

## **Graminia Flyover - Aug. 20 - 24th**

Welcome to the Graminia Flyover, a weekly communication from the school to our community. We hope to provide easier access to important information by sending it directly to your inbox. Why a Flyover? Because we are the Hawks!

### **Return To School**

As we plan the return to school, we know that there are many questions. Our return to school plan is shaped by the regulations from the Alberta Government and from Parkland School Division. Please see our [school specific re-entry plan](#) for more information.

For most questions, the answers can be found in the documents that they have created. For a list of different regulations and resources, please visit:

- [PSD guidance for school Re-Entry - Principal's Handbook](#)
- [PSD website COVID- Info page](#)

### **Parent Information Meeting**

All Graminia parents are invited to join a virtual parent information meeting on Wednesday, August 25th at 6:00pm to learn about school re-entry at Graminia. You will have an opportunity to raise questions to better understand the return to in-person classes.

Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/qck-vzgt-xic>

Join by phone:

(CA) +1 613-778-7755 PIN: 544 921 396#

To join the video conference:

- click on the link above
- mute your microphone when you join
- if you have a question, use the 'chat' function (if you are online)

### **Homerooms**

We do not anticipate any significant changes coming to homerooms. Should a change request have been made during the summer, we will be looking at those and new registration placements when our staff has returned on August 25th. We will contact all students who are affected.

### **Homeroom Communication**

Parents and students should expect to see their homeroom teacher sending out an email with a video attachment to introduce themselves, share pictures and video of their classrooms, as well as a short video with their specific entrances. These should arrive the afternoon of Friday, August 27th.

## Staggered Entry Dates

We will not be having a staggered entry for grades 1-9 as we did last year. Our kindergarten classes will have a staggered entry; those families and students will have been notified of their start date from their classroom teacher. As parents are not yet able to enter the building, teachers will be sending out a list of needed school supplies for the first day, additional supplies can then come on the following days to decrease the amount of supplies needed to be carried in.

## Frequently Asked Questions

We cannot answer all questions here, but if you don't see your question below, please read the return to school guideline set out by the province and division before contacting the school. You can also attend the parent information meeting next week where questions will be answered.

Some specific questions that we have received at Graminia are:

- Will Graminia continue to be offsetting the student schedules? Yes - All students will have the same start and end times, but during the day will take their recess breaks and lunch at different times to allow for more space in hallways and outside. We know that this change may require some additional in-class breaks (ie. snacks) which will be managed at the classroom level.

Schedule A		Schedule B	
Block 1	7:58 - 8:44	Block 1	7:58 - 8:44
Block 2	8:44-9:30	Block 2	8:44-9:30
Recess	9:30-9:45	Block 3	9:30-10:15
Block 3	9:45-10:31	Recess	10:15-10:31
Block 4	10:31-11:17	Block 4	10:31-11:17
Recess	11:17-11:47	Lunch	11:17-11:47
Lunch	11:47-12:17	Recess	11:47-12:17
Block 5	12:20-1:05	Block 5	12:20-1:05
Block 6	1:05-1:50	Block 6	1:05-1:50
Block 7	1:50-2:35	Block 7	1:50-2:35

- What will gym and recess look like at Graminia? Gym and Recess will look similar to previous years as they are 2 areas where there is lots of space to maintain physical distance. There will be half the amount of students out at recess at a time to increase the ability to maintain physical distance. Physical Education classes will follow the current guidelines and protocols.

- What does going to the washroom look like for a student? Grades will be assigned different washrooms to distribute the number of students. Additional cleaning will be taking place during the day.
- What can we expect on the first day back? What exactly will this look like for the students and parents and how will students (younger ones) find their classes if parents can't go into the school? Signage will be posted outside for parents and students to find their entrances. We will have staff outside and in the hallways to assist with helping students find their classes and the transportation of supplies and anything else that comes up.
- In Junior High, will students switch classes for different subjects or will they stay in their homeroom and the teacher will come to them? All students will stay in their homeroom class and teachers will come to them to instruct the different classes to begin the year. The exception would be for classes that take place outside and for option courses. Option courses will be offered in a similar fashion to previous years with students choosing their preferred CTF and Arts courses.

### **Supply List Additions**

With some continuation of COVID protocols, we suggest adding 2 items to the supplies that students come with. These are not required, but may make the school day easier for students.

They are:

- Individual Hand Sanitizer - There will be hand sanitizer at all entrances and classrooms, but students may want to have their own sanitizer at their desk.
- Masks
  - masks are strongly recommended for all students (age appropriate) and staff in all common areas and in situations where 2 meters distance cannot be maintained and/or extended periods of time in close proximity.
  - K-3 students are encouraged to wear masks if they choose to do so and are able to properly use a mask.
  - All students, staff and visitors must have access to a mask at all times for situations that require a mask.
  - Disposable masks will be available in the office if needed.

### **Mental Health Supports**

In response to COVID-19, [Spruce Grove Family and Community Support Services](#) is pleased to introduce Parkland Connect, a free single session counselling service for residents living in the Tri-Municipal Region.

Each appointment will be 50 minutes in length and facilitated by [Aspire Psychological Services](#) through secure video conferencing or phone call. Appointments can only be booked up to one week in advance.

Topics that will be explored include coping during COVID-19 and goal setting. Counsellors will propose an action plan that builds on the participant's strengths, ideas and abilities, and provide additional resources as required.

For more information please visit the [website](#).

**Upcoming Important Dates**

- Wed. Aug. 25 - Parent Information Meeting (6:00pm)
- Mon. Aug 30 - first day of school for all gr 1-9 Staggered entry for Kindergarten