



WestNiagara

Secondary School

September 5th, 2023

Wolfpack and Families,

Thank you all for a great first day in our new school. It was amazing to have you all here and learning. I was so impressed at how easily you navigated the building and found your classes - well done! I have a few notes for you below.

1) Temperature

- a) We expect hot temperatures to last into tomorrow, according to the weather forecast.
- b) We do have an air chilling system that is cooling the building. The extremely hot temperatures outside, and busy building contribute to the warm temperatures inside. It takes time for a new building to adjust its climate. Hang in there and bring your refillable water bottles.
- c) It was cooler in the school today than it would have been in our previous schools. Most schools are not as fortunate as we are to have an air chilling system. Thanks for your patience as the building adjusts to our current situation.

2) Guidance

- a) Guidance continues to work through timetable change requests and new registrations
- b) Students are reminded to follow their existing timetable until a change is made. If a counsellor tries to find you and you are not in class, it extends the process.

3) Neighbours

- a) Our neighbourhood is adjusting to our school - please be kind and courteous when in and around the school. Respect the private property of our neighbors, and represent your school well.

4) Beginning and End of Day

- a) Our school area will always be busy with traffic at the beginning and end of the day
- b) Drop offs should all be done from the yellow, cross-hatched lane marked "drop offs only" at the front of the school

- c) Because it was the first day, we saw a drastic increase in the number of students being driven to school at the same time this morning, creating a slowdown on Highway 8
- d) If you are dropping off, please pull forward as far as possible in the lane to allow for other cars to enter the lane
- e) As students and families settle into their routines, we expect this to decrease
- f) Thank you for your patience as we all get used to a new system

5) Busses

- a) There were a few instances of a bus being in different locations in the morning and afternoon. Each bus should pick up and drop off in a similar location in the AM and PM. We have shared this with NSTS.
- b) Students are reminded to take a screenshot of their bus number and schedule. This will help them find their bus.

6) Students walking

- a) Students are reminded to cross the street at crosswalks and follow area signs and traffic rules
- b) At the beginning and end of the day, students are encouraged to be careful and alert when walking around the campus, and to keep their earbuds out

7) MSIP

- a) Students are reminded that MSIP attendance is mandatory. Please follow your timetable.

8) Vice Principals

- a) This year, our vice principals are organized by student grade. In addition to other responsibilities, VPs will be working with students as follows:

Grade 9 - Mr. Matt Ezrin (matthew.ezrin@dsbn.org)

Grade 10 and Grade 11 - Ms. Jessica Bell (jessica.bell@dsbn.org)

Grade 12 - Ms. Jessica Folino (jessica.folino@dsbn.org)

9) Athletic Transfers

- a) If you have transferred to WNSS from another school, transfer paperwork needs to be filled out by Thursday, September 7th if you wish to play competitive sports. Please see any Phys Ed teacher for this paperwork. There are no exceptions made - we really want to make sure anyone who wants to play a sport is allowed. This is true for all seasons, not just the current sports.
- b) This only applies to students that have attended another secondary school before this year (ie. Grade 9s do not need to fill it out).

Mat Miller
Principal, WNSS