Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our new and returning students back to HHES this September!

As you are aware, the Upper Grand District School Board has put extensive plans in place for the school year. Our school has now created plans that include both operational changes (how we manage the people and resources within the school) and health and safety changes (our response to the ongoing COVID pandemic). We hope this document will help answer your questions about the specifics about the opening day and first week of school.

Please also look through our board Family Guide for more detailed information about the changes for this school year. There is also a link to the Board Website.

Family Guide for Return to School
Board Website: Additional COVID information

Please note that is no staggered entry for grades 1-8 this year. All students start school on September 7, 2021 at 850am.

Before Coming to School

COVID-19 Screening:

- All parents must screen their child(ren) every day before leaving home for symptoms of COVID-19. If there are symptoms, children need to stay home from school. If COVID-19 is suspected, testing is recommended.
- Link to Self Screening Tool

What to Bring to School

Please keep your child's personal items to a minimum. To support a safe and comfortable environment, students are asked to bring the following items clearly labelled with the student's name:

- Knapsack or tote bag for personal belongings
- Face masks - they may need more than one
- Personal water bottle
- Seasonal outdoor wear (please include indoor shoes)
- Only those items that are necessary for the day (e.g., pencil case, calculator, pens, pencils)
- Students may bring their own devices, but they must be wiped by the student upon entry and before leaving at the end of the day

Note: Hooks outside the classroom will be used for the 21/22 school year with social distancing.

How Will I Know What Class My Child is In?

On September 7, 2021, children are asked to meet at the pylon with their grade on it. Teachers will come out and call out class lists. A map is posted here and on our website to refer to. Please make sure to social distance while waiting and everyone is encouraged to wear a mask, as it may be hard to socially distance at this time. Please also be patient, as we are trying to do this outside and as safe as possible.
Meeting Spots: First Day of School

First Day Procedures

Morning Drop Off & Walkers:

- Please arrive as close to 850am (bell time) as possible.
- Please use our kiss n'ride to park. The front parking lot is closed for buses. Here is a map to guide you: Kiss N' Ride Map
- Parents/ Guardians are not allowed to enter building
- Staff will be present and wearing emergency vests if you need help
- We will stagger entry of classes to ensure physical distancing between classes (class furthest from entry door enters first-leaves last)
- Students stay on the tarmac and off the playgrounds please.

Bussed

- Teacher on duty directs students to assigned entry point

Kiss N Ride Kiss N' Ride

- **Front of school will be used for buses only!**
- Parents follow signage and markings on road
- Parents remain in car
- Student follows sidewalk to tarmac area and line up at assigned entrance
- Staff will be present to direct students that are unsure of where to go

Dropping off Meds

- Table will be placed outside front doors to drop off meds
- Please ring bell/or call office to reach OC
- Make sure to leave updated plan of care forms and that all meds are labelled
- You may also need to sign a consent form to administer meds for this school year

Designated Entry Doors:

To facilitate speedy entry in the morning and to limit unnecessary travel through the building, each grade/class will be assigned an entry/exit door. This will be the only door that students will use for entering the building, for accessing outdoor activities (and recess) and departing at the end of the school day.

Entrances & Exits Map 21 22.pdf

School Greeters:

A "Greeter" will also be on the yard to help greet students. Students will be reminded to put on a mask and to socially distance as they enter the building and they may assist with hand sanitizer.

Late Arrival:

- Parent/Student will ring bell at front entrance
- Office or school greeter will admit student only and buzz classroom to inform teacher that student is arriving
- Admin/Support staff will escort younger students to class

Entering the Building:

- Mask is mandatory for all students JK-8
- Student must use hand sanitizer upon entering and social distance from others
- Follow signage when walking through the school
- Keep to the right side of the hallway

Recess Information:

- Recess will be flipped to allow for social distancing parameters
    - K-3 eat in/gr. 4-8 out for recess (20 mins)

- Gr. 4-8 eat in/K-3 out for recess (20 mins)

- Classes stay with their class cohorts. All classes will be assigned a spot on the yard. We received updated Public Health direction on Wednesday that indicated all elementary students must stay with their cohorts.
- Playground structures are open at this time at recesses. Children need to wear masks if they wish to use them and are reminded to socially distance from one another. Children will hand sanitize when they re-enter the building. This may need to change, but we are going to try it for now.
- Masks need to be worn while leaving the building and entering the building. Children will use hand sanitizer when entering the building.

Lunch Procedures:

- Wash/sanitize hands before and after eating
- Recycling and compost have resumed.
- **Our student food program is running; however, it is a grab and go format. Staff will help gather the food for students that is kept in the office. All food is individually packaged.**
- Students are to remain seated and facing forward
- Intermediate students will stay at school for lunch (**individual** students may go home for lunch with parent permission)
- Only personal water bottles are to be used at filling stations - Fountain spouts will be covered.

End of Day Procedures:

Early Dismissal

- Parent must call office when outside front doors
- Doors will remain locked
- Student must sanitize hands prior to leaving the building
- Student comes to office for OC/AOA to document dismissal
- OC/AOA to release student to parent

Regular Dismissal

- No parents/guardians in building - meet on yard/Kiss N Ride
- Closest classroom to the door will be exiting first out assigned doorway
- **Kiss N Ride -** students walk to area

- BASP Students – will be communicated prior to start of school

Communication with the School

- **We will be sending home our regular package of information on the first day of school. Please complete the forms and return them to your child's teacher as soon as you can.**
- Agendas will not be used
- Google Classroom will be set up for each student
- We encourage parents to sign up for school messenger (available on the app store for free)
- Each teacher will have access to voicemail
- Teachers will communicate preferred form of communication
- We ask parents to call the office if picking their child up early
- ***Parents cannot enter the school unless by appointment only***

Access to the School

Only essential visitors are permitted inside the school (e.g., maintenance personnel). All parents and visitors will not be permitted inside schools during the pandemic, except in case of emergency. At entry and dismissal times, parents are to remain outside the school and adhere to physical distancing protocols.