

**Hugh Boyd  
Secondary School**

**Grade 8 Welcome Guide**

**The Boyd Grads of 2028**



*Welcome to your first year of high school at Hugh Boyd Secondary School!!*

**Kindness, care and respect – make this a school you are proud of**

**A Few Cool Things About Hugh Boyd Secondary** –Hugh Boyd Secondary School is an authorized IB world school located on the western side of Richmond, British Columbia, Canada, that serves students from Grades 8 to 12. It is part of School District 38 Richmond, delivering its only IB Middle Years Programme. The school was named after Hugh Boyd, Richmond’s first mayor (known then as a Reeve). Hugh Boyd Secondary opened in 1960 and was originally a Junior Secondary School serving Grades 8-10 only, before it expanded in 1996 to serve Grades 8-12. In 1995, the school completed a new wing which contained a new office, science wing, gymnasium, lounge, and library.

Its student population ranges each year, and next year will be approximately 680 students, most of whom come from the surrounding Seafair neighbourhood. The school is fed into by the nearby elementary schools of Gilmore Elementary School, Dixon Elementary School, Steves Elementary School, Diefenbaker Elementary School, Quilchena Elementary School, and Grauer Elementary School.

The school colours are black and gold, and the school sports teams are named the Hugh Boyd Trojans. The school offers sports such as Basketball, Volleyball, Track & Field, Ultimate, Soccer, Badminton, and Golf. Hugh Boyd students have and continue to be very successful in athletics.

**A Place for Learning and Growing** – learning and doing well in school is cool at Hugh Boyd and over the next 5 years you can explore a diverse range of interesting courses, programs, and learning opportunities, inside and outside the classroom.

**Great Facility & Location** – we have a well-equipped school including a modern library, two gyms, art and music studios, mobile & computer labs, a brand-new wood and metalwork and shop and recently renovated hallways, lockers, and floors. We have an all-weather artificial turf field and outdoor basketball courts that you can use at lunch or after school with your friends. We are also across the street from the great facilities at Seafair Mall, where you can go at lunchtime for snacks like Freshii, Subway, A&W and Safeway, Starbucks etc.

**Full Cafeteria** – we have a cafeteria service provider that serves delicious fresh food every day for reasonable prices. Each day there are new main dishes, side dishes, as well as freshly made soup, sandwiches, and wraps. You are welcome to bring your own lunch from home and eat anywhere on the school property, but if you wish to buy something (or if you forgot your lunch at home, you will be able to purchase healthy and reasonably priced food at Hugh Boyd.

**Theatre/Video Production** – Hugh Boyd has very accomplished and dynamic Theatre and Video Production programs. The Theatre program annually produces first-rate performances for students and parents to audition for, create and observe. The Video Production program is also well-known throughout the district as a creative, cutting-edge opportunity for students to create video productions and get fantastic experiences that translate very well into post-secondary programs and the work world.

**Music** – the Hugh Boyd Music program is also a very well-known and respected program that provides great opportunities to students. Offering Guitar, Choir, Concert Band, Drumming and Jazz Band, the program plays in competitions around the province and always shows extremely well. If you are musically inclined (or even if you are a novice and want to learn more), we strongly encourage you to sign up-you can take in-timetable or off-schedule classes in Band!

### **Library –**

The Library Learning Commons is a safe, inclusive space to work, relax, collaborate, create, discuss, read, and so much more! Boyd students love the bright windows, the high airy ceilings, comfy chairs and workspaces, the vast selection of new and topical books, the desktops, the digital resources and databases, the colour printer, and the 3D Printer. We have technology to lend out to class, like laptops, iPads, podcasting microphones, and sound booths, while you can come into the library to use the green screen room. If your tech runs low on battery, we can even charge them up for you. Students can eat lunch in the comfortable spaces and use the library before and after school. If you feel like volunteering in the library, we have our Library Monitors club to maintain the space and keep it running in tip top shape! We also host the school Book Club, Chess Club, and Crochet Club. Come down any time and say hi to Ms. Leung and Ms. Moor. They can help answer questions you may have, or at least direct you where to find the answers. We look forward to seeing you!

