

Stelly's Secondary School

1627 Stelly's Cross Road, Saanichton, BC, V8M 1S8 - stellys.sd63.bc.ca - 250.652.4401

August 26, 2020 - Update

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

We hope you have all found a way to enjoy your summer. While we are very much looking forward to welcoming all students back to school, this is an unprecedented situation and school will look different for students. The Stelly's administration would like to provide an update as to where we are in implementing the current Ministry of Education guidelines. Please understand that this information may need to change and adjust as the situation does.

As was stated in Superintendent Eberwein's [August 21 news release](#) and [August 26 news release](#), the current plan will be for secondary schools to move towards a Copernican timetable structure for the upcoming year.

School Schedule and Timetables

As you may or may not know, timetabling in a Secondary School begins in earnest during March, just prior to Spring Break. Student selections and computer simulations are used to construct a timetable that accommodates as many student requests as possible. From there a manual process is used to address as many individual needs as possible and to construct a staffing model. By early July, the bulk of the timetable has been finalized and some fine tuning is done at the beginning of September. All told, creating a Secondary School timetable is, in essence, a seven month process.

With the recent Ministry of Education announcement that student learning groups (also called Cohorts) cannot exceed 120 students, we are not able to fully utilize our initial semestered timetable.

During this time, we are completing the fine details of our new Copernican timetable. The purpose of using a Copernican model is that it allows us to:

1. Be consistent with the K-12 Restart Plan, approved by the Ministry;
2. Meet Health and Safety requirements;
3. Optimize instructional time within the required safety parameters.



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The new timetable will look much like the following:

Quarter 1: September 14 - November 13

At the midpoint in the Quarter, classes "flip" between Face-to-Face to Blended

BLOCK 1				
MONDAY 8:30-11:30	TUESDAY 8:30-11:30	WEDNESDAY 8:30-11:15	THURSDAY 8:30-11:30	FRIDAY 8:30-11:15
<p>Face-to-Face* in-school instruction until October 9th October 12th - Block 1 "flips" to a Blended Class* (½ in-class. ½ remote on alternating days)</p> <p><i>*For multi-cohort classes - Masks and Physical Distancing may be necessary</i></p>				

LUNCH	
(Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 11:30-12:15)	(Wednesday & Friday 11:15-12:00)

BLOCK 2				
MONDAY 12:15-3:05	TUESDAY 12:15-3:05	WEDNESDAY 12:00-2:35	THURSDAY 12:15-3:05	FRIDAY 12:00-2:35
Week #1-Day 1 Week #2-Day 2	Week #1-Day 2 Week #2-Day 1	Week #1-Day 1 Week #2-Day 2	Week #1-Day 2 Week #2-Day 1	Week #1-Day 1 Week #2-Day 2
<p>Blended Class* (½ in-class. ½ remote on alternating days) Midpoint in the Quarter - Block 2 "flips" to Face-to-Face* in-school instruction every day.</p> <p><i>*For multi-cohort classes - Masks and Physical Distancing may be necessary</i></p>				



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This new schedule will have students receiving in-class instruction while attending two classes each day for an approximate 10 week term (referred to as a Quarter). The school year will contain four Quarters. Some students will also be scheduled into classes outside the schedule, such as Leadership, Yearbook, Music.

For the first half of each Quarter, students will receive daily face-to-face instruction in their morning class, with their afternoon course being a blend of in-person classroom instruction (two to three days per week) and self-directed study at home (the remaining two to three days of the week). This modification will enable the blended class to be divided into two groups attending on alternating days, thereby permitting physical distancing to be achieved within the classroom.

At the midpoint of each Quarter, our intent would be to switch the full-time in-class morning block to blended instruction and the class that the students had been attending on alternating days in the afternoon would receive daily face-to-face instruction for the remainder of the Quarter. This midpoint transition would result in students receiving an equal amount of in-class instruction in both courses.

Please understand that self-directed study at home is NOT remote learning/on-line learning as per last June. Rather, self-directed study is independent work at home and a continuation of what was taught during their face-to-face instruction the previous day.

Once the Quarter is over and the two courses are completed, students will begin two new courses for the next Quarter.

We hope you can appreciate that a school-wide timetable reconstruction in a three week period is a monumental task; Particularly when the task is based on a new type of schedule, when many students don't take courses in their grade cohorts, and when many students are enrolled in multi-grade level courses.

We are doing our best to honour student requests while meeting already committed staffing obligations. While we will do our best to attend to student requests, parents and students can expect course offerings to be altered in order to accommodate Ministry of Education guidelines and to adhere to the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines. Depending on the schedules generated, some students may choose to take courses the following year or through a Distance Education School.



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The Copernican schedule has also been selected in the event that we receive a directive from the Ministry of Education to move back to Stage 3 - a combination of in-class and remote learning. Students/parents may find the Copernican schedule helps in managing workload and in planning access to technology should we find ourselves in a remote learning environment.

Please notify the school by Friday, August 28th, if you have an alternate educational plan for your child (i.e. Courses will be done by Distance Learning, Home Schooling, etc.) that may impact their schedule at Stelly's.

Stay Up To Date

Please make a point of checking [Stelly's website](#) and school-related emails on a regular basis as they will contain the latest information reflecting Ministry of Education and Health & Safety updates, school orientation information, COVID-19 information, and other school resources.

The Stelly's Community is a strong one and we are working hard to ensure this year's educational experience is a positive one. These are challenging times, but I could not be more proud of the excellent staff here at Stelly's and I am very confident that with our wonderful students we will have a wonderful positive and rich experience . . . and we will get through this together!

Finally, I will be on a leave for what I am hoping will be short term. In my absence, Vice Principal Gord Redlin will be stepping into an Interim Principal capacity and Stelly's teacher, Ryan Braun will be moving into the Interim Vice Principal role.

Thank you all in advance, for your understanding, flexibility and suggestions as we continue to adapt to every evolving conditions.

We look forward to seeing you in September!

BEE Kind
BEE Calm
BEE Safe

. . . and Welcome back Stingers'



Sally Hansen
Principal



Gord Redlin
Vice-Principal



Wendy Laws
Vice-Principal

