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**CONESTOGA HIGH SCHOOL**  
TREDYFFRIN/EASTTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
200 IRISH ROAD • BERWYN, PA 19312-1260 • 610-240-1000

August 2021

Dear Conestoga Families:

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year and a big welcome to the Class of 2025! I hope you had a wonderful summer. We are very excited to welcome students back into the building and to share the new addition as well as the many renovations that have been completed over the past year. The new space is amazing! As a reminder we will have opportunities for all students and families to walk through the building prior to the start of school:

Senior & Junior Open House: Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 6pm

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House: Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm – 6pm

10<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House: Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 7:30pm

New Family Reception: Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:30pm – 8:00pm

We hope you are able to drop in and see the many changes in store for this year! As we prepare to start, we are writing to share information regarding the details of our opening.

## Safety Protocols

We are committed to providing full-time, in-person instruction for the 2021-22 school year. The health and safety of our students and staff remains paramount as we prepare to reopen. Detailed safety protocols are specified in our full [District Health & Safety Plan](#). Items of particular note include:

- Individuals aged two and over are required to wear a face covering while indoors in any District building and on school buses regardless of vaccination status. Masking is optional but encouraged during outdoor activities. The mask must fit snugly, covering the mouth and nose. The CDC recommends two-ply masks for best protection.
- By sending your student to school, families are affirming that students do not have any COVID-19 symptoms, have not been directed to quarantine, and are not otherwise sick or ill. A daily symptom screener in Power School will no longer be required.
- CHS will maintain at least 3 feet of physical distancing between students to the greatest extent possible. Physical distancing of less than 3 feet may occur in classroom activities, building transitions, on school transportation, during lunch, or at other times.
- Students will be encouraged to spread out to the greatest extent possible during lunch. The cafeteria, atrium and courtyard will be available. Masks should only be removed while eating and returned immediately when finished. ALL students are eligible for lunch privileges, which means students may leave during lunch with parent permission through the [Privilege Form](#). The number of students electing to utilize lunch privileges will determine the extent to which we are able to distance.
- Hallway traffic and stairwells will return to full, two-way use.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building. Students are also encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer to school.
- Contact tracing will be done by District nursing staff and administrators as needed.

## 2021-22 Schedule

We are returning to our 8-period day with a slight modification to the [bell schedule](#). Classes will be 42 minutes with 5 minutes passing time to accommodate the larger building. We will still have a six-day cycle as we have in the past. The September cycle day calendar can be viewed [here](#). Student schedules were released on Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> through Power School. Any students having trouble viewing their schedule should email the [familyhelpdesk@tesd.net](mailto:familyhelpdesk@tesd.net).

## **Opening Week & Orientation Programs**

School begins for all students on Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Ninth graders should report directly to the auditorium and students in grades 10, 11 and 12 should report to homeroom to start their day. We will start the first two days with orientation activities to kick off the new school year. During these programs, students will hear from their grade level administrator and school counselor as well as walk the building, complete their annual health screenings and review necessary information and expectations.

## **Textbooks and Laptops**

At this time, all families received information about laptop pick-up times. Many students have already done so. For those who have not, please be sure to get your laptop during one of the upcoming dates. The schedule can be found [here](#). Once school starts, laptops will be available for pick up in the library at the Tech Deck.

## **Grading System**

As we transition back to full in-person instruction after sixteen months of remote/hybrid learning, we will prioritize our students' mental health as they reengage with face-to-face instruction, social interactions and a full-day of classes. We will utilize our regular, numeric grading system for the 2021-22 school year. Teachers will grade students using various assignments, assessments and projects based on a 100-point scale. Additionally, we will move to a semester grading system this year, with grades administered mid-year and at the end of the year. We will also continue our practice of not administering any midterm or final exams. Each teacher will communicate expectations with their students as well as details around grading at the start of the year. It is essential that families partner with the school in monitoring students' wellbeing during this time of transition. School counselors and mental health specialists are always available to assist students and parents throughout the year.

## **Clubs & Activities**

We know many students are eager to get involved in the many clubs and activities Conestoga has to offer. We will hold a Club Fair the week of September 20<sup>th</sup> which includes online signups. Clubs will officially begin to meet the following week, so stay tuned for more details!

We hope this information has been helpful in answering some of the questions regarding this year's school opening. Again, we are incredibly excited to have our full student body back in our newly renovated building. It will certainly be an exciting start to the school year. We will continue to work together to navigate the necessary safety protocols and work in the best interest of our students' health and wellbeing. As always, we welcome your involvement, questions and input. Please feel free to contact me or any administrator at any time. We look forward to seeing our students on Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:50am. Enjoy the final days of summer, and as always, Go 'Stoga!

Sincerely,



Amy A. Meisinger, Ph.D.  
Principal