



# CAMPBELL RIVER

## School District 72

April 3, 2020

Dear parents/guardians,

As we finish another week I wanted to once again connect and update you on the district's efforts to provide learning opportunities and supports for students and families.

Since the announcement that in-class instruction was suspended, district staff have been busy planning how to provide educational supports during this challenging time. This past week staff have continued reaching out to students and parents and have familiarized themselves with various tools that will support their work in this new education landscape.

By now you should have heard from your child's teacher(s) either by phone or email, depending on their grade level. Primarily, staff have been focused on the social and emotional wellbeing of students and families and we hope that these communications have provided a small measure of support and reassurance that we are all in this together.

Learning supports will begin to arrive early next week, if you haven't already begun to receive information and materials from your child's teacher(s). Once again, it is important to understand that teaching and learning will look very different during this time. If, as you start to receive learning supports, you or your child feel overwhelmed or have any concerns, please reach out to your child's teacher. Our primary focus is to provide support and we do not want to add to anyone's stress or anxiety.

We are in the process of gathering a list of community supports for students and families and will be sharing that on the district website sometime next week. In the meantime, we want to share with you that our elementary school counsellors are available to provide online counselling for elementary students or parental support for elementary students who are experiencing anxiety about COVID-19. To book an appointment, call or email the counsellor assigned to your child's school:

- Pinecrest, Georgia Park and Quadra – Tim Hicken (250) 286.4400 ext. 2281
- Ripple Rock, Cedar, Penfield and Sandowne – Melissa Litke (250) 286.4400 ext. 2262
- EDM, Ecole Willow Point, Ocean Grove and Sayward – Wendy Chase [wendy.chase@sd72.bc.ca](mailto:wendy.chase@sd72.bc.ca)

In addition to school-based counselling services that have been communicated to families at middle and secondary schools, the Foundry is offering telephone and video counselling. To book an appointment call (250) 286.0611.

We are happy to share that this past Thursday, with the help of our educational support staff, we were able to prepare and deliver food packages to the homes of students who usually access school meal programs. This will continue every Thursday for as long as it's possible and needed.

Lastly, I know that worries have started to increase about what COVID-19 may mean for this year's grad celebrations. I want to give you my personal assurance that whether graduation ceremonies are altered or delayed, the district will find a way for the class of 2020 to celebrate their hard work and successes.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding. Wishing you all a healthy and safe weekend.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeremy Morrow  
Superintendent of Schools