



# NEW WESTMINSTER SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Dear NWSS Families,

We have reached the end of the second week of classes. This has been a huge shift for teachers and students, and we applaud the way in which our staff are supporting each other and the way in which our students are cooperating and adapting to the new schedule and safety measures. It is already very clear that there will be a tremendous amount to learn this year for the students and the adults at NWSS. Having said that, we are encouraged by the start made during this incredibly unusual time. We are also incredibly proud of the resilience and care that all members of our community are exhibiting in support of our students. Finally, we want to thank our NWSS families for their tremendous patience, support, and cooperation.

## **Wearing of Masks and Physical Distancing In Our Community**

Although we have been encouraged by our students' cooperation in wearing masks in school and maintaining social distancing while at school, we still need your continued support in this shared responsibility. We encourage parents to talk to their children about being vigilant with wearing their masks as they arrive to (and move through) the school, keeping their distance from each other, and avoiding physical contact with other students. Furthermore, it is important that these expectations extend beyond school grounds – when students are off-campus and in our community. Our students are representatives of our school and the values that we stand for. We hope that they model those values, respectfully and responsibly, when they are out in our New Westminster community.

## **Course Changes, Changes & Requests**

Counsellors are now looking at balancing courses in Quarters 2, 3 and 4. In order to do this, this may require moving students between courses in various sections to ensure classes in the upcoming quarters are not above required class size limits. *As a result, some students may have changes to their current schedule (i.e. English moved from Quarter 2 to Quarter 3). At this time, we are considering schedules for Quarters 2, 3 and 4 as "Draft Schedules".* Once we are finished balancing, we will redistribute schedules to students by the end of Quarter 1 (for the remaining quarters).

Counsellors will also consider course change requests for Quarters 2, 3 and 4. Counsellors are requesting that students wait until **after October 13<sup>th</sup>** to make an appointment to discuss course change requests. ***We are going to be very limited in the number of changes that we can make to a student's schedule due to learning group restrictions and timetable limitations.***

## **Daily Student Health Check**

The Daily Health Check was updated by the Ministry on Sept 11th. You can find the updated version at:

[https://newwestschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/HealthChecklist\\_Posters\\_FINAL.pdf](https://newwestschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/HealthChecklist_Posters_FINAL.pdf)

Please continue to complete the Daily Health Check prior to attending school. This is an important layer of protection. If your child is sick or not feeling well, please make sure they stay at home. All families are required to acknowledge this responsibility by reviewing and signing off on the agreement posted to Parent Connect.

NWSS Admin Team