

I hope you've had a fantastic summer and are looking forward to a great year. My name is Sue Boucher, and I'm excited to begin my first year as Principal of Chief Dan George Middle School. Previously, I served six years in administration with Surrey School District, spent a year with as Producer of Professional Development at BC Principals and Vice Principals Association, and before that taught secondary drama and film at Langley Fine Arts School in SD35. I'm thrilled to partner with you to support your children this year.

Below I have highlighted some key information for you regarding school start up:

The tentative pod lists will be posted on the windows at the front of the school on Friday, August 29th 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.*

Please note that this year in interest of student safety, and to minimize congestion, we have a new drop off and pick up process that will begin September 2<sup>nd</sup> and continue throughout the 2025-2026 school year. **All gates will be closed for student safety.** See visual that outlines where to pick-up and drop off your child.

### Drop-off & Pick-up

- Loop via **Highland Ave.**
- Use the **north side of Old Riverside Road (park side) only.**
- This is a **drop-and-go zone**—no waiting.

- **Do not stop** in front of the school or in bus zones.
- **School lot:** closed to parents (emergency access).
- **Main lot:** staff only.

- Use the **gravel lot** at **Gladwin & Old Riverside Road**.

Please refer to the diagram above for a visual of the new routes and zones.

We appreciate your cooperation and support in helping us keep students safe while maintaining efficient traffic flow around the school.

## First Day of School Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>

The first day of school will be a partial one for students to meet their teachers, peers, and to see parts of the school. Students do NOT bring their supplies on this day. They only need to bring a pencil and paper or notepad.

**Grade 6**  
**First Annual WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Orientation**  
**8:25–11:30 a.m.**

**Grade 7- 8:**  
**8:25 – 10:30am**

### **GRADE 6**

We are excited to host this on the first day of school so that all grade 6 students are able to take part in this opportunity.

8:20am Main Front Doors will open and all Grade 6 students will be led into the GYM.

Orientation will begin with attendance, followed by a school tour with our WEB Grade 8 leaders. The WEB leaders will take students to their POD classrooms where they will spend an hour getting to know their amazing classroom teacher! They will then come back to the GYM for our PIZZA lunch.

11:30am Grade 6 students are dismissed.

### **GRADE 7 & 8**

8:25 am Students Gather in their PODS in DESIGNATED area Outside:

POD G, H, I	West Door Beside Basket Ball Court
POD C	Southeast Front Entrance
POD D & E	East side outside classroom doors
POD F	Main Front Entrance

Student helpers as well as Learning Services Staff will be available to help all new students find their waiting area. Pod Teachers will come to get Pod and take to their new classroom.

10:30am Grade 7 & 8 Students are dismissed.

## First FULL Day Wednesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>

All students are to meet at designated spots outside for first full day.

### Grade 7 & 8s

Return to their outside meeting areas that were established on Thursday.

### Grade 6s

POD A:	East side Entrance Doors
POD B:	West Side Door beside the Gym
POD C:	Southeast Front Entrance

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 2025-2026

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 2<sup>nd</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 45-60 minutes after their instructional time on this day while they wait for the bus.*

## 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. As well you must come into the office/call/ or use School Messenger to sign them out.
- ⇒ 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.

### **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 myself (Ms. Boucher) 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!**

Ms. Boucher & Mrs. Dallas  
Administrative Team  
Chief Dan George Middle School