1627 Stelly's Cross Road, Saanichton, BC, V8M 1S8 - stellys.sd63.bc.ca - 250.652.4401

## April 20, 2020

Dear Stelly's students, parents, guardians and families,

We have only now entered into week four and many of us are finding our "New" normal. For example, rather than having family gatherings over the long weekend, families connected through a host of virtual applications in order to connect with loved ones. More of us are taking walks as a family and engaging with others along the way, albeit with physical distancing in place. There has been a lot of changes and a need for establishing new routines and to learn new things. With this in mind, not everyone's ability to navigate this new reality is the same. And we have been listening.

### During the 3rd Week

Over the last few weeks, we have heard from some of you regarding the challenges of managing the volume of email correspondence between school and home, challenges with conflicting online meetings and managing/supporting your children with new delivery platforms.

### Going forward:

**Office Hours:** Teachers will begin establishing "Office Hours." These will be dedicated times where students can contact teachers with questions or to request support.

**Distribution of Work:** Week's work will be emailed once per week where possible, but work is always available in one location in their Google classroom.

**Online Sessions:** Teachers will offer online sessions during their "normally" scheduled block of time during the school week. Should a conflict arise, students are asked to participate in the class that is regularly scheduled for this time. If the content being delivered is required instruction and a student was not able to participate in the session, the information will be archived for students to access for review at another time.

### Students should:

- 1. be receiving work from and submitting work to their teachers
- 2. be connecting with each teacher 2-3 times per week
- 3. be contacting their teacher/s or a counsellor if there is something impacting their ability to engage in their course work.



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## At this Moment in Time

### District Q & A On Marks, Engagement, Assessments and Post Secondary: Link

**Parent/Teacher Interviews Schedule for April 30:** Have been cancelled. Instead, you are encouraged to contact your child's teachers directly via email.

#### Students who Still Require Access to the School or to a Computer:

- The district will be offering weekly pick-ups of computers, until further notice, at Royal Oak Middle from 9:00am – 2:00pm every Tuesday, starting April 21, 2020. No need to register, just show up. Should you have any other questions regarding access to a computer please email Vice Principal, Gord Redlin (gredlin@saanichschools.ca).
- Times for student pick up of teacher provided (hard copy) resources. (Teachers will let their students know if this pertains to them or not).
  This <u>will not</u> include textbooks or books from the Learning Commons (This is district wide)
  - Wednesday, April 29th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm
  - Wednesday, May 13th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm
  - Wednesday, May 27th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm

### **Tech Support:**

If students have tech support questions or need help accessing or using online learning tools, a Google Classroom has been set up for tech related inquiries. Students may join the classroom using the class code: blu3sc3

### **AP Exams:**

- AP Will be done directly with all registered students
  - Students will complete these exams online from home
  - Students should let there teachers know
    - Have they been contacted by the AP College Board?
    - Are they comfortable with the exam prep/format/timeline?
    - Do they have the necessary tech at home to complete the exam?



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#### **Information For Grade 12s**

- **SIDES courses**: Reminder to students taking SIDES courses should be aiming to have 70% of the course complete by May 1.
- Grad Transitions (GT)/ Career Life Connections: All Grade 12 students still need to fulfill their Graduation Transitions (GT) requirements according to their school/school district plans for continuity of student learning during the suspension of in-class instruction. An overall mark will be determined using an assessment rubric that will take into account the level of completion of all GT requirements, including an updated resume & cover letter, a workable budget, 30 hours of work/volunteer experience, and completion of written GT Interview questions.

Interviews previously scheduled for April 21st have been cancelled and will no longer be required.

\*\*Note: for the 30 hours of work/volunteer experience requirement, students can be given many opportunities to fulfil these requirements in alternative ways. For example, students could do work around their home such as babysitting younger siblings, household cleaning, yard maintenance, food preparation, maintenance work or household accounting.

If a student has not yet handed in all 5 components of their GT requirements, they must contact Linda Jackson at <u>ljackson@saanichschools.ca</u> as soon as possible.

If you have any questions concerning GT, please contact Vice Principal, Wendy Laws at <u>wlaws@saanichschools.ca</u>

- **Grad Ceremony:** We continue to review ceremony options. As it is not possible to finalize what this will look like at this time, we will continue planning what areas that are in our control. Grads can soon expect to receive application forms for: Valedictorian, Emcee and Musical Performances via the Grad Google classroom.
- K-12 Gift Exchange: Schedule for April 16 has been postponed until further notice.
- **Students not in a Position to Grad**: These students will be contacted in the upcoming 2-3 weeks. Upon notification, students will be required to complete a Grad Appeal Process which involves discussing their plan with Ms. Hansen.
- **Student Transcripts Service:** You must register for a Basic BCeID account to access the Student Transcripts Service.
  - <u>https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/transcripts-and-certifica</u> <u>tes/order-a-high-school-transcript-or-certificate</u>



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#### Stelly's Newsletters:

Please make a point of checking the school website weekly as we will be transitioning away from emailing newsletters: <u>https://stellys.sd63.bc.ca/</u>

## Mental Health and Wellness Resources:

Please know that there is help for anyone who needs support during this challenging time. Information is on Stelly's website: <u>LINK</u>. As well, you may contact a Stelly's counsellor and/or call:

- Student Helpline: 1-800-668-6868
- Crisis Line: 1-888-494-3888 Text 6-10 pm 250-800-3806

### Superintendent Video Q & A Link:

#### https://www.sd63.bc.ca/news/superintendents-covid-19-qa

On behalf of Stelly's admin. team, we encourage you to continue to stay safe, stay home, remain healthy, and, as Matthew would say, "Stay Golden and Maroon."

Sally Hansen, Principal (shansen@saanichschools.ca) Wendy Laws, Vice Principal (wlaws@saanichschools.ca) Gord Redlin, Vice Principal (gredlin@saanichschools.ca)

