

Welcome to @KOOL for the 2022-23 school year, families!

Dear Parents & Students,

Welcome to a new school year @KOOL! You are receiving this email because your child is enrolled in @KOOL for the 2022-23 school year. For those of you who are new to Kamloops Open Online Learning, my name is Paul Hembling, principal of @KOOL. I am excited to welcome families back to a new school year.

The purpose of this email is to let you know the timeline for your child's teacher making contact with you, and to share important health & safety information with you.

Student Learning Plan Meetings

Teachers returned to work following summer holidays this week, and have been busy reaching out to families to set up initial meetings for completion of the required Student Learning Plans (SLPs) for online students. If this is your first year with @KOOL, no doubt you will have questions and you will have an opportunity to speak to your teacher and have your questions answered, if you haven't already. **There is no need to call us to confirm that your child is enrolled with us** – if you have received this email, your child is enrolled and the teacher will connect with you very soon if this hasn't happened already. These meetings will likely be scheduled over ZOOM, although they may also be scheduled in-person or over the phone in order to best meet the needs of families.

Communicable Diseases / COVID and Daily Health Checks

Attached to this email, please find our SD73 Communicable Disease Prevention Plan (CDPP) document attached as a PDF (updated in August, 2022). In this document you will find the protocols explained that everyone in SD73 will follow to ensure students and staff minimize the risk of exposure to communicable diseases (including COVID-19) while minimizing disruption to student learning.

Although most of the time @KOOL students learn off-site from home, there will be times that students need or want to come in to SD73 facilities, either to participate in activities, for 1:1 support, or for meetings. Parents are required to ensure that their students have completed the daily health-check prior to arrival at school for any in-person visit or activity. Please use the Ministry of Education's K-12 Health Check for reference which should answer any questions you may have about whether your child can attend school on a given day (document also attached as a PDF for your convenience):

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/covid/daily-health-check-english.pdf>

Since the mask mandate was lifted by the Ministry of Education last spring, mask use by students and staff in school settings *continues to be optional*, except in specific cases where people are directed to wear masks by a health professional as a result of COVID-19 exposure (please follow that specific guidance if you receive it). For students/families who feel more comfortable wearing masks in public spaces, you are welcome to wear masks in SD73 buildings and we can provide you with a mask if you don't have one.

Fair Notice – Risk Assessment Protocol

Parents and students should be aware of the Violence and Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) process that schools and districts are required to follow in dealing with potential risks to students, staff, and facilities in SD73. Please find attached two letters from Dr. Rhonda Nixon, Superintendent of Schools, regarding "fair notice" to families outlining the process we follow to ensure everyone's safety. Please reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns regarding the VTRA process and how it may affect your child.

Student Code of Conduct

Student behaviour in SD73 is governed by a district-wide Student Code of Conduct, outlined in [Administrative Procedure 350](#) (also attached to this email as a PDF for your reference). I ask that you please take a few minutes to look through this document with your child as it outlines important information on student rights and

responsibilities, as well as our school and district processes for dealing with problematic student behaviour when it arises.

Student Dress Code

I would like to provide a reminder to families about the SD73 Student Dress Code which was updated last year, and applies to all students in our district:

- The Student Dress Code recognizes that a student's choice of dress can form an important part of self-identity. Students must not wear clothing which undermines the District's commitment to a safe and inclusive learning environment. This includes:
 - Clothing that promotes the use of tobacco, illegal drugs or alcohol
 - Clothing that advocates illegal activity
 - Clothing that promotes hatred of a person or persons
 - Clothing that contains profanity, pornography or obscene images
- For a detailed look of School District 73 Student Dress code, please visit ([Administrative procedure 350.2](#)).

Anaphylaxis

Each year, all school staff undergo training on the signs, symptoms and emergency treatment of anaphylactic (allergic) reactions in students (and staff) for everyone's safety. For students with a known anaphylactic reaction to an allergen, I ask that you *please ensure that your child's teacher is aware of the condition* so that plans can be developed to ensure your child's safety. For students with anaphylaxis, there is required paperwork that needs to be filled out which includes the plan for epi-pen (epinephrine) administration should the need arise during an activity or field trip.

KOOL Office Contact Information

Our @KOOL office phone number is 778-471-6061 if you need to reach out to us for any reason. You can also email us at kool-office@sd73.bc.ca.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. I am excited to welcome you to the 2022-23 school year, and I look forward to meeting many of you during our various school activities, meetings and events over the course of the year.

Your child's teacher will be in touch with you shortly.

Thank you and stay healthy,

Paul Hembling
Principal - @KOOL

Paul Hembling
Principal - Distributed Learning (@KOOL)
School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)
CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THEIR FUTURE

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