

Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows

19438 - 116B Avenue
Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 1G1
Phone: 604-465-7141 www.pmss.sd42.ca



August 21, 2025

Dear PMSS Families:

Welcome
Back!!

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Pitt! I hope this letter finds you refreshed, rejuvenated, and filled with anticipation for the wonderful learning experiences that lie ahead. Whether you are a returning marauder, a new student, a dedicated staff member, or a valued parent/guardian/caregiver, I want to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you.

At PMSS, we believe in creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment that nurtures the intellectual, emotional, and social growth of our students. We are committed to fostering a culture where all individuals are respected, valued, and empowered to reach their full potential. As the principal of this incredible school, it is my privilege and responsibility to lead with a focus on cultural leadership to develop and sustain a climate that supports student learning.

On January 26, 2024, Premier Eby announced that all school districts had until July 1, 2024, to have policies in place that restrict students' **cellphone use in the classroom** during instructional time. While many of our students have cell phones and have grown accustomed to regular usage, students will not be permitted to use personal digital devices during instructional time. Supporting our students to use technology appropriately is a shared responsibility of the home and the school. While changing cell phone culture may be difficult, it is necessary to ensure effective use of instructional and learning time. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this message with students and helping to develop healthy habits.

Parents and students are strongly encouraged to use our **school website** as a source of information, as well as download the **school app, 'My School Day'** which is available for free. Moreover, make sure you are connected to the **Parent Portal** and **MyClass** – these provide online access to critical information related to each student's school/fieldtrip/sports fees, attendance, permission forms, school schedule, report cards, etc. ** Please be sure to review family contact information to ensure that details are correct and up-to-date. If you ever have a concern, please do not hesitate to contact any of your child's teachers, the Counsellors, or Administration.

The **2025-2026 student schedules** will be available to view through **STUDENT MyClass accounts** later in the day on **Friday, August 29th**. Student MyClass log-in information will only be sent to individual @sd42.ca student email accounts. If you have not yet signed up for your Student MyClass account, log on to the SD42 website – you will find the sign-up information and brochure under the STUDENT Top Tab.

Students needing MyClass help must email myclass@sd42.ca as PMSS school staff cannot reset MyClass passwords for you. Parent MyClass accounts will open *later in September*.

Our Admin and counselling team will continue to balance classes through September to accommodate class size and composition requirements. The course change request process will be communicated to students during the first week of school. If you need to contact any of the Administration regarding a student or school issue, please see your 'appropriate' Administrator:

- **Mr. Sharpe – Grade 12** **Ms. Girbav – Grades 8 and 10** **Ms. Cooley – Grades 9 and 11**

Counselling: Counsellors will be in the building the week prior to school start-up. They are available via email to address questions or concerns about counselling support needs. Discussions about schedules/timetables are to occur the first week of school:

- Ms. Price – Grades 8/10/12 (alisha_price@sd42.ca)
- Mr. Edwards- Grades 9/11/12 (simon_edwards@sd42.ca)

Student Fees & Lockers: We encourage you to pay your child's student fees (\$35.00) on the Parent Portal as soon as it goes live on September 1st. Locker distribution will occur on the first day of school (Sept. 2nd) and are done by Homeroom during each student's Block A class. Students wanting a locker should *bring their own combination lock* on the first day.

Grade 8 Orientation Day: On Thursday, August 28th, the PMSS Student Leadership Team will be offering several "Open House" sessions starting *on the hour* at 9:00am, 10:00am & 11:00am. A separate message will be sent to our Gr. 8 families with further details. I highly encourage participation as it is a great way to re-connect and see the school.

Tuesday, September 2nd: Upon arrival, students are to proceed directly to their Block A Class (**as noted above, schedules will be accessible via MyClass later in the day on Friday, August 29th**). Teachers will welcome students, review opening day materials, school structures, assign lockers, and answer any questions. Students will be here approximately one hour and dismissed following their session.

- Grade 8 Students - start time 10:00 a.m.
- Grade 9/10 Students – start time 11:00 a.m.
- Grade 11/12 Students – start time 12:00 noon
- **NEW** International Students: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. You will meet your Liaison in the Multipurpose Room (1014) for a school tour, get your class schedule and answer any questions you might have. If you are a **RETURNING** International Student, please attend at your grade specific time above.

**** IMPORTANT – there will NOT be any school buses running on Sept. 2nd.** They will start their regular schedule on Wednesday, September 3rd.

Wednesday, September 3rd: We will move into our regular schedule, starting with Block D at 8:30 a.m. There will be **NO cafeteria service**, however, we will be hosting a Pizza Lunch fundraiser in the MPR at lunch.

Thursday, September 4th: Starting with Block H at 8:30 a.m. The Pitt Stop will be open for its' first day of cafeteria service (cash/debit or 'existing' Pitt Lunch Cards that still have money to purchase on them).

**** Please note that Pitt Lunch Card sales will start up on the Parent Portal the week of September 8th so plan accordingly if your child is wanting to purchase lunch.**

I encourage you to get involved, stay connected and be an active participant in your child's education. Together, we can create a powerful partnership that will positively impact the lives of our students. Attend our student-led conferences, join our PAC or Grad Committee or volunteer your time and expertise. Your involvement and support are vital to our collective success. More information on PAC and Grad Committees will be communicated during the first couple of weeks of school.

As we embark on this exciting journey, I invite you to share your thoughts, ideas, and feedback with administration. I value open and transparent communication and firmly believe that collaboration is the key to success. My door is always open, and I welcome the opportunity to connect.

Once again, welcome to Pitt Meadows Secondary School. I am genuinely excited to work with each and every one of you and witness the amazing growth and accomplishments that our school community will achieve together. Let's make this year memorable, transformative, and filled with moments of joy and learning.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Be well and take care,

Colin Sharpe
Principal

IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER DATES:

- Sept. 2 – first day back (Gr. 8 – 10:00 a.m.; Gr. 9/10 – 11:00 a.m.; Gr. 11/12 – noon)
- Sept. 3 – first day of *regular* classes starting with Block D; Gr. 8 Rotation #1 begins; Grad Pizza Fundraiser at lunch (no cafeteria service)
- Sept. 4 – Block order is H/G/F/E; Pitt Stop Cafeteria will be open at lunch
- Sept. 5 – Fire Drill
- Sept. 10 – **School Photo Day**
- Sept. 12 – Grade Assemblies
- Sept. 16 – 1st PAC Meeting (TBC)
- Sept. 18 – Gr. 8 Parent Night (6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – additional details TBA)
- Sept. 24 – Food Trucks coming to PMSS @ lunch
- Sept. 26 – PMSS Terry Fox Run
- Sept. 29 – Orange Shirt Day
- Sept. 30 – National Day of Truth & Reconciliation STAT

