



# Welcome to/Bienvenue à Collège Garden City Collegiate

**PRINCIPAL:**

Tony Kreml

**VICE-PRINCIPALS:**

Chantal Desmarais

Gary Jackson

Jane Romio

Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Dear Garden City Families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Garden City. Regardless if your child is new to our school or a returning student, we hope this letter provides you with helpful information about the upcoming school year.

Return to Full Time In – Class Learning

On August 5, 2021, the Manitoba Government announced that all Manitoba schools will open this September, with all students returning to full time in-class learning. During this reopening we look forward to developing strong relationships with our students along with supporting their learning goals and needs.

As school start nears, we continue to review public health guidance and implement measures so that we can maintain as healthy an environment as possible for our students and staff.

Specifically:

- **Masks will be required** for all staff, students, and visitors inside Garden City. Disposable masks will be available to all students and staff.
- All staff and students are expected to **screen for symptoms** of COVID 19 and stay home if symptomatic.
- **Hand hygiene** stations are available at all entrances and exits along with classrooms and office areas.
- **School day start and end** - Students are asked to time their arrival/departure at school within 15 minutes of the start/end of day. If an accommodation is required, please contact our office and we'll be happy to help.
- **Lunch** - Each grade level will have a **designated lunch area** as follows:

- Grade 9 and 10 – Period B Classrooms
- Grade 11 and 12 – Commons and Library

\*When possible, students are encouraged to go home for lunch and time their return with the beginning of their next class.

- **Movement** inside Garden City – To manage an efficient flow of staff and students, we have installed directional arrows.
- **Cleaning and disinfecting** will focus on high touch surfaces and common areas. Washrooms will receive more intensive cleaning throughout the day.
- **Visitors** are required to make an appointment by contacting our office.

More information can be found at the following link: **Restoring Safe Schools – A Guide for Parents, Caregivers and Students** (August 2021) [Restoring Safe Services \(gov.mb.ca\)](#)

#### Office Opening

Our main office will open on Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> and our Administrative Assistants will be pleased to take your calls beginning at 10:30am.

#### Student Timetables

All student timetables are distributed through Parent and Student Connect and are now available. If you require assistance in accessing your account, contact our office beginning Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am.

Our **Parent Connect Website** can be accessed at:

<https://schoolconnect.7oaks.org/schoolconnect/parentsignore.aspx>

Our **Student Connect Website** can be accessed at:

<https://schoolconnect.7oaks.org/schoolconnect/stuconsignon.aspx>

#### Why didn't I get all the courses I requested?

Student timetables were built based on course selection in February 2021. Where one of your selections conflicted with another course, we used alternates to the best of our ability to provide a replacement course.

#### Course Changes

Appointments for course changes (grades 10-12) can be scheduled at this time. Please use Parent Connect to schedule an appointment for a course change with the appropriate grade level Guidance Counsellor or Administrator. Please view this link for further information:

[COURSE CHANGE APPT INSTRUCTIONS \(1\).pdf](#)

All appointments will be conducted via phone at the date and time of your choosing. If you need assistance to schedule an appointment through Parent Connect please contact our office on Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Grade 9 Timetables

Unless there is an exceptional circumstance, there are no course changes available for grade 9 students. If you require further assistance in this matter please contact our grade 9 Counsellor, Mrs. Arruda.

### What should I bring to school the first day?

You will need to bring a binder, paper, and pen. Teachers will inform you of materials needed during the first week of school.

### Student Pick Up and Drop Off

To ensure **everyone's safety**, we ask that all families drop-off and pick-up their children at a reasonable distance (minimum two blocks) from the school's parking lots and bus drop off zones. Entering the staff parking lot and bus drop off zones creates traffic congestion that not only interferes with our bussing schedules but endangers people's safety. Your cooperation on this matter is greatly appreciated.

### First Day of School

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – Grade 9 Orientation Day. Grade 9 only.**

8:45am – 2:30pm

Our grade 9 orientation day is intended to help students transition to their new school. Students report to Advocacy class at 8:45am to meet their Advocacy Teacher and receive a plan and support for the day.

