



# École Salish Secondary

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## Principal's Message

*June 5th, 2020*

Although rooms were not full and hallways still empty, it was great to have staff and students return to school. As the week progressed, everyone became familiar with the new normal.

Planning for Commencement is well underway. The Grad Caps and Gowns arrived on Wednesday and will be distributed next week. Speeches are being written and will be recorded next week. The program is set, the decorations are ordered, and the certificates are ready. We have the red carpet, podium and theatre and everything is ready to have our Grads walk the stage.

It is very exciting to prepare for our first graduating class to participate in our Commencement Ceremony. Although very different from what we envisioned, the committee has worked extremely hard to make the event meaningful and memorable for our Grads and their family. I am very pleased to announce that we have chosen two Grade 12 students to be Class Valedictorians. It was a tough decision with many strong candidates, but these two individuals stood out as most deserving to represent the class of 2020. It gives me great pleasure to announce this year's Class Valedictorians are Paige Barnes and Narjis Alhousseini.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our students throughout the week. Whether online or face to face, our students know you care and you are there to help. We hope you enjoy the weekend.

Ms. Hammond, Mr. Tait, and Mr. Mahli

## Writing Club from École Salish Conducted a Survey on Quarantine for Students & Teachers

For the season of quarantine due to COVID-19, several members of the Pawprint Writing and Newsletter Club at École Salish Secondary met up over a Zoom call and came up with a survey. The survey, based on sentiments about quarantine and opinions about online schooling, was distributed to staff and teachers at Salish and acquired 78 responses. The results are highlighted by Pawprint members below:

Question 1: What is the first thing you are going to do when quarantine is over (places you want to go, food you want to eat, friends you want to meet, etc.)?

### **Brianna Ragsdale, Grade 11**

This global pandemic has taken quite a toll on our everyday lives. In an attempt to keep us hopeful, here are a few things that people are most looking forward to once things return to normal. To start, the most mentioned aspect was hanging out with friends; people really do miss hugging the homies. Going to movies, waterparks, concerts, the PNE, and throwing parties were frequently mentioned activities involving friends. The second most mentioned activity was shopping. Once malls open up, people can't wait to go to all their favourite stores and restaurants. They are also very excited to get professional haircuts once again.

Lastly, the third most frequent thing mentioned in the survey was travelling out of the country and camping. People have amazing trips planned to places like Hawaii and Peru for when travel bans are lifted. Many people also look forward to camping with friends and family because sitting around a campfire telling stories and roasting s'mores is always a fond memory. It's important in times like these to remember what we have to look forward to and to see those things with a newfound appreciation.

Question 2a: What are some good things that happened during corona season?

### **Kean Fisk, Grade 11**

When looking at the effects of COVID-19 on Canada this year, it is easy to focus on the negatives. However, when faced by trials like this, it is important to search for the positives. When a positive perspective is taken on this issue, many possible positive takeaways arise; they just have to be searched for. To begin, this is a time to truly embrace direct family. Quarantine has required families to spend the past few months together and thus forced bonding among family members who may have been distanced in the past. These times have given ample opportunity to forge new bonds, hopefully planting the seeds to an enhanced relationship with loved ones.

On the contrary, quarantine has also been the perfect opportunity to find new hobbies. Being stuck in a house without friends sounds daunting for some, but it can be made memorable with just a few new interests. Many individuals have found baking and cooking to be their new passions. Cooking, a lifelong skill, is not only helpful to everyday life but can also save thousands of dollars in expenses as it cuts down the number of meals you eat at restaurants. Arts and crafts are also a much-overlooked activity: not many hobbies are fun, inexpensive, and potentially profitable. Whether it be painting in your room or crafts with family outside, the sky's the limit when it comes to arts and crafts.

Lastly, quarantine is the perfect time to find ways of bettering oneself. It could be little things like cleaning your house, helping with chores, or even starting an exercise plan. Being in control of the things you can do at the moment is instrumental to staying happy, and can lead to positive physical and mental health. Just remember that this quarantine is out of our control. We all have to take care of our mental health, so instead of worrying about what is not happening in your life due to these extreme circumstances, please remember the positive aspects of your situation. We hope everyone continues to stay safe and better themselves during this time.

Question 2b: What are some difficult things that happened during corona season?

**Kiera McAllister, Grade 11**

Though we'd like to try and focus on the positive, especially in such trying and stressful situations, sometimes that "glass half empty" viewpoint gets the better of us. When questioning École Salish staff and students about something they found positive and negative, many chimed in with their frustrations during this time. Common themes of not being able to see friends and boredom came up frequently, something we could all probably commiserate on. One submission when asked about something negative they've encountered simply said "everything". A concerning percentage of these, 55%, describe declines in their mental health due to a lack of human interaction and normal societal structure. Out of these results, one thing is for certain, we are not alone in our anxieties and fears. The negative can be overwhelming sometimes but it's important to know that you are not alone.

