



# NEW WESTMINSTER SECONDARY SCHOOL

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April 17, 2020

Hello NWSS Families,

We are finishing our third week with this new remote learning and I want to quickly thank all our staff and community members for making this new learning happen so quickly and with great success. We are still taking a slow and steady approach to make sure that no child is left behind. This cautious approach will hopefully build a foundation so that we can continue to challenge our students as we head into next month. As this new form of instruction is developing, I know the staff at NWSS are engaging themselves in trying to make the delivery of their lessons more meaningful and more specific to the learning outcomes needed for the next year. We have had a very large number of students engaging with their teachers, however, if you feel that there is something that is needed for your child, please reach out to our staff and we will be there to assist you.

The last two weeks were very busy weeks for a few people in the building. We have been allowing students to schedule safe access into our school building in order to retrieve essential items from their locker or to obtain Chromebooks (on loan) for their studies. In doing so, the health and safety is paramount, and so every individual that enters the building must practice social distancing and have no symptoms of illness.

Lately in the news, there has been some communication around the concept of “relaxation of restrictions”. I want to share with you what this means for our school community. It does not necessarily mean return to school, as we know it. Our community is still operating under the direction of Dr. Henry and her recommendations around self-isolation and no group gatherings. More specifically, the learning that is happening presently at home is likely to continue for the next several weeks.

Students need to know the learning that is taking place at home does matter. The work that they are currently doing will have an impact on their grades. We are assessing their work as we normally do. At the same time, we understand that some students will not be able to perform their tasks as effectively as they could if they were in school, and so we continue to look for ways to support our students.

Report cards will be available online for all students today, **Friday, April 17 at noon** on the MyEd parent portal. If you do not have access to this online reporting, please call the school or visit the school website for information on how to log onto the parent portal. If you have any questions regarding your child’s mark, remember our teachers are available to answer any questions (via email). Grades on this April report card are based primarily on assessment of learning that happened prior to spring break.

While there remains a lot of uncertainty about so many things, please know that we will do our best to communicate with you as things progress. Indeed, we are in this together. If you have any questions, please reach out to our staff and we will be happy to help you.

Take care and be safe,

Murray McLeod  
Principal NWSS