



April 17, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Re: [COVID-19 Information Bulletin](#)

As we complete our first week of formal instruction as part of our Continuity of Learning Plan, I want to thank all students, staff, and families for their hard work and patience during this transition to our at-home learning model. To parents/guardians, we appreciate your continued efforts in working alongside our teachers and staff to move learning forward for our students during this challenging time.

We acknowledge the shift to online platforms isn't easy for everyone. Our teachers and staff have been sharing instruction on apps like Microsoft Teams and myBlueprint. Please reach out to them for help and be easy on yourself with regards to expectations. If you need more assistance, you can visit the District's Educational Technology Support webpage [here](#). In the weeks ahead, we will proceed with this new way of learning and will continue to rely on each other for support as we navigate this fast-changing environment.

This week, we expanded childcare services for nearly 90 children of Essential Service Workers. We are working with our community partners in helping meet the health and safety needs of families, as well as connecting them with resources. The District website has a new Family & Community Support webpage [here](#) to help parents/guardians cope with the impacts of COVID-19. On this page you will also find a new weekly blog launched by Gail Markin, our District Teacher for Social Emotional Learning. She will be sharing health and wellness topics in an engaging way.

It's important to note all the events and activities we would normally be participating in at this time of year are not going ahead as planned. As directed by the Provincial Health Officer, the ban of gatherings of more than 50 people is in effect until the end of May. That means all District and school events such as musicals, camping trips, and car shows are cancelled. Registration for summer school is delayed. Our staff are looking into what programs can be offered. We will update the community as soon as information is made available.

As you may have heard in the media, the provincial fight against COVID-19 is heading in a positive direction however, we want to remain prepared for the unexpected. We will continue to take direction from the Ministry of Education and Provincial Health Office. To stay up-to-date, District and provincial information can be found on our COVID-19 webpage [here](#).

I am confident that we will be able to work together to pivot and adjust to whatever comes our way in the weeks and months ahead. We're in this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gord Stewart".

Gord Stewart

Superintendent of Schools