

Updated September 1

HMS Information Guide for 2022 -2023 School Year



Welcome students and families of École H.S. Grenda Middle School!

We are so excited to welcome our new grade 6 students to École H.S. Grenda Middle School this fall! As we prepare the building for September 6th, and learn more and more about the hopes and dreams for our students, we become more and more excited about the unique opportunity we have to teach and learn in this beautiful school. Built on the unceded Traditional Territory of the Syilx Okanagan People, the school is nestled among orchards, parks, lakes, and local businesses. It has been built to embrace the natural beauty that surrounds it with its large windows and wide open spaces. We know you will love it here!

We hope this information guide will help provide you with important information that you can refer to as we approach September. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us via email if you have any questions and/or concerns. Mrs. Tonia MacGregor can be reached at tonia.macgregor@sd23.bc.ca and Mrs. Michelle Relova can be reached at michelle.relova@sd23.bc.ca.

Take care,

Mme Tonia MacGregor and Mrs. Michelle Relova

HMS Staff

We have a number of new staff for the 2022-2023 school year. Please see below.

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| WELCOME CENTRE | |
| Lisa Marshall ... (Attendance) | |
| Dianne Dejong... (MyEd) | EXPLORATORY TEACHERS |
| Brenda Walraven ... (Accounts) | Taylor Bone ... Band/Drama/Music |
| CEA SUPPORT STAFF | Josh Dorf ... Careers/Outdoor Education/PHE & CL |
| CEA TBD ... | Nicole Goodwin ... Foods |
| Jennifer Birchwater | Emily Miles ... Art/Digital Art |
| Nikki Burke | Don Anderson ... ADST |
| Launa Campbell | Clinton Birnie ... French Second Language/ Culture |
| Tynen Chatten | LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM |
| Deanne Cleveland | Kyla Bauche ... SEL CEA |
| Pamela Daly | Bryn Coape-Arnold ... Learning Assistant Teacher & CL |
| Heather Garrecht | Kim Ito ... Learning Assistant/ELL Teacher |
| Jenifer Hawthorne | Cody Marshall & Lenora Manuel ... Resource Teacher |
| Courtney Holmes-Peters | Cara Koebel & Jaime Kimmitt ...Indigenous Advocate |
| Denise Mott | Andrew Portwood ... SEL Teacher/School Counselor |
| Dusty Ohashi | Hope Cavallo ... School Counselor |
| Cheryl Rogers | |
| Chantal Screen | LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS |
| Catherine Scurrah | Deena McDell ... Teacher Librarian |
| Catherine Vissia | Marcia Rudolph ... Library Assistant |
| Jacqueline Wiebe | CARE TAKING STAFF |
| COMMUNITY TEACHERS | Michelle Harty ... Daytime Caretaker |
| OCEAN - Ian Galbraith, Reed Mackinnon, Jill McClean, Sophie Shaffer, and Bryn Smith | Lisa Blanchette ... Evening Caretaker |
| | Cody Getz ... Evening Caretaker (4) |
| LAKE - Jeryd Baines, Angela Caron, Tessa Christenson, Paige Miller, and Matt Olson | NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS |
| | Janal Hardy |
| WATERFALL - Jody Amyotte, Will Butcher, Ashley Cail, Breanne Brunel, Rob Millar, Danielle Shane, and Monica Small | Jeanette Sfreddo |
| | ADMINISTRATORS |
| CREEK - Drew Bonneteau, Lisa Gross, Michelle Naka, Tyler Pentland, and Lisa Tennant | Tonia MacGregor |
| | Michelle Relova |

GREENDA GREETING Day




We are so thrilled to have partnered with Mrs. Kathy Lafontaine and our own HMS Leadership students to ensure that all of our new grade 6 students are welcomed to HMS! We ask you to please mark **Thursday, September 1** on your calendar as the official Orientation Day! All grade 6 students and new grade 7 students will be invited to join our leadership team from 9:00am - 11:30am. All parents are asked to drop off their children in the school parking lot using our drop off lane (staff will be out directing traffic). Please join us for a welcome BBQ and open house from 11:30am - 12:30pm upon pickup. Please note that parking will be limited in the school lot.

The main purpose of this event is to help support the transition for all new learners to our school community. There will be a number of staff on site, and numerous events for the learners to participate in. We can't wait to welcome all of our new learners!

