

## The Phoenix Messenger

FFCA High School - North and South Campuses

## **Matter of Principal**

Dear Parents and Students,

Our typical greeting for a "back to school" letter would have been a hope that all of you had a good relaxing break, which still is! But we know that this break was not even close to a normal summer break. We have been wondering about how to welcome you back to a school year which is not only disrupted by a global pandemic but also by our local situation of campus split. Then, we thought of an article that we shared with our staff as a welcome back message. The article is written by Prakash Iyer, "Have you heard of Choluteca Bridge". We would like you to read the article (attached).

We will be starting our high school at two campuses – North High School (NHS) with Susan Boyd as the associate principal and the South High School (SHS) with Doug Lamb as the associate principal. Bharati Singh is dividing her time equally at both campuses.

We have few new staff members joining our team - Arlene Nijjar, Cole McGregor, Sara Bouke-Jaska, Hannah Slomp, Luc McKay, and Krista Royer. Alex Falk and Lindsay Milburn will be returning to our team. We have included important "back to school" information in this newsletter. More detailed information will be provided in due time.

Now back to the article, the Choluteca Bridge is a perfect metaphor for what we all are going through. The events of the last six months compel us to think about this metaphor of a bridge. The river has changed its course and we need to adapt. The "Built to Last" is a good mantra but "Build to adapt" is more relevant now. Everyone at FFCA has been working hard to prepare our campuses to safely welcome students on September 8<sup>th</sup>. We are all excited to see students back at school.

Yours in Education,

Bharati Singh, Susan Boyd, Doug Lamb

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#### **Dates to Remember**

Sep 8 & 9 - Soft Start; Cohort A
Sep 10 & 11 - Soft Start; Cohort B
Sep 14 - Regular Classes Start
Sep 25 - P.D. No Classes / Building Closed
Sep 29 - School Photo's



Staff has been assigned to each campus based on the program needs. Most of the staff is placed at one of the two campuses particularly in the core subject areas, however, there will be some teaching staff in the electives area that will work at both locations. Students services, the guidance counsellor, ESL support staff and the business manager will provide support at both campuses. Mrs. Susan Boyd will be the associate principal at the NHS and Mr. Doug Lamb will be the associate principal at the SHS. Mrs. Bharati Singh will be at both campuses.

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STAFF		SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STAFF	
NAME		TOTAL	
AHMED, Tanya	I SEM	AHMED, Tanya	II SEM
ANDREWS, Bryan		AMUNDSON, Wanda	
ANTEN, Taira		ANENE, Bryan	
BECKETT, Alan	II SEM	BECKETT, Alan	I SEM
CAMBRIDGE, Sharon		BORKE-JASKA, Sara	
CODD, Sherri		BROUGHTON, Allan	
DAWE, Katie		GAY, Catherine	
DAWE, Shane		GERAN, Shelley	
FALK, Alex		GLENNEY, Mariko	
GERAN, Shelley		KJELLBOTN, Kim	
GOUDINA, Anna		GUTHRIE, Corinne	II SEM
GREWAL, Ravinder		HALAS, Marc	
GUTHRIE, Corinne	I SEM	KENNEDY, Jay	
HALAS, Marc		KING, Rae	
HUNNISETT, Pamela		LAMB, Doug	
KASSAM, Rishma		MARSHALL, Colin	
MASIKEWICH, Lynn		MASIKEWICH, Lynn	
McCLARE, Ted	II SEM	MASSEY, Sarah	
McGregor, Cole		McCLARE, Ted	I SEM
McKEOWN, Kim		MILBURN, Lindsay	
MILBURN, Lindsay		NAYAK, Anil	
MOLIN, Jacqueline		ORCHARD, Arlene	II SEM
NYROSE, Charlotte		ROSS, Natalie	
ORCHARD, Arlene	I SEM	SALMON-SOUTH, Diane	
PRYDE, Katie/NIJJAR, Arlene		SANDERSON, Kassandra	I SEM
REICHELT, Catherine/ McKAY, Luc		SHIVJI, Sohel	
ROYER, Krista		SLOMP, Hannah	
SALMON-SOUTH, Diane		SINGH, Bharati	
SANDERSON, Kassandra	II SEM	SIU, Jack	
SHIVJI, Sohel		SMITHAM, Ryan	I SEM
SHOUCRI, Andre		WEGNER, Nancy	
SINGH, Bharati		WIDMER, Chad	I SEM
SMITHAM, Ryan	II SEM		
STOVEL, Wade			
TSEKOURAS, Elaine			
WEGNER, Carey			
WIDMER, Chad	II SEM		



#### SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS CONTACT DETAIL

Address: 31586 SE AVE, Calgary, AB T2H 1N7

Phone Number: 587-794 - 4250

Mrs. Bharati Singh – <a href="mailto:bharati.singh@ffca-calgary.com">bharati.singh@ffca-calgary.com</a> Mr. Doug Lamb – <a href="mailto:doug.lamb@ffca-calgary.com">doug.lamb@ffca-calgary.com</a>

## **Information about Campus Transfers**

The campus transfer requests will be placed on the internal transfer (with priority) list. Once the high school has completed their staffing for the in-class and at-home for the two locations these requests will be entertained. In the meantime, **students should attend their assigned campus.** Please note that there may not be a spot for the transferred students on the school bus and parents will be expected to make their own arrangements.

