize, and, wherever possible, maintain reasonable physical distancing. All surfaces and high touch areas will be thoroughly cleaned every day. Visitors to the school must sign-in at the main office and it is strongly recommended that visitors phone ahead and make an appointment.

On Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, students will ease back to school with a grade assembly and then homeroom. We'll begin with a welcome in the Large (North) Gym, share important health and safety information, and talk about activities and procedures. Then students will go on to their homerooms to receive their timetables, important forms to be completed, locks and lockers, agenda books and calendars.

Students should arrive to the Large Gym on Tuesday at ...

Grade 9s	9:30 am
Grade 10s	10:00 am
Grade 8s	10:30 am (will be here for about an hour)
Grade 11s	12:30 pm
Grade 12s	1:30 pm

An alphabetical list of students with their homerooms will be posted on our front doors by 4 pm Friday so you can see in advance where you're going after the Gym assembly. For Wednesday through Friday next week, students will follow the schedule below:

8:30-8:45	Homeroom
8:50-10:05	Block A
10:10-11:25	Block B
11:25-11:40	Break
11:40-12:55	Block C
12:55-1:45	Lunch
1:45-3:00	Block D

*Home of the Wildcats*





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Counsellors have been working hard to ensure students are in their requested courses, register new students, and balance classes as best they can. Remember, our timetable is built on students' requests from the Spring. If there is an error or an important change required (perhaps a student completed a course over the summer that we thought they would take in the school year), a Course Correction form can be picked up from the Counselling Centre. The form must be signed by a parent and returned to the Counselling Centre by Friday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Counsellors will make needed changes as soon as possible, as long as space permits.

We will send another email next week with information about the rest of the month and details of Personal Learning Time (PLT). For now, a few dates to keep in mind ...

## KEY SEPTEMBER DATES (\*will be virtual)

Grade 8 Parent Evening*	September 16, 7 pm
School Photo Day	September 21
Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting*	September 21, 7 pm
Meet the Teachers*	September 23
Pro-D Day	September 24
Grade 12 Parent Evening*	September 28, 7 pm
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	September 30

Our government recently passed legislation to make September 30<sup>th</sup> a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. All schools in the Richmond School District will be closed on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This day provides an opportunity for all Canadians to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. This may present itself as a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event. Schools in our district will be engaged in a variety of activities leading up to September 30<sup>th</sup> to reflect on the significance of this day in our community and in our nation.

Thanks for your support as we get going on the 21-22 school year. We're excited to be back and see our students soon! Stay tuned for more information next week.

Sincerely,

Jane McFadyen  
Principal

Home of the Wildcats

