

"Home of the Thunderbirds"

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August 28, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

I hope that you and your family are well, and have enjoyed a safe and restful summer. I had a quiet 'stay-cation' and did tons of work on my house - proof that Google can make even me handy!

This letter is the first of a series over the next week that will share school district and school-based planning for re-opening during this challenging COVID-19 time. As the return to school draws near, I know that you and your family will have many questions. My 'momma heart' knows that your 'parent heart' is concerned. Please rest assured that I am working hard on your child's behalf, asking questions and supporting the development of planning that meets or exceeds the recommendations of BC CDC and PHO.

This week all NVSD school principals and vice principals have been meeting with district leadership to review protocols and key aspects of safe return, including student and staff health and safety protocols, instructional models and design, as well as a continuing focus on Social Emotional Learning and positive Mental Health. Work on refining details of the Restart Plan continues so that final preparations for a successful September return to school can be made.

On Wednesday, August 26th, you received a communication from Superintendent Mark Pearmain. This letter provided general information regarding September restart plans as well as a link to the publication of Restart Plan information on the NVSD website, www.sd44.ca. I encourage you to read through the comprehensive documentation provided as it will answer some of the questions that you have. As mentioned in the Superintendent's letter, it is essential that you complete a short survey to assist with local school planning:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RtUantX4ek-GDic4Z6NToFYRCnmSfXNGnjFKGVKe3qtUMDhJTkgyVExYMU9TUDc2Rlg3WFYwMzc3Mi4u

Your response to this survey is required to plan and organize for instructional delivery at Carisbrooke in September. The survey deadline is August 29.

Let's move forward in this challenging time together. Please remember that your mood 'makes the weather' for our children. If you are anxious and stressed your child will be too. If something is keeping you up at night, please connect with me to chat. Ask me questions and share your concerns, and I will do my best to answer or connect us with a resource who can. Calm and steady adults go a long way to helping a child transition back to school during this new normal.

I appreciate the ongoing support and caring of our Carisbrooke School community and ask for your continued good will and patience as we finalize details. I am committed to supporting our students, staff and families through this challenging time. School will look different this year, but fun and learning at Carisbrooke will continue.

I look forward to seeing you and your children back at school soon!

Sincerely,

Lisa Upton

Principal, Carisbrooke