For your transfer requests please contact Phoebe Greentree at <a href="mailto:phoebe.greentree@ffca-calgary.com">phoebe.greentree@ffca-calgary.com</a>

#### Soft Start and Cohorts A & B

High School is planning to have a 4- days soft start from September 8<sup>th</sup>- September 11<sup>th</sup>. On first two days (Sept 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) only the cohort A will attend school and on next two days (Sept 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>) cohort B will attend school. Students are placed in cohorts A and B based on the bussing lists and students with their own transportation are placed in one of the cohorts to balance the number of students in each cohort. The goal of cohort is to divide the entire student population in half to maintain physical distancing for scenario B. The soft start will prepare the whole community to be ready in the event of scenario B (a blended learning environment) switch. This will allow staff to prepare a smaller group of students in COVID protocols. During these four days students will get to familiarize themselves with the COVID-19 protocols to be followed at school.

Students and parents will be informed about their Cohort through email by Friday, Sept 4th.

#### **ONLINE LEARNING**

In addition to system's guidelines, HS teachers will communicate with your student about their individual courses.



### **FACE MASK DISTRIBUTION**

As per Alberta Education guidelines, all students in high school are required to wear a mask at school. Each student will receive two masks provided by the government on the first day of school.

#### SCHEDULE DISTRIBUTION AND DISCONTINUED COURSES

Students will receive their schedules upon their arrival at school. Due to high school split AP (advanced placement programs and a few electives will not be available at either the NHS or SHS. Enrolments are too low to be viable in either campus

#### **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

COVID-19 protocols will be shared with students during soft start days. Parents can access the information in "Student Handbook" on the HS website site.

### **OUTSTANDING TEXTBOOKS AND LIBRARY ITEMS**

Students with textbooks and library resources from the 2019-20 school year must return their items to their assigned campus between September 8 and 11. Marked bins will be placed near the new library locations at each campus.

North High School: Outside of Room 319 (across from Drama Room)

South High School: In the Learning Commons

Items not returned during this time will be marked as lost and the replacement value will be deducted from your textbook deposit and charges posted to family login to be paid by the fee payment deadline.

Questions may be directed to Mr. Halas via email: Marc.Halas@FFCA-Calgary.com



BWI FADERSHIP

Prakash Iyer

PITALKIES

# THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER CHOLUTECA



AVE YOU HEARD of the Choluteca Bridge? I hadn't cither, until not so long ago. It's a 484-metre-long bridge over the river Choluteca in Honduras, in Central America. A region notorious for storms and hurricanes.

So when they decided to build a new bridge over river Choluteca in 1996, they wanted to ensure it would withstand the extreme weather conditions. A Japanese firm was contracted and they built a solid bridge, designed to withstand the powerful forces of nature. The new Cho-

luteca bridge – a modern-day marvel of design and engineering was thrown open to the public in 1998. And as people drove from one side of

the Choluteca river to the other, they couldn't help but admire the new bridge, It was Choluteca's pride and joy.

And in October that year, Hurricane Mitch hit Honduras. There was 75 inches of rain in four days – the equivalent of what they receive in six months. There was devastation all around. The river Choluteca swelled and flooded the entire region. 7000 people lost their lives. All the bridges in Honduras were destroyed. All, except one. The new Choluteca bridge remained unaffected.

But there was a problem. While the bridge was intact, the road leading to it and the road leaving it were both swept away. Leaving no sign that there was once a road there. And that's not all. The flooding forced the river Choluteca to change course. It created a new channel, and the river now flowed beside the bridge. Not under, but beside the bridge. So while the bridge was strong enough to survive the hurricane, it became a bridge over nothing. A bridge to nowhere.

It happened 22 years ago. But the lesson from the Choluteca bridge is more

relevant to us today than ever before. The world is changing in ways we may have never imagined. And the Choluteca Bridge is a terrific metaphor for what can happen to us – our careers, our businesses, our lives – as the world

around us gets transformed. Adapt to change, Or else.

As you look at your career, think again before you take one more course that makes you even more of an expert in your area of specialisation. Thatrole, that expertise might soon become redundant. Before spending money on refurbishing your old office, pause. Thinking of opening more branches in every nook and corner of the country? Think again. Physical office spaces could soon be a thing of the past.

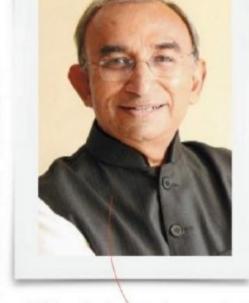
The challenge for us is that we get focused on creating the best solution to a given problem. We forget that the problem itself might change. We are all focusing on building the strongest, most sophisticated product or service. Without thinking of the possibility that the need could

vanish. The market could change. We focus on the bridge. And ignore the possibility that the river underneath could change course. Think about that too. 'Built to Last' might have been a popular mantra. But 'Build to Adapt' could be the way to go.

You might want to add a picture of the Choluteca Bridge to the paintings that adorn the walls of your office. To remind you to build a business and a career that can adapt to change.

Else, you could be left with a Choluteca bridge. A superb bridge. Over nothing. To nowhere. ■

lyer is an author, speaker and leadership coach and farmer MD of Kimberly Clark Lever



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terrific metaphor

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#### CHOLUTECA BRIDGE



Prakash Iyer. "Have you heard of the Choluteca Bridge?". Aug 4, 2020. Tweet. https://twitter.com/prakashiyer/status/1290874327487803393/photo/1

