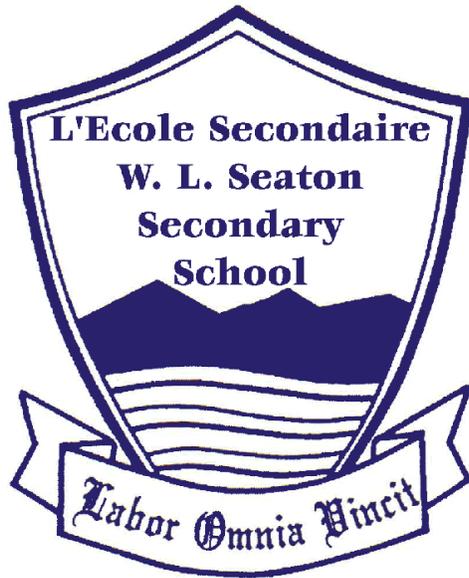


## W.L. SEATON SECONDARY SCHOOL

2701-41<sup>st</sup> Street

Vernon, BC V1T 6X3

Phone: 250.542.3361 Fax: 250.542.6076 @WLS Eaton



**August 30, 2017**

### **Welcome Back to School Newsletter**

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Welcome to the 2017/2018 school year! Over the summer our custodial staff have been working hard to ensure the school is cleaned and ready for the September start-up. Teachers have been preparing for new and innovative learning experiences, and our office staff and counsellors have been working hard to ensure course timetables are ready for students to return!

Please note that with the return to 2002 class size and composition language, student timetables may be in flux during the first weeks of school. Your child may be moved to a different class in order to balance courses. Thank you for your understanding and patience in this matter.

### **Principal's Welcome!**

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I am proud and honoured to be the Principal of W.L. Seaton and I look forward to working with the Seaton community this coming year. It has been an exciting summer for my family and I as we relocated to Vernon from North Vancouver. We have enjoyed settling into the Okanagan lifestyle this past month with many trips to the lake! It already feels like home and I am so excited to join you as Principal of W. L. Seaton! As Seaton staff focus on implementing the new and revised BC curriculum, we will continue to evolve our educational practice

based on good research and meeting student's needs to prepare them for their future in a rapidly changing world.

We are all looking forward to the year ahead! There have been some changes over the summer, but what remains the same is that Seaton is a warm and welcoming place where students can achieve their potential. A special welcome extends to the Grads of 2018 and our incoming Grade 8 students. We will host a welcome day for all Grade 8's on August 31<sup>st</sup> at 9am. On this day grade 8's will meet senior leadership students and fellow classmates. They will have an opportunity to find their classrooms, receive their locker assignment, buy a lock, pay school fees, and enjoy a free hotdog lunch!

Over the summer we have had a number of changes to our staff. We said farewell to Jackie Kersey, Jeff Huggins, Kelly Challen, Mike Edgar, Ruth Ivanoff, Nichole Knight, Ben Louis, Katy Mulholland, Kalon Nahachewsky, Tamara Nicolas, Treena Pastro, Doris Wells, Becky Wilson, Cathy Lewis, and Ruth Schultz. Kelly Bibby will also be taking a leave at the start of the year.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Vice Principal Lynn Seed who will be temporarily on leave at the beginning of the year. Nathan Lee, our Teacher in Charge, will be covering as the Acting Vice-Principal while Ms. Seed is on leave.

We are happy to have the majority of our teachers in place for September. We are welcoming back Michelle Robinson (Student Services), and Jodie Haberstock (Spanish). New to the Seaton staff are Elizabeth Brown (Science), Caitlin McMahan (Math), Kathy Johnson (Student Services), Robin Coogan-Penner (French Immersion), Brianna Vaskic (English/Student Services), Ellen Thomas (English), Diana Ward (International/ELL), and Nicole White (English).

Parents and guardians are welcome to join us for our Parent Night on September 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 7:00pm in the Theatre. Whether you are new to Seaton or not, this is a great opportunity for parents to meet the new Administration, learn more about the year ahead, and connect with the school community. I look forward to meeting with many of you there and wish all our students a great year ahead!

Erica Schmidt  
Principal

## School Start Up Schedule

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Please remind your child to review their timetable on Parent or Student Connect prior to school beginning. It is helpful to print off a copy of their timetable or for students to take a picture of it on their phone.

