



August 21, 2020

Parents/Guardians & Students:

The start of the 2020-2021 school is fast approaching. We know that everyone may be feeling different emotions regarding the upcoming school year. It is natural to have these emotions, adults included.

We here at AMS have been working incredibly hard to prepare for the upcoming school year and are going to do everything we can to make it a safe, memorable and positive school year for everyone.

As we do each year, AMS will have a special theme for 2020-21. This year's theme is "Together We Are Warriors!" Selected for its emphasis on being one school regardless of mode of attendance, we know that our school community is at its best as a unified force focused on meeting the needs of every student, every day.

Safety has always been our first priority and this year it has become doubly important. To help students and families understand the safety and instructional changes made for the upcoming school year, we will be providing several communications in the days ahead.

To that end below is an outline of what to expect in the weeks to come:

- **Monday, August 24th:**
  - AMS Specific Frequently Asked Questions:
    - We have compiled a list of questions that families may have regarding the reopening of school
    - This document will serve as a basic guide to our program for the upcoming school year
- **Friday, August 28th:**
  - We will be sending out a series of videos and orientation materials for all Algonquin students, including information students need to know about day-to-day life at AMS in the hybrid model.
  - Topics will include:
    - How the hybrid schedule works
    - Student arrival and dismissal procedures
    - Lunch and recess
    - School-wide reminders
  - Links to these videos and resources will be shared with families via email and social media.
- **Monday, August 31st:**
  - The SchoolTool portal will open for students and families to view student Morning Meeting assignments.
- **Wednesday, September 9th:**
  - Students will be able to view their class schedule in SchoolTool
  - Below is the plan for the first day of school for all students.
    - **Cohort 1 (last names A-K):** Students attending classes in-person on September 9 starting in Morning Meeting and then proceeding through their schedule.
    - **Cohort 2 (last names L-Z):** Students will complete a series of independent learning activities on September 9.
    - **Virtual Learning Students:** Students will attend Morning Meeting via Google Meet on September 9 and then proceed through their class schedule. More information on how virtual students will attend Morning Meeting will be shared directly with those families.
  - More information for all students regarding the first days of school will be shared in September.

Finally, as parents begin planning their family's schedule for the upcoming year we want to ensure that you have a copy of the [school calendar](#) for this year that illustrates what days students involved in the hybrid schedule will be attending classes here in-person.

Thank you for your continued support of our school community. We are looking forward to seeing everyone, either in-person or virtually, again soon!

Sincerely,

Robert Messia, Principal  
Algonquin Middle School

