



December 11th, 2020

Principal's Bulletin #16

Good evening, everyone.

One more week to go until we can all enjoy a much-needed break. It has been quite a marathon since September and a massive and constant adjustment for everyone. The news this past week that vaccines are on the horizon is welcome, and certainly gives us some hope for an eventual return to the old "normal." How fortunate we are to live in a time and place where the necessary technology and funding exists!

This news, however, doesn't change our current situation and the need to stay the course. As you know, the [restrictions established by the Provincial Health Officer](#) have now been extended to January 8th. As a result, our holiday celebrations will look very different this year. These guidelines now state that there are to be no social gatherings of any size in our homes with anyone other than our household or core bubble. (For most people, their core bubble is their immediate household. An immediate household is a group of people who live in the same dwelling.)

The guidelines also come with the following directives:

- Do not invite friends or extended family to your household
- Do not host gatherings outdoors
- Do not gather in your backyard
- Do not have playdates for children

For my own family this means that, for the very first time, my wife and I will not be spending Christmas with our children, even though they live just 20 minutes away. This will be very hard for all of us, but we are OK with it if it means that we can help protect our community. We will need to find other ways to celebrate the season virtually ... our traditions of our *Deep Cove Christmas* will have to wait until next year. This is obviously not our first choice, but what we all do outside the school environment has a direct impact on our continued ability to keep schools open. The primary places the illness is spreading continues to be in private households, including social gatherings and celebrations where it's difficult to maintain safety measures. We are truly all in this together.

The Ministry of Education, along with the BC Centre for Disease Control and the K-12 Education Restart Steering Committee, have developed a [Q&A document for schools and school districts](#) to assist in interpreting the new provincial orders and updated WorkSafe BC guidance regarding COVID-19. The document is very detailed and covers a broad number of topics. I have pulled out some highlights that reference the school-specific questions that I am frequently asked, and I have outlined them below in the bullet points. Hopefully this is helpful.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to keep our school and community safe.

Please find this week's information items listed below. As always, if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Please be safe

Rob McLeod
Principal

Note: You can click on the Seycove Logo above to go to the Seycove Website

- **Previous Bulletins:**

All previously posted Principal's bulletins and communications can be found [HERE](#).

- **PAC Meeting:**

Please see this month's PAC Meeting info and Agenda at the bottom of this report. ([CLICK HERE](#))

- ***NEW* Excerpts from the New Provincial COVID-19 Restrictions – K-12 Sector ... Questions and Answers**

- **Does the new provincial order requiring face coverings in indoor public spaces apply to K-12 schools?**

- The new provincial order is directed to public spaces rather than workplaces and does not specifically reference schools. However, the existing [Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12](#) (p.24), (which have been in place since September 2020) require staff in all K-12 schools and students in middle/secondary schools to wear masks in high traffic areas such as buses and in common areas such as hallways, or anytime outside of their learning group whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained.

- The new provincial order does apply to public spaces (indoor common areas) within office buildings, including board, Distributed Learning (DL) and school/district offices

- **Is physical distancing still required while wearing masks?**

- Yes, physical distancing must continue to be practiced, even when masks are being worn. Masks are not an effective substitute for physical distancing.

- **Do daily health checks have to be completed for visitors (e.g. volunteers, parents, teacher candidates)?**

- Yes, as per the [Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12](#) (p.17), schools are responsible for ensuring that all visitors confirm they have completed the requirements of a daily health check before entering the building. Daily Health Checklist can be found [HERE](#).

- **Can extracurricular activities and special interest clubs continue in schools?**

- School-led extracurricular activities and clubs for students are not impacted by the new provincial orders, but must continue to operate in accordance with the health and safety requirements outlined in the [Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12](#)(p.37)

- ***NEW* ... Students who forget their masks:**

Students who arrive at school without a mask are asked to **USE THE MAIN FRONT ENTRANCE ONLY** where they will be provided with a mask prior to entering the building. Appropriate signage has been placed at all school entrances. Students are not to enter the building without a mask.

- **Hybrid Delivery Switch:**

- Hybrid delivery switch happens on Thursday, December 17th ... Grade 10/11/12 courses switch delivery methods. AM classes become Hybrid, PM classes become face to face.

- **School District Mask Guidelines: (*Updated)**

- * **New Signage** has been installed across the district, and can be seen in various locations on the Seycove Campus. [CLICK HERE](#)
- In common areas masks are required at all times. Students & staff should put on their mask prior to entering school and leaving class.
- Students within a learning cohort are not required to wear a mask in the classroom.
- Masks are not required in the hybrid class as cohorts are small, unless physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Even when masks are worn, physical distancing will still be required to maintain physical distance from people that are from outside of the cohort.
- Students and staff are welcome to wear a mask at any time.

Please note: Students are still arriving daily at school without masks. Please ensure that leaving the house with a mask is a part of your daily routine, and part of your child's required [Daily Health Check](#).

