



Sen Pok Chin School

1156 Senpokchin Blvd.
Oliver BC V0H 1T0
250 498 2019
office@senpokchin.com



Principal Ms. Valerie Allen
principal@senpokchin.com

March 26, 2020

Dear Staff, Parents/Guardians and Families,

Re: Continuity of Educational Opportunities for Senpaq'cin School:

On March 17th, under the direction of the Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, the British Columbia government directed all K-12 schools to immediately suspend in-class instruction until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since this announcement, the principal of Senpaq'cin School, has reached out to the Superintendent Bev Young of School District 53 for guidance and support on how to address the continuity of student learning. Julie Shaw and Michele Woitzik have been working on a COVID Response Plan for distant learning.

Starting Monday, March 30th, our teaching staff will be having a virtual staff meeting to provide direction for how they can support student learning from a distance and respect the social distancing measures that are mandatory for all Canadians to follow:

- Social Distancing 6ft or 2 meters
- Staying home when sick
- Proper handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

With these parameters in mind, it will be necessary that teachers and support staff understand the clarity of expectation when gathering any needed educational resources. For example, we may need to stagger the times teachers come to the school to collect resources and to do photocopying of learning packages.

During our staff meeting we will be discussing how we are going to meet our student educational needs and explore what technical platforms are available for us to reach our students.

During the week of March 30 to April 3rd, teachers will be planning for remote learning. You will be contacted by one of our teaching staff who will be asking you questions about your needs as a family to support learning in the home environment. As well, we will have information to share with you on how we see being able to help families during these very

unique circumstances. To streamline the process, you will be called by only one teacher who will gather information for the entire family. Meaning if you are a family with more than one child in our school, you'll be contacted by only one of the teachers.

Michele Woitzik will be working on a survey to send out to parents on the best ways to support your child(ren) during this time: emotional, mental health needs, physical, technical and educational needs. Also, how we can support families that rely on our meal programs and what organizations are available to meet those needs. This information/feedback will be helpful to teachers to support your child(ren). We recognize each family is unique and we will do our best to meet those needs.

During the week of April of 6th to the 12th, you and your children will have the resources and information, and contacts needed to proceed with learning from home. Again, perimeters for pick up will be put in place that meet the health and safety mandates for COVID 19.

The first 2 weeks of April, we'll be addressing those parents who are Essential Services Workers (ESW) and may need childcare support. ESW are those individuals considered critical to preserving life, health and societal functioning including emergency responders. Please reach out to us if you need us to consider this factor. At this point, we cannot accept any students in the building due to a number of factors and we are asking you to reach out to your extended family for support.

We are also working closely with public health officers and our Federal health officer to ensure that proper sanitation practices are being conducted within the building prior to the re-entry of staff and any groups of parents/students. We are also working on establishing school safety guidelines for working with any students who fall under the essential service mandate by the Province. At this time, our building remains closed until further notice.

While it will be impossible to replicate learning that occurs in our school and classrooms each day, we are going to do our best to be creative, engaged and connected with you and our students. While this global health crisis is sure to provide stress and challenges for families causing anxiety and the feelings of being overwhelmed, please reach out to your teachers or myself (Principal) as needed. This time may be an opportunity to engage in learning as a family that includes play, exercise, games, books and the outdoors.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child(ren) back to learning during these challenging times. Please continue to check your emails for further information.

Sincerely,

Val Allen
SPC Head of School