### Tuesday, September 5, 2017

8:30 – 8:50 ASSEMBLY (gym)

8:55 – 9:35 A

9:40 – 10:20 B

**10:20 – 10:35 Break**

10:40 – 11:20 C

11:25 – 12:05 D

12:15 Buses Run

### Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

8:30 – 9:50 A

**9:50 - 10:05 Break**

10:05 – 11:25 B

**11:25 – 12:05 Lunch**

12:05 – 1:25 C

**1:25 – 1:40 Break**

1:40 – 3:00 D

## Student Timetables

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Timetables are available on Parent and Student Connect please take some time to look over them. Priorities for schedule changes are for senior students with grad requirements. All other changes may be limited due to full classes and the restored 2002 contract language impacting class composition. All Grade 8-11 students are required to have a full schedule of at least 8 courses. Grade 12 students may apply for a spare for their second semester. A full timetable ensures a successful graduation, maximizes post-secondary options, prepares students for full time work, provides a varied experience, and ensures that the school will be able to offer a wide variety of programs to meet student needs and interests.

## Fees

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The student fees are the following:

- \$5.00 - Lock
- \$30.00 - Student Fee
- \$25.00 - Grade 8 PE Fee
- \$30.00 - Grade 9 PE Fee
- \$35.00 - Grade 10 PE Fee
- \$45.00 - Grade 11/12 PE Fee
- \$50.00 - Annual/Yearbook, this is optional
- \$120 – Grad Fee (does not include a Yearbook)
- \$450 – PEAK Fee

Applied Skills courses (Technology Education and Home Economics) cover the basic materials required for the course. If students wish to upgrade from the basic materials, they will be charged an additional amount. Some science classes have workbook fees as well (Science \$10, and Physics \$25). **If you are sending a cheque, please write your child's name and the reason for the payment on the memo line of the cheque.** All unpaid fees or lost book fees from previous years are due now. **If your student took a textbook home at the end of the school year last year, please return it to the office so that we can ensure you are not charged for it.**

## **Personal Insurance for Students**

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As part of the District's commitment to addressing students' needs and parents' concerns, School District No. 22 (Vernon) has arranged for comprehensive blanket Accident Insurance for district students. You may have some questions about the School Day Coverage Plan. Please see the school district webpage [www.sd22.bc.ca](http://www.sd22.bc.ca) and go to the parents drop down menu for further information.

## **School Photos**

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School photos will be taken on **September 20th**. Purchasing photo packages is optional but we ask all students to have a photo taken for the yearbook and for student ID cards. Student ID cards may be required for students who wish to gain admittance to school functions. To receive their student card, all outstanding debts and the student fee must be paid. Students are expected to look as they ordinarily do on photo day and are asked not to wear costumes for photos.

Graduation photos are scheduled for December. We ask that all grads have their picture taken so that their photo will be included in the yearbook and on the grad composite which is displayed in our hallway. We are working with Mountain West Photography again this year. Photo previews will be emailed to parents. We will send home more information closer to Photo Day.

## **Students with Life-Threatening Medical Conditions**

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If your child has a life-threatening medical condition, please visit Parent Connect on our school website to ensure that your child has been identified. To check this information, select REPORTS on the menu line, select INFO FORM (SEC). Near the bottom of the report, Medical Alert should be indicated as Y. If this is not the case, please contact our office so we can have an appropriate plan in place for the safety of your child.

## **Lockers/Locks**

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Lockers have been assigned to all students (in most cases, it is the same locker as the student had last year). Locker numbers can be viewed on Parent/Student Connect under the Basic tab; lists will be given to A Block teachers for the first day of school. **Locks can be purchased at the office for \$5.** Students must use the locker assigned to them. All grade 8's will be able to access their lockers on August 31<sup>st</sup> at the Grade 8 Icebreaker.

