



# St. Helen's School

## September Newsletter



### COVID-19



Dear Parents,

The summer this year was different for all of us. It was challenging for me due to my injury, however starting July 1<sup>st</sup> I had permission to be active! I couldn't go far on my bike but I still got outside for fresh air, see next page! I got to see lots of great places in BC. Since our school was awarded "Best School in Burnaby", that has put an additional responsibility on me to continue being the best. See my t-shirt I proudly wore during the summer. We have to provide the best environment for all our students and staff who are returning full time. We have worked very hard during the summer with some of our staff and new vice principal, Anthony Canosa to be sure we followed the policies and guidelines from the Ministry. I am excited that we are able to attend camp safely during these difficult times. I would like to thank Mr. Perrotta for arranging this outdoor education. I would like to highlight some safety items we have purchased; shields for every desk, two reusable masks for every child however students are welcome to bring their own reusable mask, school supplies and outdoor work stations. Our outdoor workstations will be set up in the grass field for classes to eat lunch, do class work, or play. Our cohorts will receive special custom-made bracelets to emphasize the importance of staying in your pods. Larger primary classes (grade 1 and 2) will have additional help to rotate small pods. There will be two available classrooms in the main building. The school bus has special plexi-glass to separate students from Mr. Mobilio. We have also installed a 360 camera for the bus as well as a camera for every seat to monitor students and be sure they are being safe and wearing a mask every time they enter the bus. We have purchased two electric ULV fogger sprayers for the playground, bus and classrooms. This is a very efficient way to keep everything sanitary. Just a reminder that there will be no hot lunch this year due to COVID-19.

My hope is all the students can return for 2020-2021 school year which will look and feel different. It is so important for students mental and physical health to learn in the classroom. Do not hesitate to phone the office for clarification. I found this poem written by Stephanie Krause which highlights worries and doubts about returning to school

*Back to school this year is ideal for no one. Not for teachers, not for parents. Hybrid is not ideal. Virtual is not ideal. Face-to-face in the midst of a pandemic is not ideal.*

*For every kid who is anxious to get back to the classroom there is another who has anxiety about returning.*

*For every parent who wonders, "how am I going to manage this?"*

*There is a teacher wondering, "how am I going to manage this?"*

*Often, a person wears both titles*

*For every kindergarten parent who is sad that this is how their child will begin their education, there is a parent of a senior who is bummed that this is how their child will end theirs.*

*For every person angry about their child having to wear a mask, there is a person who is petrified their immune compromised family member will get ill.*

*Life has thrown us a huge curve ball. A plot twist if you will. It will not be easy. We will be challenged. We will get frustrated.*

*I hope we rise to the occasion. I hope we help one another. We will all need help. I hope we treat each other with grace. We will all need grace. I hope we realize that at the end of the day, our kids need us to be the light.*

*Set the tone.*

*See the good.*

*Take a really unfortunate situation and do our best to make it okay.*

*For them, for us.*

*Principal*

*Waldemar Sambor*



# Restart Pictures for 2020-2021 school year

New additions to enhance safety in our school are bus, outdoor classrooms, plastic dividers on each desk and electronic sprayer to disinfect all areas of the school.

On August 26th the announced potential online learning. We will receive more information from the superintendent office. I will provide you with updates as soon as possible. **Online learning is NOT a substitute for in class learning. Please consider in school option if possible.**

A cohort is a learning group within a classroom that will be less than 60 students, however during outdoor recess and lunch, there will be up to 60 students. Note: the classes will remain the actual size during instructional time. (example: grade 5A—25, grade 5B— 23. outside will be 48 students however inside the classroom it will remain 25 and 23. This cohort of 48 will not mixed with other cohorts in the school.



