

Office of the Superintendent

Shelley Green - Superintendent

Friday, April 17, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Re: Learning from Home

As we enhance and refine instruction to our students, we want to connect with our families and offer support as we continue to navigate this new way of learning together. We understand there may be further questions that arise with remote learning and we want you to know that our staff is committed and prepared to help guide you through this process.

Our District has been busy over the past few weeks lining everything up to support you and your child(ren) from home. We've examined online platforms and specific tools to ensure those tools are secure for all users and follow best practice. We've also been distributing digital devices (iPads and Chromebooks) to students without access to technology so they are able to participate in online courses and virtual classrooms. If you have not heard from your school or you have concerns about virtual classrooms, please reach out to your Principal to discuss your child's learning opportunities.

As always, we strive to deliver education through an equitable lens that provides an opportunity for all of our students to be successful.

To help achieve this, our District continues to offer meals to students who previously utilized our school-based food service programs. Our food distribution program is providing approximately 10,000 meals weekly to help our families in need. We are very proud of all our staff who have been involved in this initiative and expect it to grow with the help of community partners.

We continue to provide support to students whose parents or guardians are essential service workers, prioritizing the needs of tier one service workers. Our schools are open for school-aged children, 5 -12 years old, for school care services. Our school care program provides care and learning opportunities for students while their parents continue to protect us and maintain essential services that keep our community functioning. Our Principals, Vice-Principals, Educational Assistants and Custodians have been instrumental in having this program run successfully. We would like to recognize their efforts as they've really stepped forward to ensure our students have a safe and positive experience.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

From elementary to secondary, we are actively examining how we can create the most optimal experience for our learners. For our grade 12 students, we understand there has been some uncertainty around student assessments and graduation. We will be communicating with our grade 12 students and families in the coming week.

We are mindful that our students and families may experience different things during this learning transition. Please know our District teams and schools are working hard to provide you with resources and innovative learning solutions. If you need additional support or access to food and technology, please contact your Principal. We are here for you.

Sincerely,



Shelley Green
Superintendent of Schools

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One *Learning* Community

