



École Chief Dan George Middle School



Welcome

Hello and Bonjour to new Parents and Students of Chief Dan George Middle School!

We hope you have an enjoyable and fulfilling summer. We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday, September 5th at 8:25 a.m.

We are proud of the fact that we provide a number of programs for students including Early and Late French Immersion, and our English Track. Students come from over twenty K to 5 schools to attend Chief Dan George Middle School!

This will be the twenty-second year Chief Dan George has operated as a middle school. CDGMS has developed a strong reputation in a number of areas including band, extra-curricular options, explorations and academic rigor.

Opening School Information

Tentative Class Lists

The tentative class lists will be posted on the windows in front of the school on Friday, September 1st at 5:00 pm. The grade level, room number, Pod teacher's names and division will be at the top. Some classes have a waiting list for vacant seats. Please note that class changes may take place during the first two weeks of school due to changes in enrolment numbers.

If your family has decided to have your child/children attend a school other than Chief Dan this September, 2023 please call our office immediately and leave a message at 604 852 9616.

Thursday, August 31st – for Incoming Grade 6 students only

In order to start your first year at middle school on a positive note, our Grade 8 Web Leaders will be planning some wonderful activities to welcome you to Chief Dan George. Hopefully these activities will help you to get oriented to your new school and make friends. Please note you will need to be at school from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31st (this is not a mandatory event).

Tuesday, September 5th (8:25-10:30 am)

The first day will be a partial one for students to meet their teachers, peers, and to see parts of the school. We will start at 8:25 am and dismiss at 10:30 am. Students do NOT bring their supplies on this day. They only need to bring a pencil and paper or notepad.

Grade 6 students will proceed directly to the **gym**.

Grade 7 and 8 students will proceed directly to their **classes**. Student helpers as well as Learning Services staff will be available to help new students find their classroom.

Wednesday, September 7th (FULL DAY)

Classes will run the full day from 8:25 a.m. until 2:18 p.m. Teachers begin team building activities with their students.

Grade 6 students will proceed to the **gym**.
Grade 7 and 8 students will proceed directly to their **classes**.

Transportation

Buses

The **user-pay** school bus and the Special Education school buses will be in operation the first day of school. If you wish to register for bussing please do so prior to **August 11th** at the following site:

<https://www.abbyschools.ca/busing>

If you are registered for bussing but unsure which bus your child will take, please call the transportation department at 604-855-5278 or email them at school.bus@abbyschools.ca

Traffic Flow, Safety and Student Drop Off

Please only park in the marked areas of the parking lot. Please note parents are allowed to park in the parking lot at the corner of Gladwin and Old Riverside Road. Please only drop off students in the lane closest to the school. If you are parking in the street, please do so in the designated areas only. Also, please have your children use the crosswalk when crossing the street.

The busiest times are 10-15 minutes before and after school. Please be patient when dropping off or picking up students. Please try to avoid these busy times by encouraging your child to walk or carpool.

General Information

School Calendar 2023-2024

To help with the planning of your child's forthcoming academic year, please find enclosed the 2023-2024 calendar.

Supply List

It is included in this package. Please do NOT bring all supplies to school the first day. Teachers will be giving additional instructions regarding lockers starting the second day. All students must bring gym strip and indoor shoes daily.

Attendance & Late Arrivals

A reliable indicator of student success is consistency of attendance at school. Students who attend all of their classes all of the time experience greater academic success in school and personal success later. We will do whatever we can as a teaching community to ensure that your children are engaged in interesting and demanding learning experiences designed to arouse their curiosity and prepare them for academic and personal success after they leave CDGMS.

We take the tracking of students' attendance very seriously. The reasons for this include: (1) our concern for the whereabouts and safety of our students, (2) maintaining accurate records as required by law, and (3) tracking students' academic progress to ensure that they are keeping up with their studies. We ask for your help and cooperation in the following ways:

- Ensure that your children arrive on time to school - students who are late create disruption to the learning environment for others and often find it uncomfortable arriving to a class when it has already begun.
- Ensure that the office is notified of absences and/or lates using the Safe Arrival app which can be found at <https://chiefdan.abbyschools.ca/safe-arrival>
- Remind your child to sign-in at the office if they come late to school.
- If your child needs to leave school early for any reason please send them with a note for their teacher. As well you must come into the office to sign them out.
- If someone other than the parent/guardian (i.e., a friend or another child's parent) is picking up your child, we need a note or call from you authorizing it.

Closed Campus

During the school year we have a closed campus for the safety and security of our students. This means that students are expected to stay on campus at all times (including lunch time) unless previous arrangements are made with the school by the parents or guardians. All visitors (including parents) to the campus are expected to check in at the office upon entering the building. Please do not proceed directly to your child's classroom, but drop off items (lunches, books, etc.) at the office and we will notify your child.

Parent Involvement

We welcome your involvement and participation in the life of CDGMS. We have a developing tradition of parental volunteerism at our school. This is a tradition we want to continue. A big thank you to the parents on the PAC executive: Laura Lewis (President), Donna Thomas (Vice-President), Nicole McIlravey (Treasurer), Josephine Leonard (DPAC rep). We welcome your help and participation on the PAC. Come to meet other parents and find out how we can support our children during these important and formative years.

Pay School Trips/Fees Online

Our district has made it possible for parents to pay for items such as fees and field trips online. Please note – once you register you do not have to re-register each year until your child graduates.

<https://abbotsford.schoolcashonline.com>

If you'd like help registering for this program please see Lisa in the office, she will be happy to walk you through the process.

Finally, we hope you're looking forward to the new school year ... we certainly are. The office is available by appointment throughout the summer. Please e mail lisa.garrison@abbyschools.ca to make an appointment. The office will open fully on August 21st (summer office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) Normal office hours of 7:30 am to 3:00 pm will start September 5th. Should you have any questions please visit our website at contact the office at (604) 852 9616.

Mr. J. Beck, Principal
 Mme M. Trudeau, Vice-Principal
 Chief Dan George Middle