## **Parent Advisory Council Meetings**

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If you are interested in serving on the PAC, please call the school. The PAC provides an opportunity for all parents to be supported in their role as parents of teenage students. It is an opportunity to become informed on issues important in the intellectual and social growth and development of your children. You will have the opportunity to ask and have answered all of your questions about the school. You will not be asked to fundraise or volunteer for committees. You are encouraged to take an active role in the education of your child and to become a participant at our PAC meetings. The first meeting is scheduled for **September 25th**. Generally, these will take place on the third Monday of each month.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

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W.L. Seaton Secondary School's Code of Conduct outlines school expectations and acceptable student behaviour as directed by the *School Act 85(2)(c)(i)*. Student Voice, Parent Advisory Committee, as well as teaching and support staff were included in the development of our Code of Conduct. Our Code of Conduct is annually reviewed to ensure it reflects Seaton's community needs and align with the district and provincial school safety initiatives. Our Code of Conduct is communicated to all students, parents, staff, temporary staff, visitors and district staff. Acceptable conduct expectations are illustrated in our five CHARGE matrix and are in effect for all school functions, regardless of location or time of day. CHARGE stands for **C**ommunity, **H**ave Pride, **A**ccountability, **R**espect, **G**et Involved and **E**xcellence. Please review our complete student code of conduct on our website.

## Dress Code

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Personal dress and grooming is largely a matter of individual choice and self-expression but it shall not interfere or disrupt the educational process of the individual student or other students and staff. Dress is expected to be appropriate for a formal work setting, promoting a positive and safe learning environment for students and staff. Students must wear clean, tasteful clothing and refrain from wearing inappropriate attire including drug and alcohol logos, sexually-suggestive designs or profanity, and beach attire. Clothing must cover underwear, cleavage, bottoms and midriffs. Special dress may be required for certain classes in order to facilitate good hygiene, proper participation and/or personal safety. Students wearing inappropriate dress will be asked to cover-up, change, or go home to change. Repeat offenders may be considered defiant and be subject to further discipline.

## Fruit and Veggie Program

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We are pleased to announce our school will be continuing the B.C. School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program Sponsored by B.C. Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and ActNowBC. Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh B.C. Fruits and Vegetable to the students during classroom time. The students will receive picked, washed, and ready to enjoy produce twice every other week at **no charge!**

**To ensure every student's health and safety during this program, contact the office if you do not want your child to participate. Forms are available in the office.**

## Parent and Student Connect

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**Stay in the Know!**

**Connect with Seaton online through Parent Connect and on Twitter @WLSeaton**

Parent Connect will keep you up to date on your child's assessment and attendance. We ask that parents check their child's demographics in Parent Connect and advise of any changes to your address, telephone numbers, email address, etc.

Connect Products are our online communication tools between the school, parents, and students. All parents and students should be registered with either Student Connect or Parent Connect – select Parent Connect and view How-to Instructions. New students, please contact the school for sign-in forms. Once in Connect, parents and students can view important information, including attendance and marks. All formal reports will be posted on Connect as part of the regular reporting process. Teachers will use Connect to post regular updates of student progress. Please contact the office should you require a paper copy of your child's report card.

## School Supplies

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Students should come prepared on the first day with a binder, paper, pens and pencils. Teachers will notify students if specific supplies are required. All PE classes will require PE strip and indoor running shoes.

## Athletics

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Our Athletic Director, Mr. Nathan Lee, and our Athletic Booster Club parents have exciting plans for Athletics this year! Volleyball, Cross Country, Aquatics and Boys Soccer start right away, so sign up quickly! Watch the screens in the commons and listen to announcements for meeting and practice times.

## New Curriculum

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There have been exciting changes in Education in BC recently. The K-9 Curriculum has changed, the Graduation program has been revamped, and new 10-12 Curriculum is in an implementation year. Reporting and Assessment will look different in the upcoming year with the Numeracy assessment beginning in January 2018. For more information on these changes, please visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>. There is a Frequently Asked Questions PDF on our website as well.

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## **Bussing Registration**

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If your bussing needs have changed, a new bus registration form must be filled out. All students leaving elementary and entering high school who wish to utilize bussing will be required to fill out a new bus registration form. You can find the form at <http://www.sd22.bc.ca/Programs/transportation/Pages/default.aspx> or at the school office. Bus route information can be found here as well.

## **Threat Assessments**

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W. L. Seaton and School District No. 22 are committed to fostering a safe, caring, inclusive learning environment where students, staff, parents and visitors feel safe. Consequently, threats of harm to self or others may result in the school initiating threat assessment protocols that could involve student questioning, student and locker searches, cell phone confiscation, and RCMP involvement. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year!

A graphic with the words "WELCOME" in blue, blocky, uppercase letters and "BACK!" in red, blocky, uppercase letters with a distressed, brush-stroke texture. The exclamation point is also red and has a similar texture.