### **MYP Programme –**



Hugh Boyd is the only school in Richmond to offer the **International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme** for Grade 8 to 10 students. The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end, the IB organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

Hugh Boyd will encourage students to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners. The IB program aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students, who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

## **Grade 8 Welcoming Activities!**

### ***When is it? How much does it cost?***

**Grade 8 Welcoming Activities** will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the September 29<sup>th</sup> day is still being considered and the school can help pay for activities to make this event affordable for all families. The fee will include all activities (bowling, games), events, transportation and lunch and a Hugh Boyd t-shirt for all Grade 8s. We hope to have all Grade 8s to participate in this fantastic Hugh Boyd tradition! ***We are considering adding an overnight experience where the students stay with their peers at the school on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. More information and a permission form for this event will follow in the coming weeks.*** There will also be two day (September 8 and 15) where teachers and Grade 12 students will lead Grade 8 students through a series of lessons on how to be successful in high school. Grade 8 students will learn more about Boyd Secondary, setting goals and how to be a successful high school student. They will also get to participate in a variety of games, fun contests, and a school-wide scavenger hunt.

### ***What happens at Grade 8 Activity Day?***

After check-in, introductions and ice-breakers students will enjoy some fun activities inside of the school and will then travel by bus together to Lucky 9 Lanes. Grade 8s will learn more about Boyd Secondary, about setting goals and some tips on being successful in high school. Students will also participate in a variety of games, fun contests, and a school-wide scavenger hunt. Grade 8s will bowl, eat a pizza lunch together and enjoy social time. Grade 8 students will also write a letter to themselves, that the school will save and return in five years, to be opened in June of your Grade 12 year. ***We are considering ending the day with a sleep over, dinner and breakfast the next morning before releasing the students to their parents on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. More information and permission forms will follow in the coming weeks.***

### ***Who will supervise?***

Every aspect of Grade 8 Activity Day will be actively supervised by teachers and staff, including our principal and our vice-principals. All the activities and events at Grade 8 Activity Day will also be assisted by a group of Grade 11 and Grade 12 student leaders. This event will be very safe and welcoming.

### ***How do I register?***

Permission forms and an outline of events and plans for September 29<sup>th</sup> will be coming soon. Please keep your eyes open for this communication and sign up when the information is finalized.

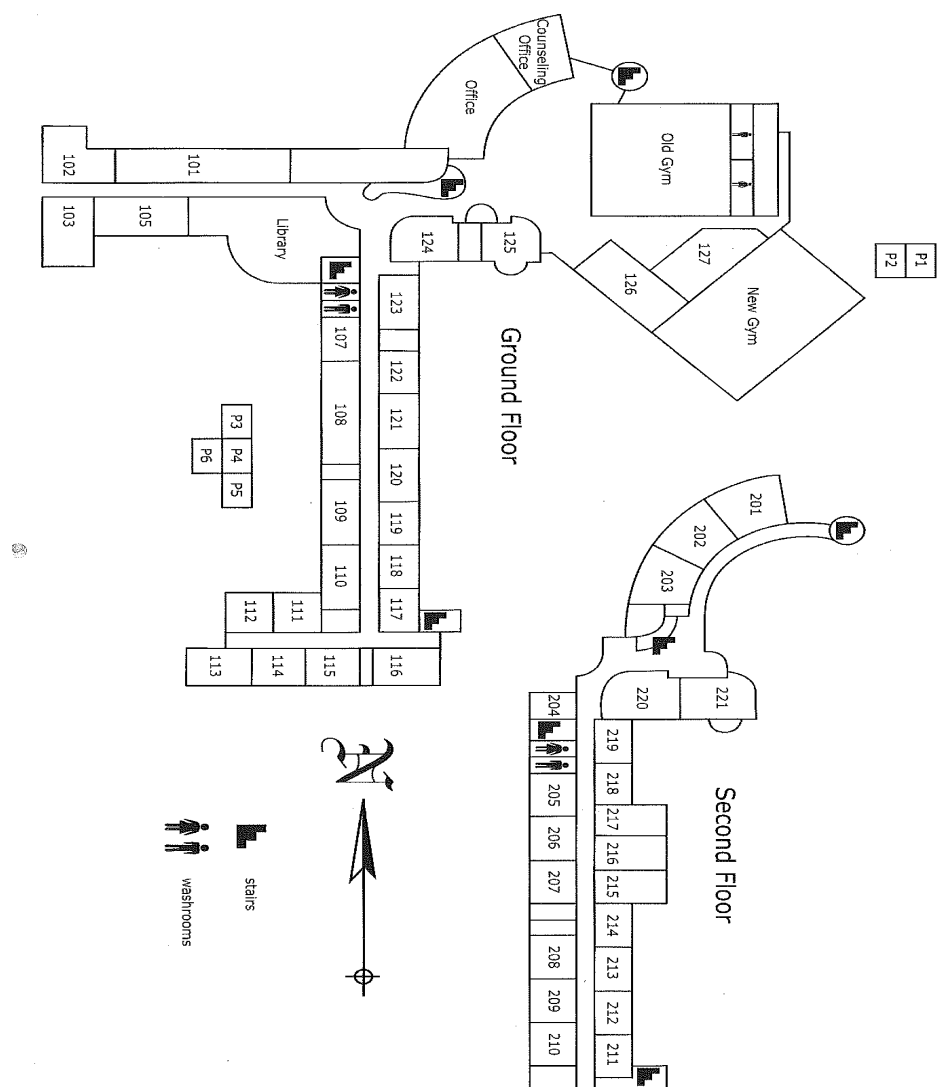
### ***When is my registration due? What if parents have questions?***

