



## **Rosedale Traditional Community School September Opening Plans for Students and Parents**

*The well-being and safety of our school community is our top priority. Please take time to review this information about what we are doing to minimize our risk.*

### **COHORTS:**

- ⇒ Students are organized into Cohorts of no more than 60 students.
- ⇒ Cohorts will be made up of the Core Divisions of Teaching Partners (e.g. 601 & 602).
- ⇒ Within a cohort, students will be taught to avoid physical contact and maintain physical distancing; however, a two-metre physical distance between cohort members is not required.
- ⇒ Seating plans will be used within the two classrooms belonging to a cohort so that only 2 students use the same desk during a day.
- ⇒ Teachers are encouraged to take students outside for learning as much as possible – students must dress for any weather.
- ⇒ Teachers will minimize group activities and avoid activities that require physical contact.
- ⇒ RTCS will minimize the number of adults who interact with cohorts that they are not a part of; however, some staff members serve multiple cohorts. These staff must wear masks and maintain a physical distance of 2 metres from students and other staff as much as is practical to do so while supporting learning and a positive, healthy, and safe environment. These staff include:
  - Exploratory Teachers, Band Teacher, Prep Cover-Off Teachers, Admin, Librarian, Counsellors, LATs, CYCW, Aboriginal Enhancement Teacher, and Aboriginal EA.
  - As much as possible, EAs will be assigned to be a part of specific cohorts – where EA assignments cross cohorts, individualized plans for distancing will be made.
- ⇒ Classes that involve students from more than one cohort such as Band:
  - In those classes where two cohorts are present, spaces and desks will be marked by signage and floor markings to physically divide students from different cohorts. For example, if students from two cohorts are in the same Band classroom, the Band classroom will be divided into two spaces that are at least 2 metres apart and clearly defined.



### **HEALTH MEASURES:**

- ⇒ All staff and students must stay home and seek assessment by a health-care provider if they experience any symptoms of common cold, influenza, or COVID-19.
- ⇒ Parents or caregivers must assess themselves and their children daily for symptoms. See the following documents to help you assess yourself and your child daily.
  - [Daily Health Check form](#)
  - [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- ⇒ If a student presents symptoms while at school, they will be caringly escorted by an administrator to an isolated room then sent home as soon as possible; please make sure that the RTCS office staff has updated contact information.
- ⇒ Hand Hygiene
  - Teachers will teach students about proper hand washing etiquette.
  - Hand washing will become part of daily class routines.
  - Students are expected to wash hands upon arrival at school, when entering a new space, transitioning between activities, and at the end of day.
- ⇒ Respiratory Etiquette
  - Teachers will teach students about proper respiratory etiquette such as coughing into one's elbow.

### **EXTRA CLEANING:**

- ⇒ Desks used by single students (not shared) will be cleaned at least every 24 hours.
- ⇒ Frequently-touched surfaces will be cleaned at least twice every 24 hours.
  - These include door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, tables, desks and chairs used by multiple students, keyboards and equipment.
- ⇒ Any surface that is visibly dirty will be cleaned.
- ⇒ Equipment that is porous and/or not easily cleaned, will not be used.
- ⇒ PHE equipment that has been used will be put aside in a 'Used Equipment' area until it can be properly cleaned.
- ⇒ Equipment such as computer keyboards, shop tools, science equipment, art brushes, laminated learning resources, and home economics ware will be cleaned by students after each use using appropriate cleaning materials for each specific equipment type.
- ⇒ Spray bottles of appropriate cleaner will be in each classroom.
- ⇒ There is no evidence that COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, books, and paper-based products so no additional cleaning requirements are called for.



### **MASKS:**

- ⇒ Middle School students and staff are asked to wear face masks in common spaces and anytime they cannot physically distance from other people who are not in their cohort (example: in the hallways).
- ⇒ Elementary students are not required to wear masks at any time, but they are welcome to if they and their parents wish them to.
- ⇒ Students and staff wearing face masks must still seek to maintain physical distance from people outside of their cohort.
- ⇒ Students with medical complexities, immune suppression, and/or receiving delegated care, and the staff working closely with them, will be planned for individually according to their IEP.

### **CHANGEROOMS:**

- ⇒ Changing into PHE strip will be temporarily optional due to space constraints in the changerooms.
  - Limited numbers of students may change in the changerooms or designated washrooms.
- ⇒ PHE participation is not optional - students must dress for physical activity both for PHE, for increased outdoor activities with their class, and for being outdoors for break/lunch.

### **LOCKERS:**

- ⇒ Students bring belongings into Core Classrooms in the morning.
- ⇒ During the first 10 minutes of the day, Core Teachers will allow small numbers of students to place their belongings.
- ⇒ Locker locations are organized based on cohort groupings.
- ⇒ Please consider not bringing valuables to school.

