



RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL

7171 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada V6Y 1Z3
Tel: (604) 668-6400 Fax: (604) 278-4734 Web: rhs.sd38.bc.ca Email: richmond@sd38.bc.ca

September 3, 2020

Dear RHS Students and Parents:

I hope this message finds our Richmond Secondary families feeling rested after a safe and enjoyable summer, and that students are looking forward to returning to school on Thursday, September 10. We are ready to welcome you back to school and look forward to reconnecting and welcoming our newest Colts on their first day of high school!

Many of us are excited and eager to return to school, and at the same time, maybe a little uncertain about what it is going to look like. Please know that we are following all of the expectations of the Provincial Health Officer and the Ministry of Education and working very hard to ensure that our students and staff will be as safe as possible. Our school district continues to update Frequently Asked Questions, a good starting point for information: <https://www.sd38.bc.ca/news/2020-08-28/school-restart-plan-frequently-asked-questions>

All Richmond secondary schools, and many throughout the province, will operate on a Quarter system. Richmond Secondary students will take 2 classes at any one time, in four 10-week terms. As in a regular school year, students can complete 8 classes from September to June. This allows students to focus on only 2 classes at a time, and most importantly, reduces the number of contacts students will have.

Quarter 1 (Q1)	September 14 - November 18
Quarter 2 (Q2)	November 19 - February 3
Quarter 3 (Q3)	February 4 - April 23
Quarter 4 (Q4)	April 26 - June 28

Grades 8 and 9 students will attend Richmond Secondary every day for full days in cohorts of 120 students or less. The number of direct contacts in a quarter will be much lower. Here is the daily schedule for grade 8 and 9 classes:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 - 11:40 am	A	A	A	A	A
11:40 - 12:35 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:35 - 2:45 pm	B	B	B	B	B

Grades 10-12 students will attend half time, attending either the morning or afternoon session of their class, for only one class per day. Senior students will practice physical distancing in smaller classes as this allows seniors to retain all of the courses they chose during the course selection process and that they need for their post-secondary plans. Here is the daily schedule for grade 10-12 classes:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:15 - 11:40 am	A1	A2	A1	A2	A1
11:40 - 12:35 pm	Not in School*				
12:35 - 3:00 pm	B2	B1	B2	B1	B2

*There are a handful of IB 12 classes scheduled into this block of time.

Each of course A and B is split into 2 groups: A1 and A2; B1 and B2. Splits will be done alphabetically. For example, a student with the last name of *Burke* will be in A1 and B1 and a student with the last name of *Wang* will be in A2 and B2. Because Grade 10-12 students will not be at school over lunch, we must have **A1** and **B2** classes on one day and **A2** and **B1** on the other. The vast majority of students will have a morning class one day and an afternoon class the next. Note, some students with surnames in the middle like *Li* or *Mohammed* could be in A1 and B2, because of the alphabetical composition of the class. This would mean they would be at school over lunch, but the number of students in this case will be quite small. All Richmond secondary schools are following the same model.





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General: You will notice that the grade 8 and 9 students start their day 15 minutes later than the senior students, and end 15 minutes earlier. This has been done in order to stagger the arrival and departure times for our students. You may wonder about the same end time for first class – Grade 8 and 9 students will remain in their A block classes to eat their lunches, giving the older students time to leave the building. There may be exceptions if a parent chooses to have their child go home for lunch, for example. We are encouraging Grade 8 and 9 students to remain on site to minimize further contacts in the community.

First Weeks at a Glance:

M	September 7	Labour Day	
T	September 8	Staff Planning Day	
W	September 9	Staff Planning Day	
TH	September 10	8:30 – 10:00 am	Grade 9 Homeroom
		10:30 – 12:00 pm	Grade 10 Homeroom
		12:30 – 3:00 pm	Grade 8 Homeroom & Connection Time
F	September 11	8:30 – 10:00 am	Grade 11 Homeroom
		10:30 – 12:00 pm	Grade 12 Homeroom
		12:30 – 3:00 pm	Grade 8 Homeroom & Connection Time
M	September 14	First Day of Quarter 1	
W	September 16	Photo Day	

During Orientation Days on September 10 and 11, students will attend homeroom classes where they will receive their schedules, school forms, detailed health and safety information, and school procedures and expectations. Homeroom assignment information will be posted on the school windows by 3 PM on Friday, September 4.

As always at Richmond Secondary, we will face this year as calmly as we can, by supporting and caring for one another. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Ms. Anita Kwon
Principal

