



PETER SKENE
OGDEN
SECONDARY

PSO NEWS

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students, Welcome back to school! As the new school year begins, we want to take this opportunity to share some important information that will guide us through a successful and fulfilling year ahead. Please find enclosed important dates, information on school supplies and schedules, athletic opportunities, and much more.

We look forward to welcoming you back to our school community for wonderful start to the 2023-2024 school year. Students can expect to receive their schedules on the first day in their homeroom. Counselling appointments for course changes will begin on Thursday Sept 6th for students who are missing a block and Friday Sept 7th for general course changes. We encourage all students to get involved with their school community. We have many clubs, sports teams, and extra-curricular activities to get connected with. A big thank you to community and school staff coaches and club leaders for their efforts in getting these activities started for kids.

First Day Schedule & Bus Info

A block lists posted at every entrance of the school. Please find your name so you know where you are supposed to be, as your schedule may have changed over the summer. Go to your A block and you will get a updated schedule. The first day back to school is a half day. The modified schedule is as follows:

- A Block - 8:50-9:30
- Schoolwide Assembly - 9:30-10:00
- B Block - 10:05 - 10:20
- C Block - 10:25 - 11:00
- D Block - 11:05 - 11:20 dismissal

Buses will start to leave the bus loop at 11:38. School will be a full day on September 7th.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept 4 - Labour Day Holiday
- Sept 5 - Planning/Admin Day
School Closed
- Sept 6 - First Day of School
(School ends at 11:20am)
- Sept 8 - Grade 8 Welcome BBQ
- Sept 20 - Photo Day
- Sept 22 - Pro-D Day
- Sept 29 - National Day for Truth
and Reconciliation
No School
- Oct 9 - Thanksgiving Holiday
- Oct 20 - Pro-D Day

Course Change Information

If you require a course change, Please go to the counselling office to sign up for a meeting with one of our counsellors to change your courses. Course change appointments will resume **Thursday Sept 7th**.

No course changes will be made after Sept 15th.

Our Facebook Page

We have a Facebook page, Peter Skene Ogden Secondary School. Also, there is a PSO Parents page. These groups can be a wealth of information with upcoming dates, quick reminders or info. Please go Facebook to sign on to them.

We also have a website that we are currently updating, please go to www.sd27.bc.ca/pso for more info.

Safe Arrival Information

With Safe Arrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1 (833) 582-6944 to report an absence using the automated phone system.
4. You can call the school at 250-395-2461

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

The automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was **not** reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points (email, phone and text) until a reason is submitted for the absence. Contact will be later in the afternoon after the teachers have entered the attendance for the day.

MyEd Parent Portal Information

Another way to stay informed is the MyEducation parent portal. Parents have the ability to go online to correspond with teachers, check your students' attendance and depending on the teacher, see up to date marks and overall grades. If you need a login or have password issues contact the school. We need accurate emails to do this so if your email has changed recently please let us know. You can access PSO's email at psinfo@sd27.bc.ca. We check it every day and will get back to you quickly. We send out regular emails through psinfo as opposed to paper-based newsletters.

Grade 8 Welcome

On Friday, September 8th, the Grade 8's will participate in Team Building and a BBQ in B block, lunch and C block as a way to welcome them to PSO. Lunch will be provided and we ask that grade 8's stay with their class over lunch this Friday.

Photo Day

Photo day will be on Wednesday, September 20th, starting in the morning. There will be a reminder with photo order forms sent out soon. If your child will be away, retake day is Wednesday, October 18th.

Grad photos will be Nov 13th, 14th, & 15th, and grad retakes will be Feb 2nd.

Bus Information

We have a new and helpful tool for parents this year when it comes to the busses. New this year is Stop Finder. Stop finder is the all-in-one, easy to use app for viewing your student's transportation schedule. Please go to the school district website to find out how to use this information. <https://www.sd27.bc.ca/page/6694/bus-information>

PAC

The first PAC meeting will be on Monday, September 18th at 5:30pm in the school library. Please consider being a part of this great group.

Bell Schedule

A Block - 8:50 - 10:15
B Block - 10:20 - 11:40
Lunch 11:40 - 12:30
C Block - 12:30 - 1:50
D Block - 1:55 - 3:15

Report Card Dates

Report card dates for the year are as follows:

- Nov 23rd
 - Feb 8th
 - April 29th
 - June 28th
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Student Verification Forms

Student verification forms will be sent out this week. Please review them. If there are changes please make a note of the change and have your student return the form to the office. If everything is correct let us know that and return the form to the office. If your contact info changes during the year, please let us know.