Communication at HMS

At HMS, we are committed to ensuring that communication with families is a priority. There will be three main communication tools that we will leverage to share important information.

| Tool | Purpose |
|--|---|
| School Website www.hms.sd23.bc.ca | On the HMS website you will find: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Learning Plan ● Important Dates ● School Code of Conduct ● PAC Information ● Staff List & Contact Information |
| School Messenger https://go.schoolmessenger.com  | Our Welcome Centre will use School Messenger to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribute School and/or District letters, newsletters, and other important documents ● Communicate absences and/or lates ● Distribute emergent items that arise in the School and/or District |
| Week at a Glance | Each week a weekly memo will be shared with families via school messenger. This “Week at a Glance” will share important information for the week as well as upcoming important dates. Please ensure you are signed up for School Messenger so you receive this important communication. Additionally, “learning snapshots” will be shared to provide parents with insights into our learning communities. |

In addition to these communication tools, our teachers may use Google Classroom, FreshGrade, or another similar tool to document your child’s learning. We will endeavor to ensure that our families are well supported and confident in using these platforms.

What to Expect on the First Day



On Tuesday, September 6th we will welcome all of our learners to HMS. School officially starts at 9:01 am. The first day is a half day, with an early release at 12:00pm. If your child is registered for our School District transportation and you have a confirmed seat, your child will be able to arrive and depart school using this transportation. Please make sure you have your child bring their backpack, a filled water bottle, and a substantial snack that will sustain them throughout the morning. Additionally, it would be helpful if learners also brought a pencil and/or pen and something to write on. A

suggested list of supplies is on our website under our “PARENT” tab. Further information about what supplies your child will need will be provided by their classroom teachers. Additional information is below.

→ **Parking:** Our parking lot is a busy place, especially after school. Having only 48 parking stalls and 66 staff, unfortunately there will not be any parking for families in the lot except for the one accessible stall. If you are dropping off your learner we strongly encourage you to consider dropping off your child at Swalwell park and have them use the crosswalk to safely arrive at school.

To accommodate our buses in a safe manner, the lot will be closed to parents/caregivers until the buses have left the property (this is typically at 3:25).

When using the school parking lot, parents/guardians are asked to enter through the NORTH entrance off of Kenschuh Rd. Please stay right, pass the three bus shelters, and pull up to the marked drop off area. We ask that students exit on the right side of vehicles for safety reasons.

→ **Where to go:** All students will be welcomed through our main entrance and will report to their classroom community. Each learner will be provided with a letter in their welcome package over the summer sharing with them the community they will be in. Additionally, when students attend the Student Orientation, they will be shown where their community is.

→ **Welcome Centre:** The welcome centre will be open and available to support all learners and families with any questions and/or concerns that may arise. To help with the business of each school day, we ask that all families communicate any changes to their learners day (late arrivals, early departures, etc.) through School Messenger.

→ **Learning Support:** All of our non-enrolling staff will be available to support our learners in settling into their classroom communities on the first day of school. Families with learners with support from our Resource Teacher will be contacted to set up learner specific plans.

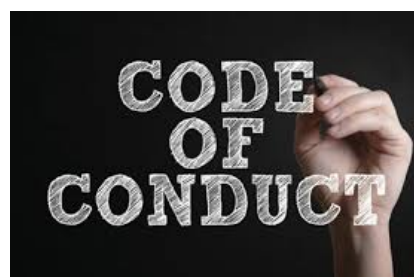
→ **Class placements:** We have worked closely with each of the teams at our Elementary feeder schools to determine supportive class placements for each of the learners.

Welcome letters have been sent out to all of our feeder school students, and placements have now been finalized.



School Code of Conduct

We have drafted our school Code of Conduct and have published it on our school website. This is a very important document that is required by all schools under the School Act. This document governs many of the expectations we will uphold at HMS, and ensures that our school is a safe, caring, and orderly place for each of our learners both student and staff.



To view our Code of Conduct, please visit our school website under the “ABOUT” tab or click [here](#). You will find detailed information regarding the topics listed below.

- BC Human Rights Code
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Code of Conduct Violations
- Responsible Use of Technology
- Close Campus
- Dress Code
- Personal Property/Lockers
- School Visitors

We encourage all families alongside their children to take the time to read through the school Code of Conduct before the year begins.