To book and confirm venues, parents are asked to complete the registration form/permission slips and make a payment ASAP once information has been finalized. An email outlining the plans and associated costs will be coming soon. If parents have any questions about Grade 8 Activity Day, please call the school at 604-668-6615 and ask for Mr. Onukwulu or Mr. Leslie— we want all Grade 8s to attend this important welcome to high school event.

### Finding Your Way Around and our School Map:

Finding your way around the school can seem a little scary at first – but our school is not as complicated as most malls! Think of the school as a big T – generally, English, Math, Science, Socials and Languages will be on the second floor and Resource, Home Ec labs, and the brand new Tec Ed workspace are on the first floor. The two gyms, multipurpose room, cafeteria, theatre, music, and art rooms are located in the east end of the school. We encourage you to carry a map the first week or so and ask if you need some help – our hallways are busy, but you'll be fine once you figure out where your classes are!

## HUGH BOYD SECONDARY SCHOOL MAP



### Hugh Boyd Bell Schedule and Your Timetable:

MON			TUES			WED		
A	8:30 AM	9:50 AM	PLT	8:30 AM	9:25 AM	B	8:30 AM	9:50 AM
BREAK	9:50	10:00	BREAK	9:25	9:30	BREAK	9:50	10:00
B	10:00 AM	11:20 AM	A	9:30 AM	10:35 AM	A	10:00 AM	11:20 AM
BREAK	11:20AM	11:30	BREAK	10:35	10:45	BREAK	11:20	11:30
C	11:30 AM	12:50 PM	B	10:45 AM	11:50 AM	D	11:30 AM	12:50 PM
LUNCH	12:50	13:35	BREAK	11:50	12:00	LUNCH	12:50	1:35
D	1:40 PM	3:00 PM	C	12:00 PM	1:05 PM	C	1:40 PM	3:00 PM
			LUNCH	13:05	13:50			
			D	1:55 PM	3:00 PM			

THURS			FRI		
PLT	8:30 AM	9:25 AM	A	8:30 AM	9:50 AM
BREAK	9:25	9:30	BREAK	9:50	10:00
B	9:30 AM	10:35 AM	B	10:00 AM	11:20 AM
BREAK	10:35	10:45	BREAK	11:20	11:30
A	10:45 AM	11:50 AM	C	11:30 AM	12:50 PM
BREAK	11:50	12:00	LUNCH	12:50	1:35
D	12:00 PM	1:05 PM	D	1:40 PM	3:00 PM
LUNCH	1:05	1:50	***ALTERNATE DAY 1/2 ROTATIONS		
C	1:55 PM	3:00 PM			

### Collaboration Day Bell Schedule

COLLAB DAY WEDNESDAYS		
B	8:55 AM	10:55 AM
BREAK	10:55	11:05AM
A	11:05 AM	12:05 PM
BREAK	12:05	12:15
D	12:15 PM	1:15 PM
LUNCH	13:15	13:55
C	2:00 PM	3:00 PM

\*\* This is a sample timetable only – yours will be different – and may include ELL, Band or Learning Support – depending on your choices and needs.

Sample\*\* Grade 8 Timetable – you will get your timetable on the first day (September 5<sup>th</sup>).

