



## ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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January 14, 2020

### **Grade 7 to 8 Transition to École Argyle Secondary School**

Dear Parents / Guardians of Grade 7 Students,

On behalf of the administration and staff of Argyle, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our École Argyle Secondary School community. It is with great anticipation and excitement that we look forward to the arrival of your child at Argyle for the 2020-2021 school year. This letter provides an overview of the process that your child will participate in over the next few months as they transition to high school.

Our transition program focuses on giving students and their families helpful information while providing an initial introduction to Argyle. This is also an opportunity for us to learn how we can best support our incoming students prior to their official arrival in September. We host our incoming Grade 7's several times prior to June to familiarize them with some of our daily processes and expose them to the atmosphere that exists in the high school setting. For our first event, incoming students are invited to participate in introductory tours led by our Leadership students on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Students will arrive at the school for a brief presentation at 9:00am before proceeding onto their tours.

A number of other activities are listed at the end of this letter; please make note of the dates and times. We look forward to your participation as we prepare your children for their transition to Argyle.

### **Grade 7 Student Guided Tour – Monday, February 10, 2020**

Grade 7 students and their teachers will be invited to come to Argyle for a guided tour and short presentation on Monday February 10<sup>th</sup>. Students are welcome to gather in the Cafeteria after 8:00 am; the official start time for the event is 9:00 am. This first introduction will last until approximately 11:15 am when students will return to their elementary school. Grade 7 teachers will explain the exact logistics of this event as it pertains to your child's elementary school.

The purpose of this visit is three-fold:

- to familiarize your child with the size of the school and visit classes while in session.
- to help your child gain an understanding of the school's academic and elective areas.
- to build a sense of community and connection to Argyle Secondary.

Tours will have a slightly different focus as compared to previous years given we are anticipating moving into our new building for September. To this end, the focus on the tour will not be on the specific location

and ‘look’ of a high school classroom, but more, an introduction to the type of programs and how learning occurs in the secondary setting. We hope to share some of the excitement our entire community feels looking forward to our new school.

### **Course Programming Information Meeting for Grade 7 Parents**

Parents of current Grade 7s are invited to a course programming information and transition meeting on *Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm* in the Argyle Large Gym. An optional guided tour of the school led by Leadership students will commence prior to the event. For those interested in a tour, please meet at 6:15pm in the Cafeteria. There will be a school welcome and introduction, a programming information presentation, and a question and answer period. The purpose of this meeting is to provide general information about Argyle Secondary and, more specifically, to discuss with you, Argyle’s course offerings and programs. Information specific to Grade 8 and the transition to secondary school will also be presented.

### **Grade 7 Student Programming Presentation**

Vikki Dashkevich (Grade 8 Counsellor) and John Crowley (Vice Principal for incoming Grade 8’s), will be visiting elementary schools to assist students with course programming for their Grade 8 year in late February. Course Request sheets will be handed out at this time and will be due back to your child’s Grade 7 teacher by Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Grade 7 Student Introduction to High School**

Grade 7 students and their teachers will be invited to come to Argyle for an orientation to the school in mid-May. Leadership students will lead groups station to station and provide helpful tips such as how to open a school lock, how to read our timetable, organizational strategies and other tips to help ease the transition to high school. These stations are intended to help ease the transition process and allow students to gain a comfort level with the Argyle facility and senior students.

### **Grade 7 Articulation Meetings**

Another behind the scenes aspect of the Grade 7 transition process will take place in late April. The Argyle transition team of educators will visit elementary schools to discuss specific educational needs of our incoming Grade 7 students. If necessary, your child’s elementary teacher will be sharing any suggested changes or recommendations to your child’s program. For students who may require additional supports, our Family of Schools Leader, Natalie Hagarty, will connect with families individually.

### **September 2020 – Grade 8 First day of High School & Parent Orientation**

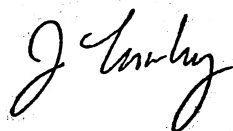
Lastly, in the fall, Grade 8 parents are invited to Argyle Secondary’s two welcome events. On the first day of school a parent/guardian is welcome to join their child (parent participation is optional) on a full rotation of all of the students’ classes in order to visit your child’s classrooms and tour the school. Later in the month, parents will be invited to an evening orientation meeting in the Large Gym. Exact dates for this event will be sent out via email in late August. (Please ensure your contact information is accurate).

On behalf of the Argyle Secondary community, we look forward to meeting and working with you and your child. If you have any questions regarding your child’s program for our school, please contact Vikki Dashkevich (Grade Counsellor) at [vdashkevich@sd44.ca](mailto:vdashkevich@sd44.ca) or at 604.903.3300.

For up to date information regarding Argyle Secondary School, please visit [www.ArgyleSecondary.ca](http://www.ArgyleSecondary.ca)

If you have any other questions about the transition process, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



John Crowley  
Vice-Principal, Argyle Secondary School  
JCrowley@sd44.ca



### Grade 7 Transition Timeline

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| <b>Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup></b><br>9:00 am – 11:15 am<br><br>6:15 pm<br>Parent Tours of Argyle<br><br>7:00 pm<br>Parent Information Meeting | Grade 7 Student tours of Argyle (students meet in the cafeteria prior to 9am)<br><br>Argyle facility guided tour (Meet in the Cafeteria if you would like a school tour)<br><br>Course Programming Information Night for Grade 7 Parents in the Small Gym at Argyle |
| Late February 2020  | Grade 7 student programming presentations by Argyle staff to students at their elementary schools.<br>Course selection sheets are due to your Grade 7 teacher by March 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| April 2019  | Articulation visits by Argyle Staff, at individual elementary schools   |
| <b>May 2019</b> , date/time TBD   | Student orientation tours at Argyle (individual schools)  |