



August 23rd, 2024

Dear Chief Dan George families,

I hope you've had a fantastic summer and are looking forward to a great year. My name is Jamie Beck, and I'm excited for my fourth year here as Principal! For a little bit of personal background, I was a classroom teacher at Abby Jr. and Abby Middle for 12 years, before moving into an administrative role. I spent time as the Vice-Principal at Abby Middle and Colleen & Gordie Howe Middle for several years. After those positions, I spent several months as the Acting Principal at Abbotsford Traditional Middle School, 5 years as the Principal at Abby Middle School, and I then moved to Chief Dan George Middle in the fall of 2021. I thoroughly enjoyed my first three years here, and am excited to partner with you to support your children.

Mrs. Dallas will be joining us as our Vice-Principal this year. She has been the Vice-Principal at ASIA Sumas for three years and was a teacher there for four years before that. She is also a certified French Immersion teacher and has taught in numerous other schools around the province. She brings extensive experience and knowledge and we are excited to welcome her to the CDG team!

Below are several sections that contain information that is important for school start up this year.

### **Tentative Pod lists**

The tentative pod lists will be posted on the windows at the front of the school on Friday, August 30th at 5 pm. The grade level, room number, teacher's name and division will be at the top. Please note that class changes may take place during the first few weeks of school due to changes in enrolment numbers.

### **Gr. 6 Orientation (optional)**

On Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, Grade 8 WEB leaders will be welcoming Grade 6 students to our school during an optional orientation day. Students will be provided an orientation, while also helping them meet some new friends through some fun activities. Grade 6 students should arrive for an 9:00 am start and should be picked up at 12:00 (please note the 12:00 pm end time which is slightly different than what was published in June)

## **Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> (8:25 – 10:30)**

The first day will be a partial one for students to meet their teachers, peers, and to see parts of the school. We will start at our regular start time at 8:25 am and dismiss at 10:30 am. Students do not need to bring their supplies on this day. They only need to bring a pencil and paper or notebook. Please note that if you are a School Bus rider, they will have a regular pick-up time in the morning, but a 3 hour early pick up time at the end of the day.

Grade 6 students will proceed to the gym where they will meet their teachers. Student helpers as well as LSS staff will be available to help students find their classrooms.

Grade 7 and 8 students will meet their teachers at the following locations:

- West Side Door by the Basketball Court: Pod E, Pod I, Pod J
- West Side Door beside the gym: Pod F, Pod H
- Southeast Front Entrance: Pod D (Grade 7's only)
- East Side Outside Classroom Doors: Pod A (Grade 7's only)
- Main Front Entrance: Pod G

## **Wednesday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup> (FULL DAY)**

- Grade 6's meet at their outside entrances:
  - o Southeast Front Entrance: Pod D
  - o East Side Outside Classroom Doors: Pod A, Pod C
  - o East Side Entrance Doors: Pod B
- Grade 7 and 8's meet at their outside entrances that were established on Tuesday

Classes will run the full day, from our regular start time of 8:25 am (where students are met at an external door by their teachers) and dismissed at 2:20. Please follow this link to our [detailed Bell Schedule](#).

## **School Calendar 2024-25**

To help with your planning this year, please see this link to our [Chief Dan George Middle School Calendar](#) that is updated throughout the year.

## **School Supplies**

Please see this link to our [school supply list](#). Please do not bring all your supplies on the first day of school. Teachers will give additional instructions regarding lockers starting the second day. Chief Dan George also allows students to bring their own Chromebook to school. [Please see this section of our website for details and FAQ's regarding our BYOL program.](#)

## **School Bus Transportation**

Regular bussing begins on the first day of school, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. After-school pickup is three hours earlier than the usual time, therefore, unless parents/guardians make arrangements to pick up students, *they will be unsupervised for approximately 30-45 minutes after their instructional time on this day while they wait for the bus.*

## **Traffic Flow and Safety**

Parents are asked to follow all traffic signs in the parking lot. The busiest time of the parking lot is 5 minutes before school starts and five minutes after school ends. Please avoid these times, walk or carpool to school. Please see the traffic flow guide that was sent with this e mail for details.

## **Parking**

Please park only in the marked areas to drop off and pick up your children.

## **Attendance & Late Arrivals**

A reliable indicator of student success is consistency of attendance at school. Students who attend all their classes all of the time experience greater academic success in school. We will do whatever we can as a teaching community to ensure that your children are engaged in interesting and demanding learning experiences designed to arouse their curiosity and prepare them for academic and personal success after they leave Chief Dan George Middle School.

We take the tracking of students' attendance very seriously. The reasons for this include: our

concern for the whereabouts and safety of our students, maintaining accurate records as required by law, and tracking students' academic progress to ensure that they are keeping up with their studies. We ask for your help and cooperation in the following ways:

- Ensure that your children arrive on time to school
- Ensure that the office is notified of absences and/or lates with a phone call or a note from a parent or guardian.
- Remind your child to sign-in at the office if they come late to school.
- If your child needs to leave school early for any reason, and walk home, please send them with a note or call the office. The student will then sign out at the office before they leave.
- If you are here to pick up your child we ask that you come to the office and sign your child out to ensure that the child is leaving with a parent or guardian.

### **Closed Campus**

During the school year we have a closed campus for the safety and security of our students. This means that students are expected to stay on campus at all times (including lunch time) unless previous arrangements are made with the school by the parents or guardians. All visitors (including parents) to the campus are expected to check in at the office.

### **Noon Hour Supervisors**

We are still looking for several more noon hour supervisors. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mrs. Dallas at [Suzanne.dallas@abbyschools.ca](mailto:Suzanne.dallas@abbyschools.ca).

### **Ways to stay in touch**

We believe that it is important to be in communication with our families. We have several ways we keep in touch throughout the school year:

- [Chief Dan George Middle School website](#)
- Social Media: Facebook (@Chiefdangeorgemiddle), Instagram(@chiefdan\_middle) and Twitter (@CDGMiddle)
- Weekly newsletter from the office

We also welcome parent-initiated communication. For any school wide questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to Mr. Beck or Mrs. Dallas by phone or e mail. We are always glad to set up a time to talk by phone or in person. For classroom questions or concerns, please

reach out to your child's classroom teacher first. We strongly encourage parents to e mail teachers to set up a time to talk by phone or in person.

We look forward to a fantastic year!

Mr. Beck & Mrs. Dallas  
Administrative Team  
Chief Dan George Middle School