Block	Subject	Room	Teacher	
1-1	A	Math 8	208	Mr. Numbers
1-2	B	English 8	212	Ms. Paragraph
1-3	C	Art/Drama 8 or Music 8	137	Ms. Creative
1-4	D	PE 8	Gym	Mr. Fitness

2-1	A	Science 8	234	Ms. Nucleus
2-2	B	Language 8	216	Ms. Chatter
2-3	C	Social Studies 8	209	Mr. Maps
2-4	D	Home Ec/Tec Ed 8	114	Mr. Skills

The Hugh Boyd timetable will rotate each day on Monday, Tuesday and Friday where the blocks will go **A/B/C/D** and on Wednesday and Thursday the blocks will go **B/A/D/C**. We will switch courses in the middle of the year (Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> Semester 1 ends and Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup>, Semester 2 starts.

**Collaboration Days** - 8 times during the year, Hugh Boyd staff will meet together in the mornings to discuss and organize learning opportunities for students. On “Collab Days”, classes will start later (9:30am) and the bell schedule is different (see above). Students can come to school to work on projects with classmates, study independently or sleep in on these days!



**Get Connected to Boyd** – we want parents and students to connect with us – bookmark our website: <https://boyd.sd38.bc.ca/>

Follow us on Twitter: @BoydSecondary

## Hugh Boyd History – Established in 1960:

Hugh Boyd Secondary School (HBSS) is often referred to as “Boyd”. We are the Hugh Boyd Trojans and our colours are Black and Gold. Congratulations and welcome to this great, close-knit community! We are very much looking forward to working with you!

As the grads of 2028, you will be a member of our 31<sup>st</sup> graduating class and remember, ***be proud to be from Hugh Boyd!***

### **Timetable:**

Our newly adopted **Semester schedule** will be very easy to follow. We will have 4 classes every day for half the school year, then you will get 4 new classes for the second half. We will not rotate the blocks, so your first period class will always be first period etc. The Timetable you will receive on September 5<sup>th</sup> will show the classes as 1-1, 1-2,1-3 etc, but we will refer to the blocks as A, B, C and D every day.

### **Personal Learning Time (PLT):**

PLT happens twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30am to 9:25am. We understand that in high school you can get very busy with all the responsibilities that you may have both outside and inside the school. PLT is time for you to be able to seek help from your teachers to get better! Things you can do during PLT time include:

- Seek academic help from teachers or peers
- Complete homework/assignments
- Catch up missed work
- Get together with other students to work on a class group project
- Catch up on your reading
- Work on a passion project

The best part of PLT is that **YOU** get to choose what **YOU** think is most important to help improve your learning. In Grade 8, you will sign-up with a teacher that you currently have and are expected to be there for the entire PLT period.

### **Different Teachers, Different Classmates:**

You will have different teachers (e.g. a Math teacher, an English teacher, a P.E. teacher, etc.) and meet in different classrooms. You will also have different combinations of classmates in each of your classes. This is a big difference from elementary school, but it also offers exciting opportunities to meet and learn with many people in different classrooms, labs and specialized spaces. ***Most Grade 8s really like this aspect of high school!***

### **What is Expected? What are the Rules?**

Similar to the Richmond School District, we have a Code of Conduct and our school expectations are in the Student Agenda Booklet – please read these. Our most important expectation is that we treat one another with kindness, care, and respect, always. If we all do this, everything else is easy.

### **What About Cell Phones & Other Devices?**

All Boyd students are expected to be thoughtful digital citizens and only use their smart phones and devices in class with the permission of their teacher. If you're old enough to have your own smartphone, you're expected to be responsible enough to regulate your behaviour. We have WiFi in the school and you will be able to connect to the Internet. Remember, the Internet is forever –always THINK before you text, post, like or share an image or message. ***If it is unkind, hurtful, and inappropriate or you would not want your parent or teacher to see it, then don't do it! There should be no phone use in classes unless given permission by the teacher. Parents are also asked not to call their children on the cellphones during class time and instead contact the office and we will get in communication with your child.***

### **What do high school counsellors do? Do I need an appointment?**

One of the great things about high school is that all students are assigned to a school counsellor – these are teachers with master's degrees in counselling. Many Grade 8 students may not feel they need to see their school counsellor, but our Boyd counsellors are here to help all students in many different ways over your five years at Hugh Boyd Secondary School.

