



# Welcome Back to School

September 1, 2022

Dear Skwo:wech Families,

Welcome back to school and a big warm welcome to all our returning and new families, I am delighted to be welcoming you and your child to the new school year. In particular we welcome our new Kindergarten families to school! My name is Kathleen Chad and I am honored and excited to be returning as Principal for the coming school year. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been busy preparing for the school year and our custodian team has worked hard in the building to ensure the facility is sparkling and ready for our students. We are looking forward to launching our year with our continued focus on creating a safe, loving, respectful and inclusive environment in which every child will thrive as a learner and member of our community. Our team works diligently to ensure that every child feels connected to the adults at school and flourishes in an environment which is filled with kindness and caring.

We are pleased to let you know that work inside and outside of our building has continued over the summer months to complete the final stages of our rebuild project. The work on the front space of our campus is well underway to ensure that our front playfield, drop off loop and parking will be completed within the projected November timeline for Phase two. While the Phase two work is completed, our students will be able to access the front playground via a temporary pathway which will take them safely from the building to the front playground. We continue to ask families not to use the drop-off loop accessed off School Street and to not use the staff parking lot that is adjacent to School Street.

A few details to guide your child's return next week:

- On Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we invite our Grade 1-5 students to line up at the same location as they lined up last year. Students will be dismissed at 9:50 from the same location. Children will not need a snack or their school supplies on Tuesday. Families who ordered from creative Children will receive your child's supplies on Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Kindergarten families will follow the gradual entry schedule that you would have received via email in July. If you did not receive an email, please contact the office for an update.

- On Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> we expect to be able to have our students move to their new classrooms.
- Wednesday is a full day of school for students in grades 1-5, please send your child with their lunch, recess snack and their refillable water bottle for the day. Children will be dismissed from their new classroom at the end of the day. Staff will be outside to help direct you to the right pick-up spot. If your child has permission to walk home without an adult, please send an email to your child's teacher and the office providing your consent. Also, a reminder that we do not have supervision available outside before school. Children should be in the care of an adult before our morning bell.
- Please be sure to read our Superintendent's recent return to school letter where he highlights the multiple achievements of the past year across our District and looks ahead to the excitement of the coming year! He also shares reminders about Covid precautions which we will be continuing this year. A few highlights of this includes daily health checks for students and staff and staying home when feeling unwell and mask wearing will be a personal choice, we will have masks available at school for anyone who wishes.

On behalf of Mr. Elves, myself and our entire staff we would like to extend another thank you to all our school families for helping make last year an amazing success despite the challenges presented by the pandemic and the excitement of our mid-year move. It is inspiring to begin our school year in our magical new building. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back and to begin this wonderful learning journey with our school family for 2022-2023.

With deep gratitude,

Mrs. Chad and Mr. Elves