Welcome back to Staff and Introduction to new staff

We would like to extend a welcome back to returning staff and introduce you to our new staff members this year.

- Mrs. Tetlock (CLE, English & Careers 8)
- Mr. Tsui (Science)
- Mr. Bjornson (Science)
- Mr. Mackenzie (Math)
- Mrs. Verbeeten (English and Socials)
- Ms. Bjelde (French Immersion)
- Mrs. Kreczmer (Learning Support)
- Ms. Sandiland (EA)
- Mrs. Martens (YEW)
- Mrs. Duran (Evening Custodial)

Club Information

Our student clubs will be starting up shortly. We will be announcing when their are meeting. Here are our upcoming clubs for this year:

- Gaming - Start up Thursday - Rm 118
- Lego - Robotics - Start up Oct 2 - Rm 118
- Amnesty - TBA
- Justice - TBA
- Fiber Arts/Knitting - Starting this Friday - Library
- Climbing - Lunch Mondays and Thursdays and Tues 3:15-5pm
- Sign Language - TBA
- GSA - TBA

Sports Information

Our fall sports will be starting up soon.

Soccer: There is a boys soccer meeting and practice in the gym at 11:50-12:25 on this Thursday and a practice on Friday in the gym at 11:50-12:25. More info to come.

Climbing: Lunchtime climbing on Mondays and Thursdays and after school on Tuesday evenings from 3:15-5:00

Rugby: More info to come

Basketball: More info to come

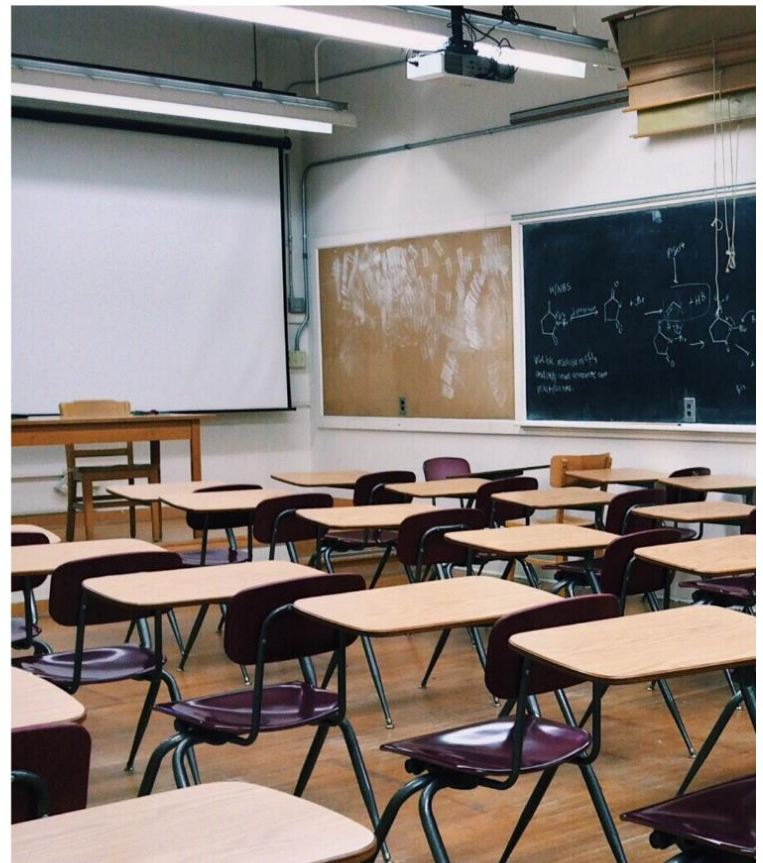
Supply List

General supplies for secondary student can vary from class to class, but in general students from grades 8-12 require:

- One 3 ring binder (2 or 3 inch)
- Subject dividers - 1 pack of 5
- Loose leaf paper (lined) 1 pack of 400
- Pens (blue or black ink (1 pack of 5)
- Pencils - 1 package of 12
- One or Two erasers
- Pencil crayons - 1 pack of 24
- Scientific Calculator (phone won't do)
- One ruler

Grades 8-10 and those students taking a PE class in Grade 11-12 require: a pair of gym (running) shoes, a change of shorts and/or sweatpants and a t-shirt and/or sweater, athletic socks and a gym bag.

Other supplies may be requested by the classroom teacher. Please contact the school if financial assistance for school supplies is needed.



Lastly,

We encourage parents to reach out and connect with their child's teacher at any time. You can check in with your student's teacher in regards to their progress or absences. Please email your child's teacher (our staff directory is posted on our website). Or you can call and ask to speak with the teacher. (250-395-2461).