



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

ROMANS 12:1-2

August 7, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students :

"We know how important it is for children to be back in school – to both support their emotional and mental health and their ability to socialize and to learn,"

- Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer.

Greetings

I hope you have all had some leave and a chance to rest and be restored this summer break. It has been a good summer for my own family, with some camping, lots of water parks, and caring for a very pregnant Mrs. Zhou.

As September is approaching, we wanted to take the opportunity to communicate what we have planned for the school year in light of the ongoing situation with Covid19 and the information we are receiving from The Ministry of Education and the Health Minister. If you would like to be caught up, this video explains the province's position on several matters pertaining to schools reopening.

[July 29th Schools Reopening Plan](#)

Successes

To share some positive news and accomplishments about our school, we had a surprise visit from WorkSafe who inspected our school and found our school to be officially safe and ready to operate. We are working closely with our stakeholders and the various ministries to keep our students and community safe. August also marks 4 months of BCCA being in continual operation with our Kids Club and care for the children of essential service workers, demonstrating we have a tried and tested methodology. We have also been continually submitting health safety protocols plans with the government, which includes increased daytime custodial care, changing schedules, and minimized contacts.

"The key message from Dr. Henry is that due to what we now know about COVID-19 and the impact it has on children, it is safe and strong public health policy to have students back in schools."

- Shawn Chisolm, Director of FISA

Rationale

For our BCCA High School, grades 8-12, we are doing a few things differently this upcoming fall to get ahead of Covid19. First, we are changing our school course scheduling. As one of our major considerations for this fall, we want to be best situated to continue learning and teaching as seamlessly as possible, especially with further potential need of virtual learning.

ES Campus: 1019 Fernwood Avenue, Port Coquitlam BC V3B 5A8 | T: 604.941.84.26

HS Campus: 3000 Christmas Way, Coquitlam BC V3C 2M2 | T: 778.819.85.34

W: www.bcchristianacademy.ca E: admissions@bccaschool.ca



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

ROMANS 12:1-2

We are looking at 2 areas for this decision, first is different studies from within education, and secondly is ours and other schools' recent experiences with teaching during a full lock-down. We are planning to change from running 5 courses a semester (3 semester courses and 2 year-long per semester for a total of 8 potential courses a year) to a Quadrants or Block System, where students will do 2 courses a term, with 4 terms over the course of the year equating to the same number of courses. The academic goal of this change is to limit the number of classes students are engaging in at a given time so that if we begin virtual learning again, the school will have less to transition. As well, students will be able to focus their energies on fewer classes and teachers will be able to provide significantly deeper learning and more time to engage students one on one. The second advantage is that we will reduce the number of transitions of students in between classes onsite, therefore helping us maintain a better sanitary environment in line with the Ministry of Education and Health Guidelines.

Changes in Practice

There will be a few changes regarding our time in the school together.

- Students will continue to complete our daily health surveys
- Masks are suggested but not required at this time.
- Masks and all other items, including books clothes, containers, etc., that are brought to the school must be taken home same day, we are asking that nothing is left on campus overnight
 - Items like masks should be brought to school and removed in separate sealable containers like Ziploc bags or plastic containers
- Students will be kept with specific grade groupings in order to preserve their maximum 120 person learning groups as recommended by the Ministry of Education
- Until further notice, microwaves will not be available at the school, which means that students will need to bring lunches or other foods that do not require refrigeration or heating.
 - Food deliveries from anyone other than parents or guardians are not allowed
 - Including but not limited to:
 - UberEats
 - DoorDash
 - SkipTheDishes
 - Etc.

We will be sending a more detailed list of policies and practices closer to the beginning of school. Thank you for your continued support of our school and providing a Christian and Bible based education for your children. No matter where we are in God's ultimate plan, the best things we can do are to continue to learn, grow, and serve in the name of Jesus Christ. I look forward to working with you and your children again soon.

Sincerely,
Miguel Zhou

ES Campus: 1019 Fernwood Avenue, Port Coquitlam BC V3B 5A8 | T: 604.941.84.26

HS Campus: 3000 Christmas Way, Coquitlam BC V3C 2M2 | T: 778.819.85.34

W: www.bcchristianacademy.ca E: admissions@bccaschool.ca



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

ROMANS 12:1-2

High School Principal
British Columbia Christian Academy

Appendix

I wanted to feature some of the ways we can see God moving in BC since April. This was wonderfully assembled by Mrs. Beth Peters, our elementary principal.

As we turn the corner into the second half of this out-of-the-ordinary summer, we first offer up sober thanks to our all-powerful God for bending down to hear our prayers and graciously answering them in so many unexpected ways:

1. Of all the provinces in Canada, British Columbia stands out as the one that has most successfully controlled the Corona Virus outbreak these past 4 months. With 5.1 million people who call BC "home," our 3700 cases amount to just 0.0007% of the population who have been infected - indeed a number that puts into perspective the significant way that God has protected the people of this province. *Thank you Lord that the hundreds of thousands of deaths predicted in the spring have not materialized.*
<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data>
2. While most of us had never even heard the name *Bonnie Henry* before March, we now recognize her as a wise and respected authority whose firm hand and level-headed decisions on our pandemic response have guided and informed our recovery. *Thank you, Heavenly Father, for putting Dr. Henry in office for such a time as this.*
3. The vast majority of British Columbians have willingly placed themselves under those in authority over us to help in every possible way to make life safer for all. *Thank You, God, for every family in this province and particularly in our School community that has contributed to the continuing positive effects of our pandemic protocols.*

Therefore, in light of the announcement made last week by the BC Minister of Education Rob Fleming and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, we want to share the news with you regarding our plans for moving into a Stage 2 return to school for this September