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September 4, 2020 - Principal's Message, Mrs. Kathy McTaggart

The first week of school is coming to an end, I wanted to reach out and let all of our parents know how things went.

Your children are amazing!! The students have been great at understanding all the new rules and protocols and following them. Students seem happy to be back.

According to our students these are their biggest changes:

- wearing masks when required
- less transitions from room to room
- restricted spaces at lunch time
- longer classes (high school only)

For staff it has been absolutely wonderful to have students back in the building. We truly did miss your children and it has been great to see them and talk to them again. Many have grown inches and changed their looks so much it is hard to recognize them, especially with their masks on.

A big thank you to all of our parents/guardians for ensuring that your children understand the need for all the new protocols, having them prepared for how school routines will be different and enduring the first week of early wake up calls after a long break from having to wake teenagers early.

Yearly Student Registration - Link to Parent Portal Sign In Page

Alberta Education requires an **annual** Student Registration / Demographic Update Form, **for every student**, **signed by the Parent or Legal Guardian** to verify that the student qualifies for Provincial or National Education funding. The Demographic Update form **serves as an annual registration form for all returning WCPS K-12 students**. I just completed mine and it took about 15 minutes per child.

The annual registration form can be accessed through your **PowerSchool Parent Portal**. If you don't have a Parent Portal account, you will need to create one using the 'Parent Portal—Set up Instructions' document attached to this email.

If you are having issues submitting the form, accessing your Parent Portal account or require access to a device to complete this form, please contact your child's school office. Online Student Demographic Update forms are due Sept 15, 2020. Thank-you for your attention to this.

Currently we have 58% of our Student Registrations complete.

School Photos

Are this coming **Thursday September 10th**. Every student and staff does need to have their photo taken for identification purposes. This year students will have the option to take a 2nd photo if they would like to include a picture of themselves with hat &/or mask on. Students will come home with a unique code to allow you to order school photos online.

Communication News

Here are the several different platforms that Ponoka Secondary Campus use to relay information.

Website: https://psc.wolfcreek.ab.ca/

The website is a one stop shop for information about schedules, classes, contact information, registration. It is also the place you begin to get into parent/student powerschool portal.

Instagram: Yes, we are now on instagram. You can follow us at: **ponokasecondarycampus** This site has been set up mainly as a way for the school to communicate information to existing students but parents feel free to follow us as well.

Facebook: <u>facebook.com/ponokasecondarycampus</u> A great place for timely information about our school. Where community members and parents can see what's happening at PSC.

Twitter: Our <u>twitter account</u> is not used as often, but is up and running. It is a place where we post snapshots of great events as they happen. Sporting events, awards, grads pictures and other exciting Bronc events.

Busing Info

A place to get information indicating if your child's school bus is on time, running late or cancelled is the Bus Status App. <u>Link Here for more information</u>.

Athletics/Lockers/Field Trips

Just to remind everyone, these and other restrictions will be reassessed at the end of September.

Grade 12 News

If you are a parent to a grade 12 student.

- 1) Our career/academic counsellor, Wendy Fessler, is available to answer any questions pertaining to schedule changes, grad requirements, work experience, off campus opportunities. Please send her an email to inquire.
- 2) A website will soon be available for students and parents that is PSC specific with information on career opportunities and scholarships.
- 3) October 1st is an important day as it marks the opening day for post secondary institutions to start taking applications. Mrs. Fessler will be visiting grade 12 classes in the coming weeks to discuss this with students.

Kathy