- **Arrival Times at School & Morning Hallway Protocol (*Updated)**

Teachers are available for student support every day after 08:30am by appointment. These sessions need to be pre-arranged with a teacher.

With the rainy season upon us, students who arrive early have been congregating indoors in the hallways and increasing congestion. In an attempt to reduce congestion, and the potential risk of increased exposure, students who do not have an appointment with a teacher for extra help are to arrive at school no earlier than 09:25. (NOTE: This does not include students who are coming for early morning band or choir.) Students who arrive early to school have been instructed to stay out of the school until the first bell. Morning class begins at 09:35.

Students are also reminded to please enter the school by the door closest to their classroom, rather than walking through the halls. In attempt to reduce congestion, and keep Learning Cohorts separate, students should leave the building through the closest door as well. If you are arriving by car, please follow the guides outlined in [Bulletin #4, arriving at Seycove by Car](#). Thank you for your support with this.

- **Outstanding Textbooks (2019-2020) (reposted)**

Each year, Students are assigned textbooks by the subject teacher. There is no rental fee charged. At distribution time, teachers record the textbook tracking number and students acknowledge receipt with a signature.

Students are required to return the textbook assigned to them, and any student who loses or damages a textbook is assessed a replacement or damage fee. Refunds will be issued only if lost textbooks are found and returned by the end of the first week of July.

June 2020 represented a very exceptional year-end. Typically, students return their textbooks directly to their Teacher in June. This was not possible as full-time in-person classes were not in session because of COVID. With students returning books instead directly to the Library, we needed time to cross-reference the books as assigned by teachers in September 2019, with what was actually returned in June 2020. In previous years, assessments for any outstanding books were attached to the student's account prior to the end of June. This was not possible last year.

An exhaustive search has now been completed by school staff for the missing textbooks. Unfortunately, there is a considerable number of missing texts from 2019-2020, with a replacement value in excess of \$11,000.00.

Since all school lockers are now empty, it is assumed that these texts are still at home, and have just been overlooked. Please have a conversation with your child to check and see if that is the case. If any of the outstanding textbooks were assigned to your child and have not been returned, a textbook replacement fee will be added to their School Cash Online account in the New Year. This fee will be waived if the textbook is returned. If the textbook is found and returned after payment has been made, the charge will be refunded. All textbooks should be returned to Mr. Hughes in the Library or to the Main Office.

- **Provincial Assessments: (reposted)**

All Grade 11s are registered to write the **Numeracy 10 assessments on Monday, January 25th, and Tuesday, January 26th, 2021.** Start times for the assessments are 8:30 and 12:30. The assessment lasts for 2 hours.

Details, including Schedules, will be outlined on a notice board outside the office closer to the date. Please find detailed information about this assessment on our school [website](#). The page on "Provincial Assessment" can be found under our quick links.

- **Current Events and announcements:**

For more information on the following initiatives, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Social Justice 12 winter projects:

- Period Promise collections
- Downtown Eastside Care Package donations

Senior Textiles Class

- Quilts for the North Shore Crisis Services Society

- **Update on "Covid" resources:**

- Call **8-1-1** for health information
- Use the **Daily Health Check** before sending your child to school ([https://www.sd44.ca/COVID-19/dailyhealthcheck/Pages/default.aspx#/=](https://www.sd44.ca/COVID-19/dailyhealthcheck/Pages/default.aspx#/))
- Visit the **BC Centre for Disease Control** website (<http://www.bccdc.ca/>)
- Visit the **Vancouver Coastal Health** website (www.vch.ca)
- Review the **NVSD COVID-19 Management of Illness and Confirmed Cases FAQs** (www.sd44.ca/COVID-19/ConfirmedCasesFAQ/)
- Bookmark the **NVSD COVID-19 Resource web pages** (www.sd44.ca/COVID-19)
- Ministry of Education **[BC's Back To School Plan](#)** – updated Nov 10, 2020 (previously dated Sept 24, 2020)
- **[Ministry of Education COVID-19 Planning Resources](#)** – miscellaneous links to Ministry Aug 28
- **[BCCDC Schools FAQ](#)** web page – Sept 24, 2020
- **[NVSD Back to School September 2020 FAQs](#)** – NVSD **[PUBLIC](#)** webpage - updated on an on-going basis
- **[NVSD Website COVID-19 Information](#)** – NVSD **[PUBLIC](#)** webpage - Misc. resources including copies of Supt letters, updated on an on-going basis

Seycove PAC Meeting
7:00 pm Tuesday, December 15th, 2020
Virtual Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Approval of agenda & minutes
- 3) Treasurer's report – Dan Dandar
- 4) Principal's report – Mr. Rob McLeod
- 5) DPAC Report – Mag Caron
- 6) New Business
- 7) Close

Topic: Seycove PAC Meeting

Time: Dec 15, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/64184643991?pwd=YnAwUkdhcUtYbm9vTE9MMlJzTWVudz09>

Meeting ID: 641 8464 3991

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