



BARRIERE SECONDARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (KAMLOOPS/THOMPSON)

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Barriere Secondary School Welcome Back Sept 5-8th Weekly Update

Good Afternoon,

Welcome back to returning students and families and welcome to new students and families! This email contains a number of items, I hope you find it useful as we return to school next week. For those families new to BSS, I aim to send out a Weekly Update at the end of each week. This first message contains a number of important details and dates and is a little longer than the weekly messages!

The Custodial and Clerical teams have been hard at work to ensure that everything is ready for students' return to school. The school looks immaculate and course schedules have been completed.

First Week

Tuesday, September 5th the school re-opens for the 2023-2024 school year. Classes are scheduled 10:30-12:30 on the first day. Buses will pick students up at your scheduled pick-up location approximately 2 hours earlier than usual. At the completion of the first day, buses will pick students up from BSS at approximately 12:40 p.m.

On the first day, students should bring a minimum of a binder/book and something to take notes with. Students will receive a locker and combination on the first day, they may wish to bring more materials and leave them in the newly assigned locker, or students may wish to meet with teachers and learn more detailed supply requirements based on classes.

Grade 8 - 12 Students

When students arrive, Grade 8 through 12 students will find a table located in the cafeteria sorted by grade level. Students check in at the appropriate table to pick up the course timetable. Students will then attend each class and teacher for approximately 25 minutes.

Grade 7 Students

When students arrive, they will find class lists on the 2 grade 7 room doors. (Rooms 114 and 115 near the Cafeteria).

One of the key elements identified by students and staff last year, include strengthening school culture and community. To begin the year on a positive note and kick off our work in this area, I am pleased to share that Wednesday instruction will focus on building a positive learning community. Camp Cougar will take place throughout the day on Wednesday and is designed to transition students for a successful school year. Lessons will cover a variety of different content including the Core Competencies. A hot dog lunch will be provided to all students this day.

Regular class rotations will begin on Thursday September 7

Safe Arrival

A reminder to parents that ALL absences/ lates /early dismissals should be recorded on our Safe Arrival system prior to 8:30am on the day of the absence/ late / dismissal (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known). Please review [THIS](#) link for more information and instruction.

Staff Changes

We have a number of staff changes that I am pleased to share with you. I would like to welcome , Ms. M. Brake (Grade 7), Ms. Gabel (Counselling) Ms. Lind (Art/Math), Mr. Gregory (Math), Ms. MacDougall (LART), Mr. Swires (English/SS). Also joining us this year is Ms. Eustache (Aboriginal Education Worker), Ms. Moore (CEA) and Ms. Dillman (Evening Custodian).

Course Change Requests

Occasionally, students find that they require course changes in order to meet Graduation or Post Secondary requirements, or, in the unlikely event that a student has failed a previous course and has been incorrectly assigned. Should a student require a course change based on the above criteria, please request an appointment and continue to attend all classes on the original schedule, until such time as Ms. Gabel is able to attend to the requested change.

Cafeteria

The Cafeteria will open beginning on the first Thursday September 7th. Cash is accepted OR you may purchase your child(ren) lunch cards through the SchoolCash Online system.

Breakfast Program

The **Free** Breakfast Program will begin 3 days per week. The Breakfast Program will begin the second week on Tuesday September 12th. For those new to BSS, every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday all students can enjoy a free breakfast.

PAC

The first PAC meeting of the year will be Monday September 11th at 5:30pm in the library. This is a great way to stay connected with the school and support student activities and the school community.

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday September 11th - PAC at 5:30pm

Friday September 15th - Verifications Packages Due

Thursday September 21 - Meet the Teacher Night

Monday September 25 - Professional Development Day (No Classes for students)

Tuesday September 26 - School Photo Day

Friday September 29 - Orange Shirt Day

Monday October 2 - National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)

John Tyler
Principal