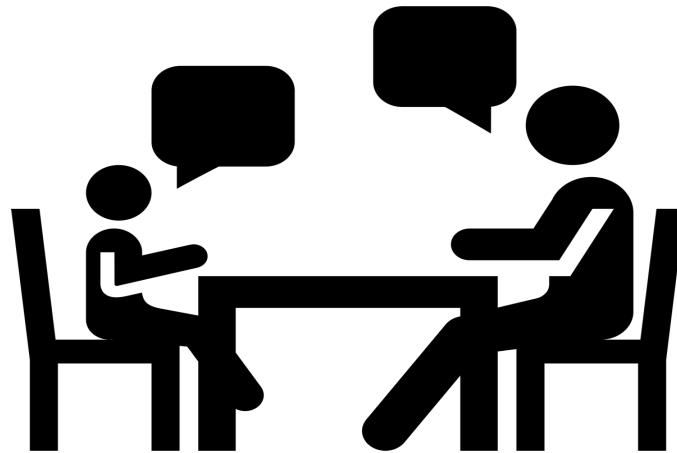
The counselling center is located next to the main office and is open from 8am to 3:30pm every school day. Your counsellor is assigned to you by alphabet, based on your last name (**A-L see Mr. Lam, M-Z see Mr. McDonnell and Ms. Takada will be with us part-time and**



**can help anyone in need**). If your counsellor is not there when you visit, no worries, you can ask the other counsellor to help you. If you need to see your counsellor and it is during class time, you can ask your teacher if you can come to see us or come to us first and we will give you a note to get back into class. Most students come to see their counsellor at breaks and at lunchtime, or after school, but if something is really bothering you, just come to see us right away as we are here to help students be successful!

***What kinds of things do counsellors help with?***

Counsellors are available to help you select your courses for next year, explain graduation, college and university requirements and to help you decide what your post-secondary plans may be. They are also specially trained in counselling and can talk to you about other topics, and this can include personal or family situations or issues with friends. They are here to support RHS students to be balanced, healthy and happy people.



***Your First Day of High School – Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>!***



We hope your first day of high school is exciting, positive and enjoyable! To be best prepared for your first day, make sure that you check the school website at the end of August. On the Friday before school starts, you will find your name posted on a list outside of the school doors and it will tell you what HOMEROOM you are in. Grade 8s will go to the gym at 1:00 PM on this day and be welcomed by staff and have an assembly to help you get prepared. Following the Grade Assembly, you will be escorted to your Homeroom class where you will get your

timetable, your locker assignment, some forms and will review some school expectations for the year. It is not a full day, and we hope to be finished by about 2:30 PM. The next day (Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>), however, will be a full day, starting at 8:30 with a 20-minute homeroom, followed by all four of your classes. **Don't worry, if you get lost, someone will be there to help you!**

### Your Locker and a Hugh Boyd Agenda Booklet:



During your first Homeroom, you will be assigned a locker and a lock and this is your place to store your jacket, PE strip and books during the year. Your locker is safe, but it is not a bank vault, so do not leave really valuable items in your locker. Learning how to use a combination lock can be tricky – but with some practice you will soon become an expert! We suggest that you NEVER share your locker combination with ANYONE!!! We pride ourselves on having an awesome community of learners here at Boyd – but as the saying goes – it is better to be safe than sorry! You will also get your own Boyd Agenda Booklet on the first day. This is a great tool to record your timetable, keep track of homework and know all the Boyd important dates and events in advance. The first section contains all the expectations, rules and all kinds of helpful info about our school! Also, be sure to write your full name and homeroom number on page 1.

Locks will be available for purchase (\$10.00 each) and the lock will then be yours to use wherever you need. You will be able to use it year after year, so do not share the combo with anyone! You can also bring your own lock to school, but we ask that you provide your Homeroom teacher with the combination (in case you forget!).

### What will the rest of the first week look like?

The first FULL day of school starts at **8:30 AM on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**. We will start the day with homeroom every day for the first week to give everyone the chance to hand in forms and fees. Once the first week is over, we will only have short Homerooms a few times during the year to distribute important information.

