



**Davenport Public School**  
**Return to School Information**  
**September 7, 2021**

Hello Davenport Falcons!

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! The staff has been very busy getting ready for next week. We cannot wait to see you!

**FIRST DAY PROCEDURES**

We have developed a plan for our first day of school that we will follow, rain or shine. Staff will be present on the school yard to greet students between 8:40 and 8:55 a.m. Grade specific signage will be posted to direct child(ren) to the appropriate meeting place where educators will be on hand with class lists to assist them.

Parents/guardians are asked to ensure that physical distancing is always occurring on the school yard. Also, please have your child(ren) prepared to enter the school with a mask on.

Parents/guardians will need to say good-bye before your child enters the school.

If you are driving to the school, please park on one of the nearby side streets and walk a block or two to the school. Not only is this great exercise for everyone but it will lessen congestion at the school and help us keep everyone safe.

There have been a lot of changes over the past months related to school organization and our staff have made these decisions with considerable effort. Your child has already been assigned to a class and we are unable to consider any changes at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

**DAILY SCHEDULE**

We continue to be on a Balanced School Day schedule this year as follows:

8:40 – 8:55 am	Supervision as students arrive at school
8:55 - 9:15 am	Period 1
9:15 - 9:55 am	Period 2
9:55 - 10:35 am	Period 3
10:35 - 10:55 am	Nutrition Break/Recess
10:55 - 11:15 am	Nutrition Break/Recess

11:15 - 11:55 am	Period 4
11:55 am - 12:35 pm	Period 5
12:35 - 1:15 pm	Period 6
1:15 - 1:40 pm	Nutrition Break/Recess
1:40 - 2:05 pm	Nutrition Break/Recess
2:05 - 2:45 pm	Period 7
2:45 - 3:25 pm	Period 8
3:25 pm	Dismissal

### **NUTRITION BREAK/RECESS**

As you can see by this schedule, students will have two breaks during the day with each break being split 50/50 between eating and recess. The break in the morning is 40 minutes (20 min eating/20 min recess) and the afternoon break is 50 minutes (25 min eating/25 min recess). Approximately half of our students will be outside for recess to facilitate physical distancing and safety and the other half will be eating lunch at that time. Then they will switch midway through the break.

As a result of this eating and recess schedule, it will be important to pack plenty of food in your child(ren)'s lunch as they will have two longer periods of time to eat. Lots of balanced day lunch tips and ideas can found on the internet.

Students will be required to put any garbage or recycling back in their lunch bag and take it home for disposal and/or recycling. This is a Covid19 safety precaution and reduces movement and congestion throughout our classroom spaces during eating times. You may consider this a learning opportunity for your child(ren) with the challenge of creating a litterless lunch by using reusable containers. Another option is to put a plastic bag in their lunch bag to keep their garbage and recycling separate from their food.

Please minimize any trips to the school during the day to drop off food or lunches for your child(ren). Visitors are not permitted into the school unless it is for an essential appointment. Our front doors will be locked. Please ensure that your child has everything that they will need for the entire school day when they leave for school in the morning.

Students are permitted to bring their own sports equipment/balls to participate in recess activities. All students will be required to wash their hands before and after recess. If students have their own sports equipment for recess, they are encouraged to share with a small group of friends and to store this equipment in their backpack. Parents/guardians are asked to wash/sanitize the equipment each evening. The school is not yet able to provide sports equipment for students to use at recess time. We do, however, have procedures in place for the safe use of sports equipment for physical education classes.

## LEAVING SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR LUNCH

Please make careful note of the procedure in place for students who leave school property for lunch. These expectations have been put into place in order to keep everyone safe.

- If your student in grade 4-8 will be going home for lunch every day for the duration of the school year, please send the Principal an email to indicate this intent.
- Students will not be able to leave the school property at the first nutrition break unless they are being picked up by a parent/guardian.
- Grade 7s and 8s may leave the school property during the 2<sup>nd</sup> nutrition break ONLY. This break is 50 minutes long. Students must return to school within this time frame. Attendance is taken immediately following the break and those students returning late miss out on valuable learning time and interrupt the work of their peers when they enter the classroom. Parents/guardians and students should consider this shortened time frame, as well as the limited capacity of nearby local eating establishments due to Covid19 restrictions, when making the decision to leave the school property for lunch.
- For the Grade 7 and 8 students who stay for lunch, in order to be able to leave school property, they must have a **signed and dated note on paper** from their parent/guardian that states they have permission to leave the property for lunch. These notes will be collected and maintained by the Office for purposes of contact tracing related to Covid19. A new note will need to be presented each day a student is leaving the property for lunch. A note with a general statement stating that your child has permission to leave for lunch on any day that they choose can **not** be accepted. Nor are we able to accept text message to your child's phone.
- Students must sign out at the Office if they are leaving the school property at the last break.
- Students in Grades 4, 5 or 6 should not be leaving the school property for lunch. If you would like your child in Grade 4, 5 or 6 to go home during the last nutrition break for lunch, it is recommended that you come to pick them up or that you speak to the Principal to make these arrangements.

We greatly appreciate your support of the nutrition break expectations. As a staff, we have been working very hard to put into place all of the necessary health and safety precautions and procedures to keep our entire school community safe. When students leave the school property to attend a local establishment for lunch, it increases everyone's exposure to other contacts. Our intent is to minimize these contacts, and the risk for everyone at Davenport Public School.

## INDIVIDUAL PLANS OF CARE AND MEDICAL NEEDS

If your child has a medical condition that requires an epi-pen, an inhaler, medication, or a condition that we should know about for their safety, please complete the Individual Plan of Care located in the Parent Portal. We will be in touch to ensure that we have plans in place for the safety of your child.

In addition, please send any required epi-pens and inhalers to school with your child. Encourage them to let their educator know that they have these items with them or contact either their teacher or the Principal to make us aware..

## **CELL PHONES**

Davenport Public School continues to have a no cell phone policy. We are fortunate that we have sufficient technology to meet our students' educational needs and if students need to contact home, we will assist them with this need through the use of the Office phone. Students are encouraged to leave their cell phones/devices at home. If they bring them to school, they must be shut off, put away, and not visible. Consequences for inappropriate cell phone use will be explained to all students during the first week of school.

## **BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

As we not yet able to have volunteers in the school building, we will not have the ordinary breakfast program running at Davenport at the start of the school year. We are hoping to have a modified program whereby pre-packaged food is available in the classrooms for students to access as needed. However, this program will not be operating for the first couple weeks of school. Please ensure that your child(ren) have breakfast before coming to school and have plenty of food packed for lunches. We will let you know when the program is up and running and in what capacity.

Please know that every decision that has been made over the past few weeks has been done with the care, safety and the education of your child(ren) in mind. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact us via phone or email.

Sincerely,

*Pam Spicer and Nora Polychronopoulos*  
Interim Principals