

Monday Message September 14, 2020

Welcome Back and welcome to the 2020-2021 school year!

Please join me in welcoming the new staff to Westview this year: Mr. Joshua Capri, Mr. Lars Goeller, Ms. Denise La Prairie, Ms. Kelly Munro, Ms. Alena Prchalova, Ms. Karen Sampera, Mrs. Jody Stover

Teachers at Westview in 2020-2021

Div. 1 (gr. 6/7)	Ms. Denise La Prairie
Div. 2 (gr. 6/7)	Mrs. Joan Fawcett (Wed. – Fri.) & Ms. Emily Fung (Mon. &
	Tues.)
Div. 3 (gr. 5/6)	Mrs. Stephanie Maki and Ms. Emily Fung (Thurs.)
Div. 4 (gr 4/5)	Ms. Alena Prchalova
Div. 5 (gr. 4/5)	Mr. Lars Goeller
Div. 6 (gr. 3)	Mrs. Jessica Stewart (Mon. – Thurs.) & Mr. Paul Clarke (Fri.)
Div. 7 (gr. 2/3)	Mrs. Sarah Ewald& Mrs. Jody Stover (Monday)
Div. 8 (gr. 1/2)	Mrs. Divya Malik
Div. 9 (gr. 1)	Mrs. Barb Smallridge
Div. 10 (K/1)	Ms. Maggie Bunce
Div. 11 (K)	Mrs. Jodie Grocott & Mr. Jason Wallace (Friday)
Library:	Mrs. Gretchen Tolfo
Music:	Mr. Joshua Capri
Learning Services:	Mrs. Leslie Tarves, Mrs. Linda Jaibat & Mrs. Melissa Schooling
ELL:	Ms. Karen Sampera & Mrs. Tracey Chapman

Town Hall Meeting – Back to School Q & A

On Wednesday, September 9th the North Vancouver School District hosted a Town Hall Meeting featuring Superintendent, Mark Pearmain, and Deputy Chief Health Office, VCH, Dr. Mark Lysyshyn. You may access the recorded Town Hall meeting <u>here</u>.

Elementary Transition Support Option

Following is an excerpt from the Superintendent's letter dated September 2, 2020. Please read carefully to understand the difference between homeschooling and the temporary transition support option. In letters from teachers on Wednesday, September 9th, parents were asked to confirm by today, September 14th, if they were choosing the temporary transition support option. If parents are choosing homeschooling, please contact the office, 604-903-3840 or westview@sd44.ca, for next steps.

The intent of the temporary educational support option is to maintain the student as part of their classroom cohort, support some educational continuity, and by a predetermined date, transition all students to their classroom cohort full-time. This option includes a combination of online district-based teacher support and in-class/cohort participation. However, it is not the same as an online learning program, nor is it intended to replace the robustness of in-person, in-class instruction.

Before choosing this option, please give careful consideration to the following:

- This option is suited to families who wish to have their child return to in-person, in-class instruction but would like more time and a more gradual transition.
- Families will be responsible for providing their child with regular and ongoing educational support at home.
- The success of a child's learning during the transition period will partially depend on the degree to which families ensure their child is engaging with learning and completing assignments.
- The learning needs of the child, including their level of independence as a learner, and a family's own availability to provide support, should be considered.
- A district-based teacher (not the classroom teacher) will support the child's online learning. For the online learning component, the child may be part of a multi-age (combined grade) and multi-school grouping of students.
- Families of students in French Immersion programs will be responsible for supporting their child's French Immersion language development to ensure a successful return to inperson instruction. The district-based teacher will not provide French Immersion language instruction in the transition option.
- The temporary educational support option will end at winter break (December 18, 2020). At that time, families will need to decide and plan for whether their child returns to inperson, in-class instruction, registers for <u>homeschooling</u> or registers for an <u>online and</u> <u>distributed learning program outside of the NVSD</u>, for the remainder of the 2020/21 school year.

All students in the transition option will be provided with assignments and weekly check-ins by a district-based teacher who will support their learning and monitor their progress. In a typical week, families should anticipate up to two mornings of educational support from a teacher. This

support will include an online cohort of students working on literacy, numeracy, and critical thinking learning goals. Students who begin this school year in the Elementary Transition Support option can expect district-based teacher check-ins to begin the week of September 21st.

As part of the Elementary Transition Support option, opportunities will be provided for students to visit their school and participate in some in-person activities. This is a critical component of this option, as it encourages students to maintain connections and supports a positive re-entry to in-person, in-class instruction during the 2020/21 school year.

When parents are ready for their child to return to full-time, in-class instruction, they will be asked to work with the school to discuss a re-entry plan. Procedures for returning to the classroom will be provided to families who have selected the Elementary Transition Support option.

StrongStart

StrongStart BC is a preschool program designed for parents, guardians, or caregivers to participate with your young child (aged birth to five) in one-on-one, play-based early learning activities - including stories, music and art. At no cost to families, this early learning drop-in program helps prepare children for success in Kindergarten.

The North Vancouver School District is very proud of the StrongStart program we provide in seven of our elementary schools. Children and their parents or caregivers in our community can access high quality early learning environments and activities offered in the StrongStart centres located at Norgate, **Westview**, Montroyal, Eastview, Boundary, Lynnmour, and Seymour Heights Elementary Schools.

Please click <u>here</u> for more information about the program and registration.

Important Dates in September:

Monday, September 21st – StrongStart at Westview reopens Thursday, September 17th – Individual Photo Day, please see additional attachment for more information Friday, September 25th – School wide Terry Fox Run Tuesday, September 29th - Westview PAC meeting via Zoom Monday, September 30th – Orange Shirt Day

Sincerely, Carla Orr Stephanie Maki Principal Vice-Principal