



# Rockheights Middle School

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Friday, August 27, 2021



Dear Families,

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a terrific summer, and am sure you are starting to gear up for coming back to school on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>! We wanted to take a minute to connect, and to welcome you and your children back to school for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. The teachers, educational assistants, office team, custodial team and administrators have been eagerly preparing for the new year. Rockheights Middle School is ready for a great start and an outstanding year!

We realize that communication is important and many of you are likely inundated with messages and emails. We do ask you to please look for our **weekly communication that will be sent home to families each Friday** to let you know about upcoming events and important pieces of information for your child and family. For instance, many of you are likely wondering what back to school will look like given the current Covid protocols (Yes, students are still being asked to complete daily health checks, to wear masks indoors, and to maintain good hand hygiene) so please refer to the attached letter from our district for more specifics. These types of communication, unless they are extremely time sensitive, will be emailed home at the end of each week so we appreciate you taking the time to review them.

First of all, we would like to extend special greetings to all of our new students, families and staff. **Welcome to Rockheights!** I would also like to take a minute to introduce myself, as my name is Aaron Maxwell and I am the new principal here at Rockheights. I am very excited to return to this community as I know it is such a special place. I look forward to meeting each of you and working, and learning, with you and your children.

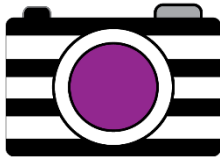
For the first week of school, we are involving all of the students and staff in class and team building activities to promote school spirit, unity and a sense of belonging. We will have students in their classes on Tuesday morning so that they can get connected with their classmates and teacher and some of the other adults they may be working with.

On Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> school will start at 9:30am and students will be dismissed at 11:30am. Grade 7 and 8 students will be able to see the name of their Advisory class teacher as lists will be posted on the boards outside the school. Then, those students will be able to make their way to their assigned entrance to meet with their teacher. Grade 6 students will be asked to meet on the basketball court so that they can meet their Advisory teacher and learn the procedures for entering the school.

Starting on Wednesday, we will begin our regular daily schedule, which starts at 8:35am and dismisses at 2:50pm. Students will enter the school through their assigned entrances and follow all of the protocols learned on Tuesday. No school supplies are needed for the first week, but please ensure that your child has lunch, a water bottle, and is dressed for the weather - as we will be spending much of the week outdoors.

**ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!**

Parents are expected to call the school at (250) 384-7127 to notify the school of a student absence. Students are responsible for any missed work on days absent from school. **Reminder:** Students arriving late to school must check in either with their teacher or at the office. We encourage all students to be on time as we look forward to them being a part of all learning activities.



**Photo Day – Friday, September 17 (morning only)**

Retake day is on Monday, October 25 (morning only).


**SAVE THE DATE!- Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**

Parent involvement and student success are strongly connected. One of the best ways to become involved at Rockheights is to participate in the school Parent Advisory Council. We extend an invitation to come out to see what the Rockheights PAC has been up to - the first meeting is on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> (format specifics to follow). We hope you will be able to join us.

**A Few Important Dates for September**

- Tuesday, Sep. 7** School reopens (9:30-11:30 only)
- Tuesday, Sep. 14** First PAC meeting (format to be confirmed)
- Thursday, Sep. 16** Meet the Teacher Night (format to be confirmed)
- Friday, Sep. 17** School Photo Day (morning only)
- Friday, Sep. 17** Deadline for returning Student Verification Forms
- Friday, Sep. 24** Terry Fox Run (toonies for Terry)
- Monday, Sep. 27** **Professional Development Day (No School for students)**
- Wednesday, Sep. 29** Orange Shirt Day at Rockheights (wear orange)
- Thursday, Sep. 30** **National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No School)**





### Rockheights Bell Schedule 2021-2022

<b>Warning bell:</b>	8:35am
<b>Start time:</b>	8:40am (in class)
<b>Nutrition Break:</b>	9:48-10:03am
<b>Lunch:</b>	11:55am -12:40pm
<b>Dismissal:</b>	2:50pm

On behalf of all the staff at Rockheights, thank you for your continued support of our school, our community and our students.

We look forward to the year! If you have any questions, please contact us at 250-384-7125.

Sincerely,

*Aaron Maxwell*

Mr. Aaron Maxwell  
Principal

*Christina Pelletier*

Ms. Christina Pelletier  
Vice-Principal