



# JOHN BARSBY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

550 - 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Nanaimo, BC  
V9R 3Z2  
Phone (250) 753-8211

*The John Barsby community acknowledges and thanks the Snuneymuxw Nation, on whose traditional lands we teach, learn, live and share knowledge.*

August 26th, 2022

Hello Barsby Families,

We're very excited to welcome our returning and new students to our building and hope you've had a great summer! This year promises to be a return to normal with the resumption of extra-curricular clubs, teams and other ways to connect and engage with school. Please take a moment to read through this letter for details about next week, the first day, and also some important information on changes to our school cell phone policy.

Our year will start with a short orientation / homeroom for all students, on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. On this day, students will receive their timetables and other important forms, meet their semester one teachers, and learn more about the courses they are scheduled into. Please ensure your child brings something to write on and with, on this day. The first full day in session is Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>; classes begin at 8:30 sharp!

## Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

GRADE 8 students attend from 11:30-1:45 pm

- o Early next week, grade 8 families will receive an email showing the location of where to gather on September 6<sup>th</sup>.
- o During homeroom, students will receive timetables and important forms to be signed and returned to the school
- o Students meet their teachers and go through a brief rotation of their courses

GRADES 9-12 students attend from 2:00-3:00 pm

- o Students will identify where their homeroom class is, from lists posted around the school.
- o During homeroom, students will receive timetables and important forms to be signed and returned

Busses have been arranged to reflect these start times. If you have any questions about this, or need to register for bus transportation, please see the NLPS website: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/transportation/>

	<b>Pick up Time</b>	<b>BUS</b>	<b>Class time</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Going to:</b>
John Barsby Community Secondary Grade 8 1877 Nanaimo River Road 1st stop	11:00	<b>Route 17</b>	Grade 8 11:30-1:45	2:00	Extension, Nanaimo River
John Barsby Community Secondary Grade 9-12 1877 Nanaimo River Road 1st stop	1:20	<b>Route 17</b>	Grade 9 - 12 2:00-3:00	3:00	Extension, Nanaimo River

## GRADE 9-12 TIMETABLE ADJUSTMENTS

Timetables have been built on student requests and have been engineered to prevent course conflicts. Please know that many of our classes have already reached capacity and our ability to make changes may be limited.

Counsellors will be in the building, checking and adjusting student timetables, from August 29<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you wish to speak to a counsellor, please call the school at 250-753-8211.

## CELL PHONES IN SCHOOL

There is growing research of the impact of cell phone use on student development, attention span and anxiety. And over the years we have watched as many students demonstrate an increasingly difficult time focusing on classroom learning, for stretches at a time.

Because we believe students perform better in school when they aren't distracted by their phones during class time, all staff at John Barsby will implement the following expectations for the classroom. If you do need to contact your child during class time, please call the office at 250-753-8211 – we will put you in touch with your child.

- During instructional time students will use personal electronic device by the acknowledgement or request of the classroom teacher. At all other times during class, students will keep their phones in their lockers or in their backpack.
- If a teacher needs students to have their phones for academic purposes (Kahoots, research without ChromeBook access, translation tool, field trip documentation, etc.), they will alert students the day before, or at start of class.
- If student phones are visible, staff will attempt to redirect to expected classroom behaviour. Student refusal will be handled by Principal and Vice Principal and will include a phone call to home.
- Students will have access to their phones during structured break times (between classes and lunch time) Appropriate use of phones is expected at this time.
- John Barsby Community School is not responsible for electronic devices that are lost, stolen, or damaged while on school property.

In closing, please note that the office is now open, with counsellors, the Principal and Vice Principals in the building. If you need any additional information, have questions, or would like to touch base, please reach out and connect with us. We will send out additional information as it becomes available, via email and on the school website.

We hope you enjoy the last days of your summer vacation and are as excited about returning to school, as we are to have you here! Stay tuned and watch for all the exciting opportunities we have planned for our John Barsby community!

Your John Barsby Principal and Vice Principal team,  
Theresa Kraeker, Jeff Hasenauer and John Cunnian