

April 6, 2020

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Re: Planned Tall Ship Gulf Islands Trip – April 27 - May 1, 2020

It is with regret that I am writing to formally advise you that the Tall Ship Gulf Islands sailing trip scheduled to depart on Monday, April 27, 2020, has been cancelled.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I am confirming that, despite the fact that the trip is still a few weeks away, **the decision has been made now to cancel the sailing trip to the Gulf Islands, planned for April 27- May 1, 2020.**

Our foremost concern is always our students and staff. In light of the expanse and severity of the current global COVID-19 pandemic, we are obligated to assess the level of risk to the health, safety and welfare of our students and staff if the trip were to proceed. Given the uncertainty surrounding this health emergency, the unknown timeframe for its resolution, and impacts it is having and will continue to have across the country, our assessment is that a substantial risk of harm does exist. Accordingly, we must confirm and communicate to you that the trip is now formally cancelled.

I fully realize the deep disappointment the cancellation brings to those whom have planned for this trip and were eagerly looking forward to it, and I regret that the changing situation across the globe and here in Canada makes it necessary to make this decision.

At this time, we are unable to confirm to you the exact details regarding refunds on deposits already made, but can advise that your Principal, Ms. Samra-Gynane, is working with SALTS (Sail and Life Training Society) to coordinate refund payments. Ms. Samra-Gynane will provide that information to you directly once it is established.

Respectfully yours,



Mark Pearmain
Superintendent
North Vancouver School District

cc R. Samra-Gynane, Principal, Handsworth Secondary School