



Respect
Safety
Success

Revelstoke Secondary School

P.O. Bag 5100
Revelstoke, British Columbia
Telephone: 250-837-2173

1007 Vernon Ave
V0E 2S0
Fax: 250-837-7164

August 25, 2020

Dear Grade 8 Students and Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the teaching and support staff of RSS, I am happy to welcome you to Revelstoke Secondary School this year. I am sure all of you are excited and maybe a little nervous to come to RSS.

Clearly, the beginning of this school year will be unlike any other we have ever experienced. As such, RSS is following the Public Health Office's guidelines to mitigate risk to students and staff and to promote safety and well-being. One of these guidelines is to restrict unnecessary gatherings in school. Our past practice for our incoming grade 8 students was to host an orientation evening at the school for the students and parents. Unfortunately, due to the safety planning now in place gatherings including parents are not allowed.

As well, the Public Health Office has tasked schools to create 'cohorts' of students to allow mitigation of risk for the public health of BC. We have created a cohort that includes all grade 8s together and will be assigning four teachers to this cohort exclusively to teach them their academic and elective courses. In essence, we've created a "Grade 8 Bubble" that allows the grade 8s to meet in a group. We have, therefore, planned a first day on September 10th that will accomplish the same goals for the students—namely an orientation that facilitates a smooth entry into high school. I will arrange a **ZOOM video call for any interested parents and students on Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:00PM** that will briefly go over orientation topics that would have been discussed at the meeting. An email with a ZOOM invitation will be sent to all grade 8 parents/guardians.

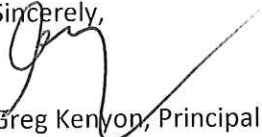
Grade 8 students will come to RSS at 9:30 on September 10th and begin their orientation in the theater. Our goal is to introduce the grade 8s to their teachers and to work with everyone to do an in-depth school welcome and orientation. We are envisioning tours of the school, explaining and practicing their schedules, looking at how to maximize student success at RSS, as well as some group work on safety procedures, expectations and supports at the high school. This introduction to RSS will hopefully alleviate some nervousness and create a positive experience for our new students as they join the RSS community.

Due to the reorganization of classes and teaching assignments at RSS that is occurring due to the creation of cohorts, I am not able at this time to announce which teachers are assigned to the grade 8 cohort.

I have emailed this letter to all parents/guardians and students, as well as this mail out. Please find attached a package that includes the school verification information and the annual consent forms required by the School District. Please fill out and sign these papers in the package and send them to RSS with your child on September 10th, 2020.

We look forward to having our new students join us at RSS. We will see you on September 10th!

Sincerely,


Greg Kenyon, Principal

Attachments by mail