Code of Conduct

École H.S. Grenda Middle School

CODE OF CONDUCT (JUNE 2021)

At École H.S. Grenda Middle School, we recognize that each learner and situation is unique and we will always strive to ensure that our school is a safe, caring, and orderly environment in which to learn and work. As learners age and mature, the expectations for behaviour change accordingly.

WHO DOES THIS CODE OF CONDUCT APPLY TO?

In reference to Board Policy 401, 450, 450R, 452, 455, 445R, and 486 the purpose of the Code of Conduct at HMS is to maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for all learners and their learning. This code of conduct applies to all learners:

- On school property
- In attendance at any school-sponsored activity
- Whose behaviour at any time or place, including to and from school as well as online, has a negative impact on the school environment and/or learning

Important Dates

Proposed School Calendar 2022-2023 - École Hank Grenda Middle School

Please note that bold dates are locally set school calendar dates and the non-bold dates are district set calendar dates.

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| GRENDA GREETING DAY - Gr. 6 Welcome Welcome back BBQ 11:30 - 12:30 | Thursday, September 1 |
| Schools Opens - Term 1 begins - Early dismissal @ 12:00pm | Tuesday, September 6 |
| Exploratory Rotation 1 begins | Thursday, September 8 |
| Welcome Back Assembly @ 2:25pm Parent Appreciation Open House 3:15 - 4:45pm | Wednesday, September 21 |
| School Photo Day | Friday, September 23 |
| Terry Fox Run - 11:10 | Monday, September 26 |
| Passion Exploration Term 1 begins | Wednesday, September 28 |
| Orange Shirt Day | Wednesday, September 28 |
| National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (school closed) | Friday, September 30 |
| Passion Exploration Rotation 1 Begins | Wednesday, October 5 |
| Administrative Implementation Day | Friday, October 7 |
| Thanksgiving Day (school closed) | Monday, October 10 |
| Learner Led Conferences - Early dismissal @ 1:00pm | Wednesday, October 19 Thursday, October 20 |
| School Retakes | Thursday, October 20 |
| Teacher Professional Day | Friday, October 21 |
| National Indigenous Veterans Day | Tuesday, November 8 |
| Remembrance Day Assembly am | Thursday, November 10 |
| Remembrance Day (school closed) | Friday, November 11 |
| Wellness Day Fall 2022 (PM) | Wednesday, November 23 |
| Term 1 ends | Friday, December 2 |
| Term 2 begins | Monday, December 5 |
| Passion Exploration Term 1 ends Learning Updates due to office | Wednesday, December 7 |
| Term 1 Learning Updates Home | Wednesday, December 14 |

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| HMS Winter Dance | Thursday, December 15 |
| School closes for Winter Vacation | Friday, December 16 |
| Winter Vacation (school closed) | Monday, December 19 - Monday, January 2 |
| School Reopens after Winter Vacation | Tuesday, January 3 |
| Passion Exploration Term 2 begins | Wednesday, January 11 |
| Learner Led Conferences - Early dismissal 1:00pm | Wednesday, February 15 Thursday, February 16 |
| Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day) | Friday, February 17 |
| Term 2 ends | Friday, March 3 |
| Term 3 begins | Monday, March 6 |
| Term 2 Learning Updates due to office | Wednesday, March 8 |
| Term 2 Learning Updates Home | Wednesday, March 15 |
| Passion Exploration Term 2 ends HMS Assembly | Wednesday, March 15 |
| School closes for Spring Break | Friday, March 17 |
| Spring Vacation | Monday, March 20 - Friday, March 31 |
| Passion Exploration Term 3 begins | Wednesday, April 12 |
| Good Friday (school closed) | Friday, April 7 |
| Easter Monday (school closed) | Monday, April 10 |
| Spring Wellness Day (PM) | Wednesday, May 3 |
| Victoria Day (school closed) | Monday, May 22 |
| HMS Spring Dance | Thursday, May 25 |
| Passion Exploration Term 3 ends | Wednesday, June 14 |
| Term 3 ends | Wednesday, June 14 |
| Learning Updates due to the office | Wednesday, June 21 |
| Celebrations of Learning | Tuesday, June 27 and Wednesday, June 28 |
| Last day of school for students - Final Report Cards home - Learners in session 9:00 - 10:00 | Thursday, June 29 |
| Administrative Day (no school for students) | Friday, June 30 |

