

Superintendent's Report



To: NVSD Parents and Guardians

From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District

Announcements

School Re-opening Update

On June 1st, school districts across the province move to Stage 3 of BC's [K to 12 Education Restart Plan](#). We are excited to welcome our students and staff back to school. We also understand and acknowledge families and staff may be feeling a range of emotions with the movement to a gradual and partial school re-opening.

This school year has been extremely challenging for all of us. No one could have predicted in September that we would have three different school start-ups, shift an entire system to remote instruction in two weeks and then move to a hybrid model of remote and in-class teaching and learning. Change is difficult at the best of times, let alone when it is required during times of increased anxiety and stress within a community, province and country.

As we have shared with families and staff, the planning and decisions we have made with respect to the gradual re-opening of our schools have been thoughtful, measured, and under the ongoing guidance and direction of the Provincial Health Officer and Ministry of Education. The health and safety of our school community has and will remain our top priority. We want families and our staff to feel confident and comfortable in our schools. That is why for the remainder of the current school year, families have the choice either to send their children back to school on a part-time basis or to continue with remote/online learning.

You will have already received a copy of our district-wide [FAQ](#), which is informed largely by the questions we have received from families and employees of the NVSD. It is now available online, and we encourage you to bookmark the site, as it is updated regularly. In addition, we would like to share with you the following as they pertain to the gradual return to part-time in-class instruction:

- [Letter](#) from Mark Lysyshyn, Vancouver Coastal Health's Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer.
- [Joint letter](#) to families from Education Minister Rob Fleming and BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils President Andrea Sinclair.
- [Video](#) from Dr. Bonnie Henry.

We encourage you to review the information provided, discuss it with your family, and reach out to your children's school with any questions you may have.

Playground Update

We are pleased to share with you that as of June 1st, playgrounds across the North Shore will begin to re-open. When using playground equipment, we encourage you to remind children to:

- Respect physical distancing
- Not gather in large groups
- Clean hands frequently (before and after use)

As always, children should stay home when feeling unwell.

By following these public health guidelines, we are all doing our part to use our playground space safely and responsibly.

Graduation Update

Starting this week and continuing into next week, we are excited to welcome schools and their students to the Education Services Centre to film each school's graduation ceremony. To ensure we follow the Provincial Health Officer's orders and guidelines with respect to large gatherings and maintaining safe physical distancing, respectively, students and their families have been provided a detailed schedule for the day, including when students

should be on site.

While we keep details of each ceremony “top secret” until students and their families are able to watch their ceremony in its entirety, we did want to share with you a few photos that capture some of the energy and excitement from the past week.





Essential Service Workers Childcare Program Update

As we move to Stage 3 of BC's [K to 12 Education Restart Plan](#), the temporary emergent childcare services the NVSD has been providing to families of essential service workers will come to an end this month. Starting June 1st, children of essential service workers will be able to attend their own school on a full-time basis, during regular school hours, if requested.

The success of our emergent childcare program could not have been realized had it not been for the incredible dedication by our staff working at these sites. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge their service and thank them for ensuring the NVSD fulfilled its commitment to providing for these families the continuity of care while in-class instruction was suspended. Please click [HERE](#) to read about our staff and their experience

COVID-19 Survey Reminder

The Provincial Health Officer is looking for your help as she surveys British Columbians on their own personal response to COVID-19. If you have not done so already, please participate in the survey BC COVID-19 SPEAK: Your Story, Our Future by clicking [HERE](#). The survey will be open until May 31st.

Information

Indigenous Education

View the latest edition of the Indigenous Education Flyer [HERE](#). These regularly published flyers are posted to the District website [HERE](#) (please scroll to the bottom of the page).

Translation Options

To view this update in a language option of your choice, please review and enable the message translation options available through your email provider. While not exhaustive, we have provided links to popular email providers: [Microsoft Outlook](#) and [Gmail](#).