



J.L. Ilsley High School

"Home of the Judges"

38 Sylvia Avenue, Halifax, NS B3R 1J9
Phone: 902.479.4612 Fax: 902.479.4635

September 2020 School Opening Plan

Dear Families,

We hope that you have had a safe and healthy summer and are looking forward to returning to school. We can't wait to have students back at JL Ilsley High School. We understand and recognize that these are uncertain and unpredictable times. We understand that changes in routine can be difficult for families and we are here to help. Our school schedule will change this year. First class will start at 9:05am instead of 8:50am and last class will end at 3:20pm.

The first day of school is September 8th, 2020. As you aware, we are a busy site with the construction of our new school. Student safety is paramount and we must plan for a safe arrival on Day 1. Students will be entering through the main doors of our school. To ensure safety and adhere to public health protocols, we wish to inform you of a small variance in start time. We are asking **grade 10 students to arrive for 9:05am**. Students in **grade 11 and 12 will start at 9:30am**. There is no adjustment to bus arrival time, grade 11 and 12 students arriving by school bus will be accommodated in a designate spot in the school where they can wait until 9:30.

All students are returning to school as outlined in the Nova Scotia's *Back to School Plan* which can be found by visiting www.novascotia.ca/backtoschool.

- Please be reminded that we will not be collecting student fees and students will not have access to lockers.
- At this time, high school students and teachers will be required to wear masks on school buses, in hallways, classrooms, and common areas where physical distancing cannot be adhered to.
- All students and staff will be required to clean their hands when they enter the school, before eating and after eating, and regularly throughout the day. Signage will be visible throughout the school as reminders about frequent hand washing. If soap and water is not available and hands are not visibly soiled, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used. Student washrooms will run on a reduced capacity and the maximum number of persons in a washroom will not exceed three at a time.

- At this time, our school cafeteria will not be open when students return to school. Currently, the cafeteria will remain closed until at least September 28th, 2020. Families will be updated as this situation develops. Please plan accordingly to bring a lunch with you.
- There will be designated lunch areas throughout the school that meet the physical distance requirement. Microwaves will not be available. We are asking for families' cooperation to reduce the number of students in the building at lunch. If at all possible, please encourage your child to have lunch at home. We understand that this will be weather dependent and may not be possible every day.
- There will be a "no-sharing policy" in place, meaning students will not be able to share school supplies. If tech equipment is used, it will need to be cleaned between uses.
- There will be no assemblies, sports events, or large gatherings.
- Parents, students and staff are asked to self-monitor for symptoms and stay home if they feel ill. Families can refer to the Daily COVID Screening Tool by visiting <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/Daily-COVID-checklist-en.pdf>
- There will be a designated space where students and/ or staff can self-isolate if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Before students return teachers will work to re-organize classrooms and remove all non-essential furniture to create more space for students. In addition, directional signage will be added to stairwells and hallways to reduce traffic and control movement.
- When students enter the building they will be asked to proceed directly to their scheduled class. In the morning we ask, if possible, students not arrive at school before 8:45am for the 9:05am start time. There will be few visitors in the school, and only for essential purposes. Families will need to pick up and drop off their children outside the school.
- Students and families will be asked to have up-to-date contact information in PowerSchool.

Schedule Changes for 2020 – 2021

- Beginning on September 8th, 2020 we will modify our class schedule to reduce the number of class changes. Students will now have one subject in the morning and one subject in the afternoon. If a student has a free period, and it's possible, we encourage them to arrive 10 minutes before their class begins and they are free to leave at 11:45am if they have no afternoon class. We understand, that some students will stay at school on their free period; there will be designated areas for them to work. **These changes and students' schedules will be finalized in PowerSchool by the end of the day on Friday September 4th, 2020.**

Schedule

Monday – AB

Tuesday – CD

Wednesday – BA

Thursday – DC

Friday – Rotating Schedule

- Updates will continue to be distributed next week and be regularly posted on our school website at <https://jli.hrce.ca/> and on Twitter at @JLlIsleyHS