

Dear grade 8 students and families,

We extend you a warm hello from W.L. Seaton Secondary, which resides on the traditional, unceded territory of the Syilx Nation. We are so excited to welcome you into the Seaton family! We also recognize that this has been a difficult time for our community. Many of us have been experiencing increased stress and anxiety in the wave of a global pandemic and a summer of unprecedented heat and forest fires. We would like our Seaton community to be the safe place of comfort and support that students need most right now.

The transition to high school is a milestone in a child's life, and it's normal to feel excited, nervous, and anxious about this change. Those feelings can be amplified in uncertain times such as these. As such, we want to welcome grade 8 students into Seaton to meet their dedicated administrators and staff, take a tour of the building, meet some fellow grade 8 students and some of the fantastic senior leadership students, and enjoy an icy treat. We will also provide them with their schedules, show them their assigned lockers, answer their questions, and create a fun, welcoming atmosphere so everyone can leave with positive feelings about the adjustment to grade 8 life at Seaton.

The orientation event will take place on **Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00am – 11:00am**. This event is *for students only*, although parents are welcome to sign in at the office to pay the yearly fees: student fee (\$30), physical education fee (\$25), and the *optional* yearbook fee (\$55). Locks are also available for purchase for \$5; although you may use any lock on the student lockers, we recommend using our school locks because they are high quality, and we have a master list of the codes to access if a student forgets their combination. After paying for fees, parents and/or guardians can enjoy the rest of the morning and return to Seaton at the end of the orientation at 11:00am.

We want you to know that the members of our school community have been preparing for a safe return to school. Rest assured that the safety of staff, students and their families is, and always has been, our priority. According to the new PHO, masks are mandatory for all staff and students in grades 4 – 12, and hand washing will continue as an important line of defense. **Please remember to bring a mask for use within the buildings.**

We look forward to seeing you next week!

Sincerely,

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