## ***What Will I Need For Class?***

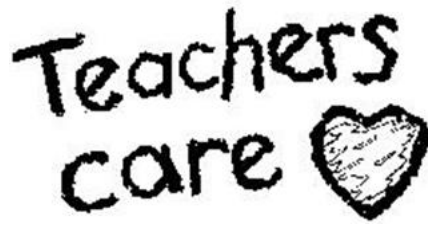


The first day in all your classes will be a welcome and introduction to the course and the teacher. You will get a course outline that describes what you will learn and do in the class, the expectations of the teacher and any supplies you will need. Listen to each teacher as they may have specific requirements for class materials, but here some helpful suggestions for Grade 8s:

- Use separate binders with dividers for each “core” subject such as English, Math, Science, Social Studies & French (unless otherwise requested by the teacher) and LOTS of lined paper!!! We recommend:
  - at least 1 or 2 2 or 2 & ½ inch binder
  - 1 pack of dividers
  - lots of paper
  - Pens for the year
  - Pencils for the year
  - Eraser
  - 1 scientific calculator
  - 1 small ruler
  - Glue stick
  - Highlighter
  - Post-it notes
  - Pencil case to carry everything
- Bring your Hugh Boyd Agenda booklet to your classes as your teachers may require you to record due dates and other information. You will receive this in Homeroom the first day.
- Have PE strip – for hygiene reasons, you should change from your school clothes into shorts or sweats and a t-shirt/hoodie and running shoes on the days you have for P.E. It is a very good idea to take your PE strip home regularly to be washed too!
- **Masks** will continue to be optional in the 2023-2024 school year. Please respect everyone’s choice to wear or not wear a mask.
- Always use your first and last name – and write this on your pencil case, your Agenda booklet and everything you hand in to the office and all the work you hand in to your teachers.

## F.A.Q.s – FREQUENTLY ASKED GRADE 8 QUESTIONS

### **TEACHERS:**



*Q. What are the teachers like at Hugh Boyd?*

A. Every teacher at Hugh Boyd is focused on helping you learn. While your teachers may have different teaching styles and personalities and you will be expected to listen and participate, all staff care about you and want you to be successful at Boyd!

*Q. How can I ask for help from my teachers?*

A. Teachers will explain when they are available outside of class, but you can always speak to your teachers during class or just before or after class. Teachers also have email addresses posted on the school website if you or your parents want to ask a question about school or request a meeting.

### **HOMEWORK:**

*Q. Will I get a lot of homework?*

A. Homework is a part of life in high school. It will vary from teacher to teacher and generally increase as you move from Grade 8 to Grade 12. The important thing is to stay on top of what you need to do and finish it in a timely manner (stay organized and use your agenda) and if you do this, you will manage all your homework just fine. Also, if you use class time wisely, you will have a lot less homework!

*Q. What happens if I forget my homework?*

A. Different teachers have different policies, so be sure to know your teacher's expectations. Again, being organized means knowing what's for homework and having your homework done on time.

### **ABSENCES AND BEING LATE:**

*Q. What happens if I'm late to class?*

A. Attendance is important at Hugh Boyd, and we expect students to be in class, before the bell goes. However, sometimes being late is unavoidable – so please don't freak out! Generally, if you are late, enter the classroom quietly and sit down. If you are late frequently, you can expect the teacher to speak with you and make a phone call home to speak with your parents.

*Q. What if I have to leave school before the end of the day?*

A. Go to the office, and if you have a dentist or other appointment, we will phone a parent to confirm or you can bring a note from a parent/guardian and our office staff will “sign you out”. Don’t forget to let your classroom teacher know that you are signing out and show them the note as well. If you feel sick, come to the office and we will call home to be sure your parents say it is okay for you to go home.

*Q. How do you phone the school if you are sick?*

A. Your parent/guardian should call the student absence line at 604-668-7813 and leave a message. Students cannot phone in for themselves.

*Q. What happens if I’m sick?*

A. First of all, don’t worry, people get sick sometimes! Please be sure that your parent/guardian phones in to the school absence line 604-668-7813. When you return, it will be your responsibility to find out what you missed, when you can make it up and submit any missing assignments. If you think you will be sick for more than a couple of days your parent can email your teachers or phone the office to request a homework package.

*Q. What happens if I’m going away for a family trip or a tournament?*

A. We do not recommend that you miss school for an extended period of time. However, if you are going away, your parents must let both the office and your teachers know, in writing, before you leave. Although teachers may be able to accommodate your homework requests ahead of time, it is expected that you will make up the work missed when you get back. It will be your responsibility to find out what you missed, when you can make it up, and submit any missing assignments. It helps to let your teachers know ahead of time if you know you will be absent from school.

