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Tel: 604-296-9062  
Website: [southslope.burnabyschools.ca](http://southslope.burnabyschools.ca)

August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to South Slope Elementary! We are looking forward to welcoming all students back and meeting our new Kindergarten students and families. For families in Kindergarten, you will be receiving a subsequent communication regarding gradual entry over the coming days. As a community of learners, we are committed to ensuring the health and safety of all our members. Our District is taking direction from Fraser Health Authority and are in regular contact with them, as well as the Ministries of Health and Education. As we prepare to welcome students back to our school in September, our priority is to maintain a healthy and safe environment for all.

Over the next week, we will be working to finalize your child's classroom and learning group placement. **More information regarding drop off and pick up procedures, as well as our staggered start and dismissal times, entrance protocols, and your child's learning group will be communicated before your child's orientation on either September 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>.** As we diligently work to have our school ready for your child's return, we would like to take this opportunity to share the following information.

### Learning Groups

Upon returning to school your child will be placed in a learning group with age like peers to promote social interaction and learning. Your child's learning group may encompass one or two classes, up to a maximum of 60 students and staff. Your child may occasionally interact with students and staff from other learning cohorts, but in this event the students will be expected to maintain their physical distance. Learning groups provide a range of benefits for students including:

- Learning – allow full-time attendance in school
- Social – increase peer interaction, avoid isolation
- Emotional – increase peer support and connection
- Psychological – decrease mental health impacts

### Orientation Week

September 8-11 is our orientation week. On September 8 and 9, staff will be returning to school to complete preparations for a safe return to school for all children. Your child will be assigned to a Learning Group and attending an orientation from 9am-10am on either September 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>. You may need to arrange for childcare options for those dates, as we will not be providing full day instruction on these dates.

## Parent Survey

The Burnaby School District is requiring all parents to complete a return to school declaration of intent to indicate your plans for September. **The survey is open until Tuesday, September 1 at 11:00pm.** The link for the survey can be found on the District website.

## South Slope Parent Meeting

We will be hosting a parent information meeting regarding our return to school plans on **Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 noon.** This meeting will be held on Zoom and the access code can be found in the email sent to families Aug. 31st.

## Health and Safety

The health and safety of our students and staff is our paramount concern as we return to school. Some important items to keep in mind:

- We will be implementing twice daily cleaning of frequently touched surfaces throughout the building.
- Regular handwashing/sanitizing routines will be established for all staff/students.
- Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of illness before sending them to school and notify the school if they are remaining home.
- Upon arrival to school, students will be asked if they exhibit symptoms such as cough, fever, breathing difficulties etc.
- Students who become ill, or exhibit symptoms throughout the day, will be isolated from others with parents being contacted to pick up their child.
- To facilitate physical distancing, only essential staff and students will be allowed to enter the school.
- All students will be provided with two masks, with students in grades 6-7 expected to wear them in common areas (ie. Hallways, etc.)
- All students bring their own supplies and refrain from sharing them with others.
- Students are asked to bring their own food and are not permitted to share food in compliance with health and safety protocols. **FOR SCHOOLS WITH MEALS PROGRAMS:** If your child participates in our school meals program, more information will be shared about our plans in the coming weeks.
- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle. Unfortunately, water fountains will not be operational but bottle filling stations, if available at your school, can now be used.

We hope this information provided is helpful to you in your family. We will provide you with further details as stated above by Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming your child back to our school.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Holliday  
Principal, South Slope Elementary  
lindsay.holliday@burnabyschools.ca

**Important Information – Please Translate**

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

**STUDENTS MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IF THEY DEMONSTRATE  
SIGNS OF ILLNESS**