



Rainy River

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

August 30, 2017

EDUCATION CENTRE

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DIRECTOR

Heather Campbell

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Administration and staff at Donald Young School are happy to have welcomed students back to school yesterday. We understand that you received a lot of communication from us whether it be forms to sign, newsletter and other communication from your child's teacher. As a result, we have waiting until today to send you a letter to communicate construction updates for Donald Young School.

Despite some delays with the construction of the new classroom wing, the school is ready and open for students. There will still be some construction happening on the school grounds and in the link between the new section and the old section of the buildings. Please be assured that student safety is at the forefront of our minds while completing the renovation.

All areas that are out-of-bounds will be marked off with cones and flagging tape. Every classroom teacher has reviewed playground safety with students to make sure that they understand they are to remain away from areas that are taped off with cones. We will also have posters placed throughout the buildings as a reminder for students to refrain from going to areas near the cones. Staff who have been assigned to outside duty will be helping to direct students away from the coned-off areas and will redirect them to the playground areas.

Due to an unexpected structural issue, the link between the new section and the old section will not be usable for a few weeks. Students will have to take an alternate route outdoors to get between the two buildings until the end of September. The library and gymnasium will also be unoperational for the first few weeks.

To further ensure student safety, there will be no vehicles driving through the playground area when students are outside. There may be a parked vehicle in the back area marked with cones but the construction crew has assured us that the vehicle will only move when there are no students on the playground. Areas near the playground where construction work is happening is fenced off. There will be no construction staff working in the back playground area outside fenced areas.

There are many updates that have been made to the buildings at Donald Young School. We have another water bottle filling station that has been added to our school. The fountains are operational and cold/hot water is running to the sinks. Our electrical system has been enhanced in the new section of the building and will be enhanced in the phase 2 renovation of the existing section of the building. All lights have sensors and automatically turn on and off. They also have an option available for lighting when the projector is on to make the smart boards more easily viewed

and accessible. There are new hooks and cubbies for students in both sections of the building.

In addition, there is a fully accessible bathroom with a shower built into the new section of the building for students with various needs. The Special Education Room has a sensory/calming room that is operational as well as an instructional area that will be used for small group instruction. The gymnasium is currently being used for storage. We are taking the opportunity to get outside for gym and enjoy outdoor activities while the weather is beautiful. The gym is expected to be operational prior to the arrival of cold weather. We look forward to having students be able to use the gym when the weather gets colder.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as the construction is completed.

If you have any concerns, please contact me at the school at 482-2271.

Sincerely,

Kelly Forbes
Principal, Donald Young School