This will be located in our outdoor classroom as well as the primary hallway in the main



So far, I have received nice comments. Please see below:

*Great restart plan, so proud of school and staff*

*I have parents from other schools complimenting us and I don't know how they know about our plan but words get around*

*Excellent work on the restart plan, thank you to all your staff for all the time and hard work. I have other parents from different schools passing compliments to St. Helen's*

*Great job on the restart plan*



## **TEACHERS, & E.A**

Principal	Mr. Waldemar Sambor	wsambor@cisva.bc.ca
Grade KA	Mrs. Deanna Canosa	dcanosa@shschool.ca
Grade KB	Ms. Christina Henderson	chenderson@shschool.ca
Grade 1	Mrs. Debbie Jussinoja	djussinoja@shschool.ca
Grade 2/Primary director	Mrs. Sandra Drlje	sdrlje@shschool.ca
Grade 3A	Mrs. Donna Perrotta & Mrs. Claudia Martinelli	dperrotta@shschool.ca cmartinelli@shschool.ca
Grade 3B	Ms. Corrina Ialungo	cialungo@shschool.ca
Grade 4/Intermediate director	Ms. Gema Chavez	gchavez@shschool.ca
Grade 5A	Ms. Jasmine Bean (Jazz)	jbean@shschool.ca
Grade 5B	Mrs. Raffaella Brini	rbrini@shschool.ca
Grade 6A	Mr. Anthony Belmonte	abelmonte@shschool.ca
Grade 6B	Mrs. Jackie Kenny	jkenny@shschool.ca
Grade 7A/Vice Principal	Mr. Anthony Canosa	acanosa@shschool.ca
Grade 7B	Mrs. Lindsay Mincieli	lmincieli@shschool.ca
Library/LAC	Mrs. Jadranka Erlic	jerlic@shschool.ca
LAC director	Mrs. Teresa Utini	tutini@shschool.ca
Counselor	Mrs. Sarah Ruggier	sruggier@shschool.ca
P.E/Athletic director	Mr. Enrico Perrotta	eperrotta@shschool.ca
Music director/Band	Mrs. Melina Ivanovic	mivanovic@shschool.ca
French	Mrs. Donata Vitucci	dvitucci@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Annarita Elm	aelm@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Linda Zen	lzen@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Mac Santalucia	msantalucia@shschool.ca
E.A.	Ms. Rosa Bastone	rbastone@shschool.ca
E.A.	Ms. Angela Sorriento	asorriento@shschool.ca
E.A.	Ms. Gina Coughlan	gcoughlan@shschool.ca
E.A.	Ms. Melissa Brienza	mbrienza@shschool.ca
E.A./SUB	Ms. Daniella Trevisan	dtrevisan@shschool.ca
Part time E.A.	Erica Busto, Alyssa Sommers, Hailey Joel, Daniela Pantusa, Nicola Ricci, Julianna Cerminara, Mr. Nick Belmonte, Jenna Mobilio, Dante Bassanese, Stefanie Bordignon.	

**Note: Grades A & B remained the same as last year (except grade 7).**

## **SUPPORT STAFF**

Office Manager	Ms. Nancy Ginnetti	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca
Secretary	Mrs. Laura DeFazio	secretary@shschool.ca
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Linda Spitale	lspitalehs@hotmail.com
Payroll	Mrs. Karen Paulyn	kpaulyn@shschool.ca
Maintenance	Mr. Tony Merandi & Mr. Paul Mobilio	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca

**Note: Please note all staff emails are posted on the school website.**

Teacher email is for general communication purposes. This form of communication is **not** a replacement for parent-teacher conferences. **For all absentee notes please email Secretary or submit through school app.**

## **PEC MEMBERS 2020/2021**

Ms. Gerardina Trasolini	Chair	Mrs. Lidija Bosa	Participation
Mrs. Angela Coelho	Vice-Chair	Mr. David Jacobucci	Participation
Mr. Bryce Clark	Treasurer	Mr. Marco Holzer	Maintenance
Mr. Federico Gimenez	Secretary	Fr. Alessandro Lovato	Pastor