



# BARRIERE SECONDARY SCHOOL

*SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (KAMLOOPS/THOMPSON)*

Box 130, 4811 Barriere Town Road

Barriere, BC V0E 1E0

Phone: (250) 672-9943 Fax: (250) 377-2254

---

**Subject:** Welcome Back 2021-2022 School Year

Dear Families,

I am pleased to reach out to you as the new Principal here at Barriere Secondary School. Recognizing our summer break was impacted by various fires, including our own alert, and the continued response to COVID-19, I hope that you found some time to enjoy time with friends and family.

It is my intention to communicate with you regularly through a weekly update. To begin this process, the message below includes information related to school start-up, including links to a number of additional resources. In my experience, these weekly updates have helped to keep our families connected with school news and events. I welcome your feedback and conversation as we move through the school year ahead.

I have heard incredibly positive stories about the Barriere Community and I look forward to meeting each of you as the year progresses!

## Staff Changes

I am pleased to welcome Tammy Pitkeathly (Certified Education Assistant,) Sandie Phillips (Aboriginal Education Worker), and Josh Guillou (Teacher) who will be joining the team here at Barriere Secondary School. I would also like to welcome Tyler Smith (Teacher Candidate) who will be working with Sabrina Lovell beginning in September.

## School Opening

Our staff look forward to welcoming students back to a new school year. Our first day of school is Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>. This shortened day begins at 10:30 a.m and ends at 12:30 p.m.

\*\*\*Please note the morning bus pick-up is scheduled for **2 hours later than your normal scheduled time** and buses are scheduled **to depart school at 12:45p.m.**\*\*\*

## Student Timetables

Semester 1 Student timetables will be available through the MyEdBC portal on Friday September 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 3p.m. Students' "A" block classes will be posted around the school on Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>. Paper copies of schedules will then be distributed during "A" block.

## Communicable Disease Prevention Planning

With student and staff health & safety a priority, we will begin the school year by maintaining some of the practices and protocols established last school year. For students, this includes wearing masks while on buses and throughout the school. Other practices that will continue include but may not be limited to:

- Students and staff will **respect personal space**;
- Students and staff **stay home** when they are sick.
- Sanitize/wash hands upon entry and regularly throughout the day;
- Following Interior and Provincial Health Authority guidelines.

Another integral step in keeping our school community safe begins at home. A commitment to assess your child(ren) for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school each day. Please [click here](#) to view the Daily Health Assessment.

To ensure all students are knowledgeable about the health and safety processes and practices in place we will review expectations with students during the first days of school. The daily health assessments conducted by students, and staff, along with continued enhanced surface cleaning, hand washing, and maintaining personal space, combine as key components of our schools' Communicable Disease Prevention Plan (CDPP).

A full copy of the CDPP will be made available to you on Friday September 3rd.

### Student Entrances

The main entrance, at the front of the school, will remain locked again this year. Similar to last year, students may access the school using one of the 4 "side" doors, located near the fields, the cafeteria, the shop and room 100.

### Grade 7 Orientation

As we had to postpone our grade 6 orientation tour last June due to the extreme heat. We have invited our incoming grade 7 students to a short orientation and tour **Friday, September 3 at 10:00 a.m.**

Please meet outside on the pavement next to the soccer field at 10:00 a.m. (bring a mask), do some introductions, split into groups and tour the school. Students will have opportunities to ask any questions they may have. Many of our staff that the grade 7s will be working with will be present to meet our new Cougars.

If it is raining, we will meet in the gymnasium, in that event, students should use the entrance closest to the intersection of Barriere Town, Dunn Lake and East Lake Roads.

Masks are required while indoors, respecting personal space is required when outside. Parents should complete a health-check prior to sending your students.

RSVP is not necessary. We will have nut-free snacks available for everyone. This event will be approximately 1 - 1.5 hours.

### Parent Advisory Council News

The first PAC meeting will be on Monday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Please use the main entrance and ensure you bring a mask. PAC is a great way to be involved in your child(ren)'s education. We are excited to meet in person at the school again!

### Concession

Our concession is open again this year. Mrs. Mairs will be offering lunch and snacks beginning on Wednesday September 8<sup>th</sup>.

- Concession cards can be purchased for \$20 through the office.
- The breakfast program, available to all students, will begin the following week.

On behalf of Mr. McVittie, myself and the entire staff here at BSS, we are looking forward to seeing all of the students on Tuesday!

Sincerely,

John Tyler  
Principal