



2021- 2022 SCHOOL OPENING BULLETIN & PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Central Okanagan Indigenous
Education

Guided by the past, invigorated by the present, and providing for the future.

We are honoured to acknowledge that CNB Middle School is on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) People

September 7, 2021

Dear CNB Parents/Caregivers and Students,

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year! I would like to extend a special welcome to all of our incoming Grade 6's and **all** new students to CNB Middle School. This school year promises to be an excellent year at CNB. We will continue to have a strong focus on our academic program with our underlying SD23 theme of HOPE, and our CNB School theme - that **together is better**. The Mission of CNB Middle School is to provide a safe, supportive environment where students, staff, parents/caregivers, and community members are committed to meeting the unique developmental needs of adolescents.

Allow me to introduce myself as your principal. At the same time, I wish to to celebrate and wish former Principal, Mr. Curtis Schreiber, well-wishes into his retirement and appreciation for the years of service and strong foundation he brought to CNB School! My name is Mrs. Elisé Saraceni, and I'm a mother of two boys (one beginning middle school and the other beginning senior high). The butterflies of anticipation that are met at the beginning of each new year - are ones that I encounter not only as a principal, but also as a parent. My husband is also a teacher, and together we have embarked on this new family adventure having recently moved to Kelowna in June.

While my last principal position was at a Gr.8-12 school in the Calgary area, I have had wonderful opportunities throughout my career to lead schools at the elementary, middle school and senior high levels within my former district. It is with great excitement that I am returning to a middle school at CNB; working alongside our families as we support individual student needs.

To experience a strong sense of belonging in school, students must feel capable of completing tasks in a manner that meets the standards of the school, believe they can connect successfully with teachers and classmates, and know they can contribute in a significant way to their learning community and school.

During these initial weeks of pre-school opening preparations, I am in awe of the commitment already demonstrated by this teaching staff to ensure CNB is off to an awesome start. Speaking of awesome, I must comment on how incredible it was to see our Gr. 8 Troop Leaders welcome and tour our incoming Gr. 6s last Thursday for Orientation. There was smiling, sounds of laughter and a beautiful vibrancy of anticipation for the 21-2022 school year. Thank-you to those Gr.6 families who were able to

participate. Thank you to our amazing Gr. 8 Troop leaders for demonstrating character strong attributes through selflessness and commitment in their spectacular leadership.

This year, we have several families who are on a waitlist to attend CNB. If you have a student who is currently enrolled to attend CNB but will no-longer be attending, please contact the school office at 250-870-5177, or email us at cnb@sd23.bc.ca as soon as possible. This will help obtain an accurate enrolment count early in September and therefore facilitate the waitlist process. For the 2021-22 school year, the CNB enrollment will be approximately 930-950 students.

Ms. Laurie Fraser and Mrs. Heidi Kubin have been instrumental VPs to CNB for the past several years. As an administrative team, each of us work collaboratively to support our CNB families, but we also like to delegate our student population to best address our families in times of need in the timeliest manner. Therefore:

- **Mrs. Saraceni, Principal**, will support our families at the **Gr. 6 level**
- **Mrs. Kubin, Vice-Principal**, will support our families at the **Gr. 7 level**
- **Ms. Fraser, Vice-Principal**, will support our families at the **Gr. 8 level**

Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances there needs to continue to be some safety protocols in place, as directed by the Ministry of Health. **Please click on this link and take the time to read our important: [CNB School Health & Safety Measures](#)** document. This document will also be accessible through our school website. **This document is highly detailed and addresses the following protocol information at CNB and throughout SD23 for the 21-2022:**

- **Health monitoring procedures** (daily health check form, health check app for parents, when students are unwell at CNB, etc.)
- **Handwashing procedures** (daily hand hygiene)
- **Sanitizing procedures** (school-wide cleaning & disinfecting, shared equipment, technology, programs of choice (i.e. – band, food, etc.) class sanitizing procedures, food safety, school meal programs & school store, etc.)
- **Mask wearing procedures** (exceptions to the policy, masks during physical education, masks on the bus, etc.)
- **Physical distancing procedures** (limiting congregated groups inside, school entry, movement within our common shared spaces, building access for parents/caregivers or volunteers, school assemblies, PHE & changerooms, sports & extracurricular activities, etc.)
- **Student arrival/drop-off & dismissal/pick-up procedures** (morning/day-end requests for parents and students, bikes-scooters-skateboards, etc.)
- **Emergency evacuation procedures/priorities**
- **Mental Health support information for students and parents/guardians**

All students in grades 4-12, along with all staff and visitors, are required to wear masks when inside the school. We **WILL NOT** be restricted to cohorts as were in place last year. We **WILL** be reintroducing lockers. Locks will be made available to students by their teachers on initial days.

We have received a few emails from parents inquiring about vaccinations and whether staff has been vaccinated. According to the Health Authority protocols, vaccinations are not mandated for School District employees. That information is confidential and private to each individual. To maintain a positive environment please respect each person's privacy and continue to direct all questions or concerns to your designated administrator – as indicated above.

Additionally, we share with you this **Letter of Introduction** from our **CNB Community Youth Service Officer (CYSO) RCMP, Cst. Sherri Lund** [here](#) as we work collectively with Cst. Lunk to support our school safety and student needs.

Although there are some shifts of practice related to Covid measures this school year, we are continuing to be vigilant with our safety protocols. A final reminder to please ensure you and your child completes the Daily Health Check prior to coming to school. I look forward to working together with the CNB school community (parents/caregivers, your children, and our CNB staff) this 21-2022 school year. Let's make it a spectacular one together! We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday morning.

Sincerely,

Elisé Saraceni

Elisé Saraceni, *Principal*
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