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – Students new to Garden City Orientation**

**Day** 1pm – 2pm in our library.

Garden City Guidance Counsellors will host a session to assist with the transition to Garden City.

**Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – All grades attend.**

8:45am – 3:30pm

All students report to Advocacy class at 8:45am. Advocacy teachers will share relevant beginning of year information to ensure a good start to the school year.

### New and Returning Staff

We are excited to welcome the following **new and returning staff** for the 2021-2022 school year!

Chantal Desmarais – Administration                      Laura Fostey – English Foods and Nutrition  
Lisa Hocking – French Immersion Humanities      Amy Komus – English Humanities

Anita Prawdzik – English Business Education      Uma Sharma – English Language  
Arts Taylor Smith – French Immersion Humanities

### **Some Helpful Facts...**

Every student in the school has an **Advocacy Teacher** who will be with them for the duration of their time at Collège Garden City Collegiate. This means that regardless of the course changes that your child will experience from term to term, the relationship that your child and their advocacy teacher will develop from Grade 9 through 12 is uniquely meaningful and a valuable source of support over time.

Your child will receive a **report card** four times a year – November, February, April and June. Report cards are posted on Parent Connect and Student Connect rather than being mailed out to families. If, however, you would prefer to obtain a hardcopy, please speak with our Administrative Assistants in the office. Additionally, teachers contact students' legal guardians regularly throughout the year to discuss issues related to attendance and/or academic success. We strongly encourage all legal guardians to phone or email their children's' teachers with any questions or concerns as they arise.

**SCHOOL MESSENGER** is our automated telephone system that will inform you about your child's unexcused absences and to communicate important information to families. If you have called the school to report your child's absence, you will not receive the automated phone call. Your child's attendance can be viewed on Parent Connect.

**SCHOOL AGENDA** - Our agenda is available at the APP Store. Search My School Day developed by Honeygarlic Software

### **WHO IS MY GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR AND ADMINISTRATION CONTACT?**

Grade 9 Counsellor – Lina Arruda      Grade 9 Administrator – Chantal Desmarais  
Grade 10 Counsellor – Renata Gawlik      Grade 10 Administrator – Gary Jackson  
Grade 11 Counsellor – Mike Peterson      Grade 11 Administrator – Tony Kreml  
Grade 12 Counsellor – Judy Forbes      Grade 12 Administrator – Jane Romio

### **What to look for on your timetable:**

Grade 9 & 10 students should not have any spares;  
Your Advocacy class should be listed in the bottom row; You should have all of your core courses scheduled.

### **What are your core courses?**

English Grade 9:    ELA, SST, MAT, SCI, PED (two half courses)

English Grade 10: ELA, GEO, MAT (EMA or APC), SCI, PED (two half courses)

English Grade 11: ELA, HIS, MAT (EMA, APP or CAL), PED (one half

course) English Grade 12: ELA, Math (EMA, APP or CAL), PED (one half course)

French Immersion Grade 9: FRA, ELA, SCH, MAF, SCN, PED (two half courses)

French Immersion Grade 10: FRA, ELA, GEF, MAF (EMF or APF), SCN, PED (two half courses)

French Immersion Grade 11: FRA, ELA, HIF, MAF (EMF, APF or CAF), PED (one half

course) French Immersion Grade 12: FRA, ELA, MAF (EMF, APF or CAF), PED (one half course)

**For a 4 year graduation, your goal should be to earn the minimum total credits by the end of each year:** Grade 9: 8.5 credits

Grade 10: 17 total credits

Grade 11: 24 total credits

Grade 12: 30 total credits

We are looking forward to a year filled with exciting learning possibilities. If you have any questions or concerns, be certain to contact us so that we can work with you to provide the best possible educational opportunity for your child.

Sincerely yours,

Tony Kreml  
Principal

Chantal Desmarais  
Vice-Principal

Gary Jackson  
Vice-Principal

Jane Romio  
Vice-Principal