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What will my school schedule look like?** Below is a sample schedule of one of our communities (our school day is from 9:01 - 3:15). Each community has 200 minutes of exploratory courses each week, and 200 minutes of designated time in our school gymnasium. Wednesday morning from 9:10 - 11:10 students will participate in our Passion Electives, and

the remaining time will be scheduled by the community teachers to ensure that each of our learners are developing the curricular and core competencies of our BC Curriculum.

| | | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------|-----|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| 9:01-9:15 | 14 | Community Connection | | | | |
| 9:15-10:05 | 50 | | | Passion Exploration (9:10-11:10) | | |
| BREAK | 10 | Break (10:05-10:15) 10 min | | | Break (10:05-10:15) | |
| 10:15-11:05 | 50 | | | | | |
| 11:05-11:55 | 50 | | Exploratory | PHE | | PHE |
| LUNCH | 40 | Lunch (11:55-12:35) 40 min | | | | |
| 12:35-1:25 | 50 | PHE | Exploratory | | | |
| 1:25-2:15 | 50 | | PHE | | Exploratory | |
| 2:15-2:25 | 10 | Break (2:15 - 2:25) 10 min | | | | |
| 2:25-3:15 | 50 | | PHE | | Exploratory | |
| | 314 | | | | | |

- What classes will I be taking?** Along with the core academic subjects (English, French, Math, Physical Health Education, Science, and Socials) learners will also have the opportunity to experience our exploratory classes. These include Music, Drama, Art, Digital Art, Maker, Foods, French Culture, Careers, and Outdoor Education. Through the exploratory classes, learners will get an opportunity to develop new skills and learn about their passion areas. These courses, along with our Passion Exploration block, will help students make wise decisions regarding their elective courses when transitioning to George Elliot.
- What is Passion Elective?** Starting Wednesday, October 5, students (alongside an HMS staff member) will engage in a locally-developed elective program of their choice. This will provide each of our students with an opportunity to take a deep dive into an area of passion/interest and learn alongside teachers and community members. We will be reaching out to families and community members that can enrich the experience of our students and come alongside as learning partners. Learners will cycle through 3 different experiences that will each be approximately 8 weeks long.
- Do I get my own locker?** Absolutely! All of our learners will be assigned their locker and lock. Don't worry, your teachers will spend time with you ensuring you know where your locker is and how to open and close it. If, for any reason, you forget or have difficulty, please just ask one of your teachers or come and visit our staff in the Welcome Centre. We would be happy to help!
- What kinds of clubs and extracurricular activities will be available?** HMS will have a number of clubs and sports teams that will be offered to the students throughout the year. Sports teams at the grade 6-8 level typically include volleyball, basketball, track and field, rugby, and cross-country running while many of our school clubs are based on student interest.
- Where can I eat my lunch?** The learners at HMS will be thrilled with the number of spaces that are available to them to gather with friends to enjoy their lunch. This may include the outside grounds, community maker spaces, or school cafe. We know our learners are looking forward to this increase in independence from Elementary School. We ask that there is no food on the carpeted areas.
- Who can I go to for support?** At HMS all of our staff will be available and willing to support our learners. That being said, our School Counsellor, Learning Assistant Teacher, Resource Teacher, Teacher Librarian, Administration Team, and our Welcome Centre staff are available and willing to help out all our learners whenever the need arises. Please do not hesitate to come and find one of us. We want to ensure that each of our learners has a wonderful time at HMS and is supported through their journey.
- I would like to ride my bike/scooter/skateboard to school, where can I store it?** Yes you absolutely can ride your bike/scooter/skateboard to school. We ask that once on property you walk your bike/scooter/skateboard to the secure location. Bikes and scooters can be locked outside on the designated rack and skateboards will fit in student lockers.

9. **Can I use my cell phone at school or another personal learning device?** At HMS, personal learning devices and cell phones may only be used during instructional time at the discretion of the classroom teacher. If at any point, learners' use interferes with or distracts the learner or learning of others or the safety and well-being of others, the school may intervene to align with our code of conduct. Please note that students are not required to have their own personal learning device or cellphone. If a learner brings their own device they will be asked to safely store it in their locker. Quick check-ins with family members will be allowed at lockers during the non-instructional time, but otherwise learners will be encouraged to be off of their devices.
10. **Can I wear a hat?** Hats can be worn at HMS, but it is at the discretion of the individual classroom teacher whether or not they can be worn during class time. Teachers will ensure that their expectations are shared with their learners.