



ICES Parent Update August 28

Hello Everyone!

We have been busy preparing our school and classrooms for the arrival of our students! As part of our preparation, we will be sharing a link with a video on the school website that will give a sneak peak into the building and classrooms. This will also provide an introduction to our staff for this upcoming school year.

SCHOOL SUPPLY ORDERS

School supplies that were ordered online have arrived and will be with your child's teacher on Monday. You are welcome to pick them up while you are here.

OPEN HOUSE

We are excited to see everyone on Monday! If you haven't signed up for a time to meet the teachers who will be teaching your child, please do so before Saturday at noon. Class lists will be posted.

Door Assignments:

Front Doors: Mrs. Ferrie (Kindergarten A & B), Mrs. Postman (3C)

East Doors: Mrs. Kruisselbrink (1A), Miss Driedger (1B), Mrs. Heshka (2A)

South Doors: Mrs. VH (2B), Mrs. Middel/Mrs. Winkelaar (3A), Ms. Cardamone (3B)

Courtyard Doors: Mr. Greeno (4), Mr. Riewe (5A), Mrs. Morrison (5B)

West (Parking Lot) Doors: Mrs. Winters (EEP)

*As is consistent with our division protocol and will be the practice throughout our school year, parents will not be permitted to enter the school. Teachers and support staff will meet families at the assigned doors and will tour students to their classrooms and highlight some changes. As students will be in close contact with their teachers, students will be required to wear a mask and sanitize their hands with provided hand sanitizer in order to enter the building.

Since our school building is one level, parents are welcome to look through the windows to see the classroom and be a part of their child's orientation.

STAGGERED ENTRY

Students with last names beginning with A – M – Tuesday, September 1.

Students with last names beginning with N – Z – Wednesday, September 2.

All students, Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4.

No school on Monday, September 7.

Our school day begins at 8:50, but we ask that students arrive no earlier than 8:40. We understand the challenge for parents who need to drop students off at both sites (ICES and ICSS). Hence, all entrances will remain open until 9:00. If students arrive after 9:00, they will need to come to the front doors and ring the buzzer.

BELL TIMES

Early Education Program (Monday—Thursday)

8:45 am - 11:45 am

Grade K-5 (Monday—Friday)

8:45 am	Warning Bell
8:50 am	Class Begins
10:00 am	Morning Recess (staggered - consult homeroom teacher)
11:30 am	Lunch & Recess (staggered - consult homeroom teacher)
1:30 pm	Afternoon Recess (staggered - consult homeroom teacher)
3:00 – 3:10 pm	Dismissal (staggered – consult homeroom teacher)

FIRST DAYS

We know that the first days of any school year can be challenging as everyone navigates the changes that come with a new grade. Please be assured that staff will be meeting the buses and directing students to the correct entrances where staff will also be waiting for them to welcome them into the building and help guide them to their classrooms.

Arrival and Dismissal

Presently, the drop-off of Kindergarten to Grade 5 students in the morning and pick-up of students at the end of day will look different. At this time, parents are not permitted in the building without an appointment. However, parents are most welcome to walk their children to the building and meet their children outside at the end of the day. We just ask everyone do their best to maintain 2 meters distancing between others even when we are outside.

For students in the Early Education Program (EEP), drop-off and pick-up of students will also occur outside the building. Our Early Learning Educator will outline where this spot is. Once again, parents are not permitted into the building at this time unless they have

an appointment and they do not exhibit symptoms.

Morning Arrival

Buses will be using 5 Avenue North, in front of the school, for dropping off and picking up our students. Please do not park in this area until after the buses have left. Parent drop-off and pick-up is designated along the east side of our school property along 21A Street North. Parking in the parking lot and along the fence on the west side of the school building is designated for staff. Please be respectful of their need for parking.

We are asking all students to wear masks as they enter the building at the beginning of the day until they arrive in their home classroom.

Upon arrival, all students will enter a designated door and will use this door for all other times (recesses, end of the day). Students will come directly into the school and proceed to their classrooms. Presently, coats and backpacks will be brought directly into classrooms to help alleviate congestion and support social distancing in the hallways.

Staggered Afternoon Dismissal

Currently, dismissal times will be staggered. Bus students will be dismissed at 3:00 pm and will go directly to their buses where they will board the buses upon arrival. There will not be any bus line ups. Teachers will be bringing their non-bus students out starting at 3:05 pm. We will have classes staggered so that hallways, boot rooms, and doors do not become congested. Students will be leaving the school from their designated doors and walking to their pick-up spot outside. Again, you are welcome to meet your child at their assigned door at the end of the day.

If your child does not use the bus for school transportation, please pick up your child along the 21A Street fence. Teachers will be in that area to help direct students as needed.

RECESSES

Students will move in/out of designated doors. Students are not permitted to enter other doors. Presently, recesses at ICES will also be staggered throughout the day. This staggering will allow only 3 or 4 classrooms to be outside at one time. Students will remain with their classmates (their cohort) during recess in their designated zone. The school property will be divided into zones which will be accessed by student cohorts throughout the day. During each recess, they will have access to a different zone.

There will be one 10-minute morning recess and one 10-minute afternoon recess. In addition, students will also receive a 40-minute lunch recess which will allow for 20

minutes outside and 20 minutes for eating their lunches. These will be staggered so as to promote social distancing between classrooms.

LUNCH TIME

Students eat lunch with their classroom teacher. Specific eating times will be staggered for different classes. **Students do not have access to microwaves.** In an effort to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, all lunch recyclables, including juice boxes, etc. are to be “packed in” and “packed out”. In other words, students will return used juice boxes and other recyclables to their lunch containers and take them home at end of day to dispose them appropriately.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers as we prepare for this unique school start up. In this challenging time, we know there are uncertainties and concerns. Please know that we are not only doing our best to prepare our students, but that we are also praying for our ICES families. We are moving forward in faith, knowing that we do not walk this journey alone.

In Christ,

Mrs. Wall
ICES Principal