



EVER CREEK SECONDARY SCHOOL

14505 – 84 Avenue, Surrey, British Columbia V3S 8X2 • Tel: (604) 543-8149 • Fax: (604) 543-9762

Dear Ever Creek Students and Families,

It is heartening to see how well our students, teachers and school staff have adapted to a completely different learning environment in such a short period of time. I would like to again thank you for your ongoing support and patience as we learn together and take care of each other during this challenging time. Your child(ren) should be in ongoing contact with their teachers on a minimum weekly basis now with assignments, updates and support. Please reach out if you or your child(ren) needs additional support, technical or otherwise. We are here to help.

Planning for a gradual expansion of in-class instruction

Last week, the Premier of B.C. and Provincial Health Officer announced plans to start lifting provincial pandemic restrictions in phases, gradually allowing for more social and economic activity, while closely monitoring health information to minimize the risk to the public. The next phase, which is expected to start later this month, will see a gradual expansion of access to childcare and K-12 in-class instruction in schools:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/BG_Parks_and_Sites_and_In-Class_Learning.pdf

Students returning to Ever Creek in a gradual and measured way is something we have been thinking about and discussing for the last few weeks. Our top priority is how to make this happen while ensuring the continued health and safety of our students, staff and wider local community. At this time, we are considering various measures and we anticipate receiving further guidance from the Provincial Health Officer, Minister of Education and WorkSafeBC over the coming days and weeks that will guide our plan. As such, we expect to expand access to our schools in late May or early June. As mentioned by the Premier, we expect any return to school for students this year will be voluntary for families.

Although it is still too early to provide specific information on what a return to in-class instruction will look like for your child(ren), we can assure you that we will take a measured and mindful approach, and we will provide you with more information as soon as we can. One thing we can all be sure of...learning in schools will look very different than before.

Upcoming events

Please note that the events and activities we would normally be participating in at this time of year are not going ahead as planned. As directed by the Provincial Health Officer, the ban of gatherings of more than 50 people is still in effect. Sadly, that means that District and school events planned through the remainder of the school year are cancelled.

Recognition of Grade 12 Students

We know that this has been a difficult time for our grade 12 students. The anticipation, planning, and excitement about graduation, and all the associated celebrations and gatherings are significant events in our students' lives. The pandemic has left many of our grade 12s and their families experiencing this loss. With the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) indicating that large gatherings will not be permitted through the summer, the Grad Dinner/Dance, and the Commencement Ceremony as we know them, will not take place.



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As a community, we can be very proud of the sacrifices that we have made to ensure the safety of others. By following the directives of the PHO, our collective actions have 'flattened the curve'. We must continue to do our part. And despite indications that some restrictions are being lifted, now is not the time to plan for group gatherings. As we work with our community to look for and consider safe alternatives to recognize the achievements of our grads, it has become very clear that there is nothing that can replace the magic and connection of the typical grad experience that includes gatherings and photographs with our friends, families and teachers. We remain committed to honoring our grads in an alternative way and we expect to have additional details to share in the next seven to ten days.

Grade 12 students interested in being the valedictorian for the Ever Creek class of 2020, please email Ms. Gill (gill_a@surreyschools.ca) by Wednesday, May 13th to request an application form.

Report Card #3 & Student Expectations during Remote Learning

If your child received an "I" or a failing grade/percent on the semester 2 interim report card, please ensure both the student and parent are in contact with the teacher to develop a plan moving forward to ensure successful completion of the course.

As students and staff continue with remote learning, it is important that students are aware of the following expectations:

- Students are strongly encouraged to check their email accounts daily.
- Students should be responding to each of their teachers at a minimum of one time each week. 'Responding' means sending something back to your teachers (e.g. submitting assignments, sending email messages, phone conversations, participating in a video conference, etc.)
- Students are strongly encouraged to contact their teachers more than one time each week as necessary.
- Students are expected to engage in a meaningful way in the learning tasks that are shared by teachers.

I hope your child(ren) is feeling supported and cared for at this challenging time. Please know that our administrators, teachers and support staff miss them greatly. We are all very much looking forward to the day that we can welcome them back safely into our schools and classrooms.

Until then, to quote our Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, "Be Kind, Be Calm. Be Safe."

Regards

Mike Kilpatrick
Principal