Question 3: What are your thoughts on online school and what is one thing you would change about it?

**Amanda Miller, Grade 10**

The number of students who liked or disliked online schooling were fairly equal. Those who liked the way they are being taught so far said it was easier than regular in-school teaching, and also enjoyed the flexibility of choosing when they work on assignments. On the other hand, respondents who do not like the way of teaching reported feeling overwhelmed or confused by the workload or lack of instruction. Whether they liked this teaching style or not, there were many suggestions on how students would like to see online schooling changed.

The most popular suggestions were reducing the workload and making due dates for classes spread out so that several assignments are not due on the same day. Another common response was that students need more connection with their teachers and classes via video calls. Many students are finding that they have a lot of questions, ones that could easily be answered through regularly planned video calls with their teachers rather than emails which take longer to get a response.

Another response on the survey that was notable was that a large amount of time on-screen is damaging to the eyes and gives many students headaches, so it would be healthier if some work was on paper. It was also mentioned that instructions should be more straightforward, making work divisible by individual classes. Grades 8-10 have 'Integrated' classes and mandatory check-ins with individual students. This input is very important, as it can help teachers know what they need to work on in the future if online schooling continues in a similar manner next school year.

Question 4: When you eat cereal, do you pour in the milk first or the cereal?

**Owen Muller, Grade 10**

For this controversial conundrum, the results were as follows:

- A) Pour the cereal first = 75% of the votes
- B) Pour the milk first = 2.5% of the votes
- C) I don't eat cereal = 15% of the votes
- D) I drink the milk and eat the cereal separately = 7.5% of the votes

All in all, it seems as though the majority of people pour their cereal first and then the milk.



**Editors:** Heather Brand (Grade 11), Christina Park (Grade 12)  
Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-2QOK6HGN7/>

1) Deadline extension!

**MARTHA CURRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PAC SCHOLARSHIP  
SALISH GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020**

Martha Currie Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee  
is proud to offer this \$500.00 scholarship.

This scholarship is open to all Salish students  
graduating in 2020 who previously attended  
Martha Currie Elementary School and plan  
to attend post-secondary education.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JUNE 12th**

**Email: [mcgowan\\_h@surreyschools.ca](mailto:mcgowan_h@surreyschools.ca) for application**

2) UBC is holding virtual seminars for prospective students. Visit the website for more information.  
<https://you.ubc.ca/>

3) During this COVID-19 crisis, Skills Canada BC is hosting a series of challenges that students can do from home. This week's challenge is Fashion Technology. Visit:  
[https://skillscanada.bc.ca/trades-and-tech-digital-challenges/?inf\\_contact\\_key=5b0bf575c88bc3d8714b4dd3691df367](https://skillscanada.bc.ca/trades-and-tech-digital-challenges/?inf_contact_key=5b0bf575c88bc3d8714b4dd3691df367)

## Join us for a live virtual parent information event June 8 at 6pm!

Check [surreyschools.ca](https://surreyschools.ca) for the event link

Email your questions to [comm-office@surreyschools.ca](mailto:comm-office@surreyschools.ca)



[Surrey Schools](https://surreyschools.ca) is holding a virtual parent information event on Monday, June 8, at 6 p.m. Superintendent Jordan Tinney will cover important topics including our plans for the remainder of the school year, what we've learned and what you can anticipate for the fall. He will also address parent questions and concerns. If you have a question that you would like answered, please email [comm-office@surreyschools.ca](mailto:comm-office@surreyschools.ca) by end of day Sunday, June 7.



A friendly reminder that access to the school is by appointment only.

# PARENT CORNER

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Check out our webpage, app and social media feeds regularly for information on what's happening at our school.

Website [École Salish Secondary](#) (For general school and district information, alerts and news announcements)

App [Wolves E-genda](#) (Student calendar and daily schedule information. Parents can load and create their own account. Click [here](#) for instructions. You can load the app for devices or the web app for your computer.)

Social Media sites are a mix of information from the website and app, without a calendar. They are mainly used as a news blast for students and parents.

Facebook [École Salish Secondary](#)

Instagram

- School [@ecolesalish](#)
- Careers [@salishcareercentre](#)
- Counselling [@ecolesalishcounselling](#)

Twitter [@SalishSecondary](#)



[Bell and Rotation Schedule 2019-2020](#)

[Salish Website - Calendar](#)

[Salish Online Counsellor Appts.](#)

[Salish Careers Website](#)

[Salish Volunteer Directory 2019-2020](#)