



March 10, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students and Staff:

Re: Information Bulletin

As we begin Spring Break, I want to express our appreciation and share an update with the community. Thank you again for working together to keep our schools healthy, safe, and open. There has been a tremendous amount of learning in our schools over the past term amidst COVID-19 challenges. Our schools focused their energies on respect, diversity and inclusion as part of Diversity and Respect Week and Black History Month in February. We are proud of the activities that have taken place to help create a positive and welcoming learning environment for all students. We look forward to continuing this work together throughout the year.

COVID-19 Update

As you may be aware, today (Thursday) the province made an announcement regarding the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. After Spring Break, mask wearing will no longer be required in K-12 schools, however, individuals may choose to continue wearing masks. In addition, the Ministry of Education has shared updated K-12 health and safety guidelines which will be in effect after Spring Break. These changes can be viewed [here](#). As soon as we return to school, our staff will work to implement the most current guidelines.

The removal of the amendments in January have been encouraging, allowing for spectators at sports games and music/theatre productions. We are hearing from staff about how good it feels to have a sense of normalcy and see our students share their talents in front of their peers and families. As we transition, we ask for everyone to be patient, kind, and compassionate with each other. We have all endured this pandemic together over the last two years with grace and understanding.

Travel and Testing

Staff, students and families are responsible for understanding and adhering to all international travel requirements including [COVID-19 travel, testing and borders](#) as outlined by the Government of Canada. Before you travel, please become familiar with travel requirements.

Graduation 2022

We recognize our graduates and families are looking forward to celebrations to mark their achievement. We want students to end their education in a memorable and meaningful way and have an uplifting start to their future. The District expects to hold our typical graduation events such as in-person ceremonies, banquets and dances; however, we are waiting for the lifting of the PHO Gatherings and Events Order (expected end of day April 7, 2022). More detailed information about plans will be shared by schools after Spring Break.

Indigenous-Focused Grad Requirement

The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), has announced that as part of the province's commitments to truth, reconciliation and anti-racism, the Ministry of Education is implementing an Indigenous-focused graduation requirement for all students. The new course will be implemented in a phased approach in 2023-2024. Prior to this change, the Ministry has launched a public consultation to gather feedback. To participate in this engagement process, which closes on April 22, 2022, please visit the [govTogetherBC website](#). The District supports this new requirement and sees it as a step forward in the District's Truth and Reconciliation journey.

Student Learning Survey

In an effort to support education for all students, the Ministry is asking families of students in grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 to participate in an online student learning survey about their child's education. We have sent this information to schools. Thank you to families who are taking part. Our District supports any engagement with our community that will help plan for a better future in education for our students.

Kindergarten Registration Closes March 31

A final reminder to all families that Kindergarten registration closes on March 31st. As a fast-growing District, we need to have these processes completed on time to ensure we have the appropriate resources and supports in place for our students in the new school year. To register, please contact your catchment school or visit our District webpage [here](#).

Budget Consultation 2022-2023

As previously shared, the District is inviting students, staff and families to take part in its Budget Consultation 2022-2023 by completing a 5 minute survey [here](#) or providing feedback by email to budgetconsultation@sd35.bc.ca.

All survey and email submissions will be accepted until April 5, 2022.

The data gathered will help inform our District Leadership Staff and Board of Education with information needed to make decisions impacting education. The District is sharing videos and an infographic located on the webpage which may be helpful to you. For more information visit our District website [here](#). We look forward to hearing from you on this important matter that will help us positively shape education in our District.

These last few months have been very busy for students, staff and families. My hope is for everyone to get an opportunity to slow down, pause, and spend time with their loved ones over Spring Break.

Sincerely,



Mal Gill
Superintendent of Schools

Cette notification est importante. S'il vous plaît demandez à quelqu'un pour la traduire afin d'être bien informé(e) à propos de l'école.

هذه الرسالة مهمة، الرجاء ان تطلب من احد الأشخاص ترجمتها لك لأنها الهيري على معلومات مهمة من المدرسة

这是一个很重要的通知。请找人翻译它的内容，这样你就可以及时知道学校的情况。

ਇਹ ਇੱਕ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੁਸ਼ੀਰੀ ਨਿਸ਼ਚਾ ਕਰੋ ਕਿ ਕੋਈ ਪਾਸ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਵਾਏ ਜਾਂ ਕੋਈ ਹੋਰ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਸੰਗੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰੇ।

이것은 중요한 공지사항입니다. 이것을 번역할 수 있는 분에게 부탁해서 여러분이 학교에서 공지하는 것에 대하여 정확하게 인지할 수 있기를 바랍니다.

Đây là một thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người dịch để bạn có thể biết thêm những thông tin về trường học.

Este es un aviso importante. Por favor consiga que alguien se lo traduzca para que usted pueda mantenerse bien informado sobre la información de su escuela.

Ito ay isang mahalagang notisya. Mangyari po lamang ay magkaroon ng taong tagasalin ng wika upang ikaw ay maging batid tungkol sa impormasyon ng paaralan.