



School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

Board of Education of School District No. 71

607 Cumberland Road
Courtenay, B.C. V9N 7G5
Fax (250) 334 5552
Telephone (250) 334 5500

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

April 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of Comox Valley Schools,

Hello to all families. I hope this email finds you healthy and in good spirits in the midst of this global health crisis.

We are continuing to abide by the directive of the Provincial Health Officer and the Ministry of Education, meaning we are not offering face-to-face instruction for our students. Our mandate also includes the need to develop and create spaces for childcare and educational program support for the children of our frontline essential service workers. As a district we are continuing to develop these plans and we will soon be able to begin a phased roll-out of the programs.

This past week, our schools and staff have been working extremely hard reaching out to parents and students. Our goal from the start was to make a connection with our families and develop a supportive network for our students. Our teachers and support staff will use these initial connections to develop means of moving forward in both the delivery and communication with regards to learning opportunities.

Teachers, principals/vice-principals and support staff have been busy exploring new ways to support children learning from home. They are learning new online platforms, sharing ideas/resources with colleagues and finding meaningful learning experiences, which are age appropriate for their children.

How this looks and what form it takes will vary from grade to grade, teacher to teacher and school to school depending on a number of factors, including available technology at home and how families are able to support their students in their respective learning journey. Rest assured, our overall goal is to provide each student with the support and care we have provided to date.

Next week our outreach to families will continue and help families establish new routines and engage in ways that make sense to families given their individual circumstance. It is important to remember that continuity of learning and creating new learning opportunities will look differently from what our students and families are used to in terms of instruction, assessment and communicating student learning.

Please reach out to your teachers and school principals if you have any questions or specific needs beyond what is currently being offered. Thank you very much for your support and patience as we create what will become our new temporary reality.

Please take care of yourselves and each other.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Demeo', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr. Tom Demeo

Superintendent of Schools