
From: Leung, Stephen
Sent: March 27, 2020 3:36 PM
To: skleung@vsb.bc.ca
Subject: COVID 19 and the end of Spring Break

Dear parent(s) and guardian(s),

I hope this email finds you and your family and friends well.

I wanted to provide you with some additional information as we are at the end of spring break.

Never before has the province of British Columbia shut down schools province-wide. Starting Monday, the school is no longer open to the public. As such, we are in new territory. By the time you read this, you should have received a message from our superintendent about what school will look like in the coming times. Key messages in that communication are the priorities she pointed out:

The health and safety of the kids, the staff, the school, the families, and the community are paramount.

Communication is vital.

School is still a connection for our community.

Learning is still happening even though students will not be attending classes in our building.

During the first week back I will be meeting online with staff on what learning will look like and how it will happen.

Please be patient as we formulate our next steps forward which will include:

Communication from your child's teacher(s) to you and your child(ren) (most likely no earlier than Thursday).

Instructions on how to retrieve your child's items and any relevant learning material your child(ren) will need from school.

A really important action that you each need to take is to make sure we have the email addresses you want the school to use as that will be our main way of communicating with you. If you know of any of our families that do not receive our email communications, please ask them to contact us with the appropriate information. While they may call us by phone, phones will not be answered consistently as school have limited staffing in order to follow the Minister of Health's spacing guidelines. The best way to communicate with us is to send us an email. Mcianelli@vsb.bc.ca. If they give you permission, you may send that email to us on their behalf.

Another important source of information is our District website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx> and our school website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-william-van-horne/Pages/default.aspx> and our PAC website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-william-van-horne/Pages/default.aspx>

Finally, if you know of any families that need our communications translated into other languages, it is my hope that you (our community) can support one another (by offering to translate) so that everyone has all the information they may need.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send an email to Mcianelli@vsb.bc.ca

Ms. Cianelli can answer some of your questions and whatever questions she cannot answer she can forward them to me. If you wish to contact me for a private matter, send Ms. Cianelli and email asking to speak with me but please leave a phone number and the best time for me to reach you.

Finally, a couple of personal messages from me to you. I recognize there could be some/much anxiety out in our community over COVID-19 and schooling. Please do not hesitate to reach out to members of our community (including myself) that you feel comfortable speaking to for support. I have spoken to our PAC chair, Gregg Sayer, about this issue and we are both in agreement that we want everyone to be supported as best as can be.

Thank you.

Stephen Leung

Principal