### **CLASSES:**

*Q. Where are my classes? Will I get lost?*

A. You will have classes in many rooms around the school. Finding your way in a new place takes a little time, but you will quickly get used to it. If you’re unsure of where a room is, just ask an older student or any staff member and they will help you!

*Q. What if my classes are too difficult for me?*

A. At Hugh Boyd, we expect our students to be actively engaged in their own learning. However, if you are having difficulties, speak with your teacher as soon as you can about your concerns. If you continue to have issues, talk to your parents and see your school counsellor to discuss further opportunities for support. We want all Boyd students to be successful and we will help you!

*Q. What happens if I lose my textbooks?*

A. Please take care of your textbooks as you will need to pay the full replacement cost if you lose or damage yours.

Q. *Will I be able to eat in class?*

A. This depends on the teacher. However, you will not be allowed to eat in the science labs, computer classes, or the library.

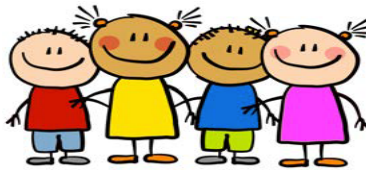
Q. *Can I change my courses?*

A. Grade 8s have similar schedules and rarely need to change their timetables. If you have a question or concern about your timetable (or there is an error – for example, you seem to have Math 12), you will need to see your counsellor and they will help you.

Q. *Will I have lots of tests and exams?*

A. Just like elementary school, Boyd teachers will use a variety of formative and summative assessment formats to assess what you know, understand and can do (e.g. creating and answering questions, doing projects, presentations, posters, charts, paragraphs, role plays and quizzes and tests). Teachers will clearly explain the criteria before you begin and you will know all test and due dates ahead of time and be given opportunities to review.

### **FRIENDS:**



Q. *Will I make any friends?*

A. Making friends is one of the most rewarding parts of high school. At first, you will be meeting many new people and it can feel a little overwhelming. Be sure to go to Grade 8 Activity Day and remember, being a friend is the best way to make a friend. Try saying hello, socializing between classes, joining a club or team, and being a part of the Boyd community as these will be your best way to find others with similar interests.

### **OTHER RANDOM QUESTIONS:**

Q. *Is there Wi-Fi?*

A. Yes. There is a Wi-Fi network for students and visitors called 'Boyd\_Guest'. You will get the password when you arrive in September.

Q. *How do you open a locker?*

A. All students will be assigned a locker and a 3-number combination lock. Practice opening a lock before school starts – it is not complicated, but it takes a little practice. Your lock will look like the one on page 9 of this book.

Q. *Where do I eat lunch?*



A. Most students bring lunch from home or will buy from our new cafeteria provider and find a place in the school where they and their friends like to eat. We have many tables and benches for students, but you will often see students eating in front of their lockers or outside when the weather is nice.

Q. *What does the cafeteria food taste like?*

A. The Cafeteria is run by Stacey Green. She has been working in school cafeteria programs for several years and runs an excellent program, serving nutritious, tasty meals and snacks that all fall within the Healthy Schools Guidelines. The prices will be very reasonable and we look forward to ensuring students will be able to eat well within the walls of our school.

Q. *Are the line-ups long for the cafeteria?*

A. While there may be a line-up at the cafeteria, it will be supervised and it should move efficiently and quickly.

Q. *When does lunch start?*

A. Lunch is after the 3rd class of the day and goes for 45-minutes. Students are free to go where they want during lunch but are expected to manage the time and arrive to their 4th class on time.

Q. *Can I ride my bike or skateboard to school?*



A. Yes, you can. We ask you to be safe and, if riding your bike or boarding, wear a helmet and follow the laws of the road. If boarding or rollerblading, be careful around traffic and other pedestrians and do not board or blade inside the school! As you would anywhere else, it is very important to lock your bike with a high-quality lock.

Q. *What are the people at Hugh Boyd like?*

A. The people at Boyd are caring and kind. Whenever you need help (whether it's with homework or finding your way around), there are many students (and teachers) that are willing to help you.