### **HANDWASHING/WASHROOMS:**

- ⇒ Elementary students will enter the school through their classroom's exterior door. Middle Grade students will enter through the Front entrance. Your child's teacher will contact them about their class and hand washing station before school begins.
- ⇒ Doors will be open and labelled with signs indicating which Core Divisions should use those doors.
- ⇒ Upon entering, staff and students will use the appropriate hand washing stations to wash their hands thoroughly then wait in Core classrooms.
- ⇒ Students are not permitted to use lockers before school – they will be guided to their lockers by their teachers in small, spaced-out groups.
- ⇒ Students will be led to various locations in the school such as the Library, Gym, and Exploratory classes by their teachers and within their cohort.



- ⇒ Teachers will teach students about always walking on right hand side of hallway.
- ⇒ General student traffic and congregating in hallways will not be permitted.
- ⇒ Students and staff may only use the washrooms in their wing of the school.

### **BREAK TIME:**

- ⇒ Elementary students will take their recess at the same time, but will have designated cohort areas.
- ⇒ Grade 6 students will have a break earlier than the Gr. 7 and 8 students.
- ⇒ Unless severe inclement weather, students are asked to take their recess/break outside.
- ⇒ In severe inclement weather, students may remain in their cohort classrooms.
- ⇒ Students must be taught to dress appropriately for any weather.
- ⇒ RTCS gyms will be closed at break time.

### **LUNCH TIME:**

- ⇒ Students will eat their lunch in the classroom.
- ⇒ Elementary students will have staggered eating times:
  - Primary – eat in class for first 15 min, then outside to play.
  - Intermediate – outside for first 20 min, then inside to eat.
- ⇒ Middle Grade Students:
  - Will have designated, rotating cohort areas. They must wear a mask while outside of their class.
- ⇒ Most students will spend free lunch period outside; students must be taught to wear or bring clothing that is appropriate for the weather.
- ⇒ In severely inclement weather, students can remain in their cohort classrooms.
- ⇒ RTCS will be exploring opportunities for lunch-time library access, cohort intramurals, cohort gym access, and potentially other indoor choices.

### **OUTDOOR SPACES:**

- ⇒ Some outdoor spaces will be scheduled by cohorts and some will be free to use by anyone. For example, our Gaga Pit and Tennis Courts will be scheduled based on cohorts.
- ⇒ Students must be taught, and need to maintain, 2 metres physical distance from students that are not in their cohort.
- ⇒ Each cohort will be provided with a small amount of sports equipment that can be used within their cohort.



### **SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES:**

- ⇒ RTCS will not hold assemblies outside of the cohort of 60 students.
- ⇒ All assemblies will be virtual when possible.

### **BUSSES:**

- ⇒ Middle Grade Students must wear masks in all common spaces including bus line-ups and on the bus.
- ⇒ Elementary students are not required to wear a mask but may do so if they choose.
- ⇒ Students will be reminded prior to the bell-- and staff will reinforce the message -- that bus students are to put on their masks and wash their hands.
- ⇒ Elementary students will be dismissed to their buses prior to the bell.  
Middle Grade students will be dismissed at the bell.

### **FOOD SERVICES:**

- ⇒ Cafeteria services open up on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> for Lunch only.
- ⇒ Families (Grades K-8) are encouraged to pre-order using [Munch-A-Lunch](#).  
Students (K-8) are also welcome to bring their money and order in to place in their classroom bins first thing in the morning.
- ⇒ Students place order and money (if needed) in a clearly labelled bag then one runner takes the pre-order bag to the cafeteria.
- ⇒ Just before lunch (as per group schedule), a runner will pick up the pre-orders for their cohort.
- ⇒ Each homeroom will have snacks and fruit delivered by the PAC.
- ⇒ We expect our Bowls of Hope Lunch program to be up and running by the end of September.
- ⇒ Vending machines will not be used.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

- ⇒ Extracurricular activities including sports, arts or special interest clubs can occur if physical distance can be maintained between members of different cohorts and reduced physical contact is practiced by those within the same cohort.
- ⇒ Inter-school events including competitions, tournaments and festivals are not occurring at this time. We will update families if this information changes.



## **MESSAGING AND HELP FROM HOME:**

- ⇒ RTCS staff will teach students some common expectations around COVID-19. Please support us by also consistently reminding your children of these expectations.
- Everyone enters and exits the school using their designated door.
  - Everyone goes directly to their hand washing station and washes their hands for at least 20 seconds when they enter the building.
  - Students must wait for their teacher before entering hallways or using lockers or washrooms.
  - Encourage physical distancing as much as possible within their cohort and at least 2 metres outside their cohort.
  - Students in grades 6-8 must wear masks in common spaces, hallways, bus line-ups, busses, and any time they interact with people outside their cohort.
  - Avoid close greetings (e.g. high fives, hugs).
  - **Dress for outdoor breaks/lunches, outdoor learning, and physical activity every day. Dress for any weather conditions.**

*Thank you for being on this journey with us.*

*We are confident that with our combined efforts, we can reduce our risk.*

*Be Calm, Be Kind and Be Safe RAVENS!*