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August 17, 2020 - Principal's Message, Mrs. Kathy McTaggart

Happy summer everyone, I hope your summer has been going well. We have certainly seen a couple sunny days lately and had a break from the rain. It has given me a chance to weed whip my thistle patch.

I know that parents have many questions this year. The school division and the school are working hard to be able to provide and communicate information as soon as we are able. Last week you should have received wolf creek's school re-entry plan and information regarding the virtual learning plan and survey. The re-entry plan provided tons of detail and I would recommend you read through it if you haven't yet.

Individual schools have now had an opportunity to create school specific plans based on government recommendations and the school divisions plan. These school plans are currently being reviewed and will be communicated next week. A big part of this for Ponoka Secondary was to ensure students were kept in cohort groups as much as possible.

Before next week however, I do want to give you some school specific information to help families plan.

1) School Re-Entry Dates - these have changed from my June message

In order to have less students in the building initially to introduce our students to their new routines and protocols at PSC we will be staggering our start up dates with students to allow this transition time. Once your child has had their introductory day, their school year has begun and should be in attendance moving forward.

- a) September 1 - Grades 7 & 12
- b) September 2 - Grades 10 & 11
- c) September 3 - Grades 8 & 9
- d) September 4 - all students in regular classes

School hours during re-entry will be our regular school hours: 8:40am - 3:25pm.

2) High School Student Schedules & Quarters

The school has made the decisions with many other high schools this year to move from a semester system to a quarter system. This means that instead of having 2 semesters (Sept-Jan and Feb-June), students will have 4 quarters instead. Students take 2 classes at a time, 1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon. The quarters will run:

Quarter 1 - Sept - Nov

Quarter 2 - Nov - Jan

Quarter 3 - Feb - Apr

Quarter 4 - Apr - June

As a result of the new quarter system, ALL student schedules have had to change. Administration along with our assistants are working through that process right now. Access to student schedules has been turned off temporarily while schedules are redone. We appreciate your patience and will re-release schedules once they are complete.

Thank you for your continued patience. Many more details will be coming in the document next week.

Kathy