Q. *How do I act towards older grades?*

A. You treat the older grades with respect, as you should with every other student and teacher at Boyd Secondary. The Grade 11s and 12s are role models, and if you ever need advice, they're

a great source as they've had the experience and have been at the school the longest. You should never be afraid of older grades. We all have a mindset that we're in this high school journey together, and we help each other along the way.

*Q. How can I join a sports team/club?*

A. We want every Boyd student to feel that they belong at our school. The best way to do this is to join a positive group, club or team. Near the end of September, we will have a "Clubs Day" where all clubs gather and set up tables at lunch. Students can walk around and see what's available and what they would like to sign up for. We have dozens of clubs to choose from, and there's always at least one club out there for everyone. For Hugh Boyd sports, there will be a sign up and many announcements saying when there will be try-outs or open gyms, so you will always be notified when try outs are for all teams and sports!

*Q. Is there bullying?*



A. We expect students to treat one another with kindness, care and respect every day and also grow into resilient, independent people. Bullying is not normal at Boyd; it is uncool and it is not welcome. If you ever feel bullied or see it happening to others (in person or online), the best thing to do is to talk to a trusted adult - a vice principal or principal, a teacher or your counsellor. Everything you tell a teacher or a counsellor will be confidential – and we will take it seriously and we will help

### **BEST HIGH SCHOOL ADVICE EVER?**



Almost every Hugh Boyd Secondary School student is interested in doing well. They go to class regularly and keep everything they do for each class organized in a binder and then, once a test is announced or a project is due, they spend time catching up, researching, studying and preparing. This is normal. However, if every day you spend just a little time reading over and rewriting some of your notes, keeping up with all of the assigned pages/chapters and reading maybe a few pages ahead, an amazing thing happens. When you go to class next, you will understand what your teachers are talking about. You will be able to ask and answer thoughtful questions and you will actually learn more deeply. Studying for tests will be easier and school will be more enjoyable. Your friends and classmates will think you're "really smart", but really, it's about being a better student. Go ahead – try it – see what happens.



**FIVE KEYS TO SUCCESS at Hugh Boyd:**

At Boyd Secondary, we believe all students can be successful if they follow these five principles everyday:

1. *Demonstrate kindness, care and respect* – for yourself, for others, for the school and the community - today and every day.
2. *Attend your classes on time.*
3. *Engage and participate in your learning.*
4. *Be resilient* – it won't always be easy, but don't give up, you can do this! A growth mindset means believing you can learn.
5. *Get involved in something positive outside of the classroom.*

**Finally, we leave you with some good advice from Boyd students:**

- *I was unsure about going to Boyd, but then I went to Grade 8 Activity Day! It was so much fun and I met lots of new people right away and the leaders were awesome - GO HAVE FUN!*
- *Don't be scared as everyone really does treat you with kindness, care, and respect. It is okay to be different at Boyd and "be kind and just be yourself" really is the best advice ever.*
- *Don't worry about how big the school might seem, because soon it will feel like you've been here for a long time and 'getting lost' will seem funny to you! If you can't figure out where your classes are – ask someone to help you. People here are very friendly.*
- *I would tell Grade 7s not to stress out about coming to high school because even though it is different and bigger, it's nothing they can't handle. You're going to love it here!*
- *I loved my elementary school, but Grade 8 was even better. The Grade 8 Activity Day was literally one of the best things ever in high school! My advice would be to do your best, study, and enjoy being here because Boyd is a great school where you can join clubs, teams and find lots of new friends.*
- *Try your absolute best and don't procrastinate. These two habits will really pay off in your older grades. Also, try to learn and not to stress too much about your marks/grades, because you will have many more opportunities to learn - just do your best.*
- *Staying organized is very important in Grade 8 – your Boyd agenda is good, so use it!*
- *You are a member of the Hugh Boyd community now!! Dress up on the Spirit Weeks – you will have fun! Be involved with clubs as it really can help you make friends. Follow the school on IG, Twitter and FB and explore the school website, then you will always know what is happening at school.*
- *Have the confidence to ask your teachers for help, that's probably the biggest thing to help you succeed and they want to help you. Also, meet your counsellor; they can help you a lot over the next five years.*
- *Hey Grade 7s, remember, no one learns very much staying inside their comfort zone all the time! Join something – try out for a team, go to games, dress up on spirit days, join one club– time goes by so quickly and all my friends wished we started doing this in Grade 8.*

