

March 31st 2020

Dear Ecole *Pauline Haarer Families*,

I am writing one more time to reiterate the information sent out on Friday March 27th and to give some new information as to what is going on at the school level. Before I begin with the information, I want to say that I sincerely hope that this letter finds you and your family well during this difficult time.

1. What we are doing this week:

Though it might not seem like it, our staff is working hard and closely under the direction of the School District and the Ministry of Education as well as the world Health Organization this week to make sure we have a plan for Continuity of Learning that is thoughtful, equitable and safe. This is a huge endeavor as the reality for students and staff and everyone is changing quickly! As you can imagine, shifting instruction to an online/distance education model is a monumental shift. All staff are working to learn new online learning platforms that are being vetted by our District Communications and IT departments to make sure that we are only using platforms that are approved sites for our learners. Please be patient and work with our staff as we all have your child's best interests in mind.

2. Teachers making contact:

As mentioned in my letter on Friday March 27th classroom teachers will be reaching out to you at the end of this week. Teachers were asked by the district to wait to contact parents until when we all have a better idea of what next week will look like. Please know we are thinking of you and working hard to be ready to provide service to your child(ren).

3. Contact information:

Please ensure that we have your most up-to-date contact information! We want to connect with you! If your information has changed, please email Jennifer Mile JMile@sd68.bc.ca so she can update it on MyEd. Please be aware that your teachers may be calling from their home phones so there might be no caller ID.

4. For any other "most up to date" information this week:

The school district has set up a site with the latest updates from the school district, the Ministry of Education and from the Provincial Health Authority. Please find it on this link or by visiting the District Website if this link does not work: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/covid-19/>

5. Essential Service Workers:

The support and childcare options for children of ESW is being addressed at the district level on a case by case need. If you have not already done so, complete the survey created by the district, and sent out last week by the district, so that they are able to assess your need for care. This can be found on the District website under CoVID 19 or at the following link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9HM69YN>

6. What to do while you wait for us to get up and running?

While waiting to get up and running with your teacher, the Ministry of Education through Open School BC has created the following site with many great resources and strategies for supporting student learning while at home: <https://www.openschool.bc.ca/keeplearning/>

7. Please continue to follow all of the recommendations for handwashing and physical distancing that the Provincial Health Officer has recommended. All of the provincial updates can be found here: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/novel-coronavirus-updates/>

This is a historic and challenging time for all of us. If there is a gift that we can give all of our children, it is to model for them how turn difficult circumstances in to opportunities to show how to care for one another, to slow down and spend time with family and how to ask for help when needed.

As you may have noted already, calls made to the school phone will not be returned. Please contact me by email if you have an urgent matter and I can return your email by phone if you leave me a number. If you have a concern about School vandalism or school property please call the board office at [250 754-5521](tel:2507545521). If it is a non school-related emergency please call 911.

We are in this together and you are in our thoughts.

Stay healthy and with thanks,

Shannon Apland