

SWC PAC Meeting

November 2020

Thank you all for the lovely care packages!! Staff felt noticed and appreciated by this thoughtful gift!

We are past the mid-point in Q1, report cards were available in MyEd on October 16th. Please contact the subject teacher or counsellor if you have any questions or concerns. Final Q1 reports will be available the week of November 23rd. Q2 starts on November 18th.

Clubs Day was a great success! We have set up all of our school clubs on Teams to facilitate meetings and communication amongst members. A list of SWC Clubs (regularly updated) is available on the SWC StuCo website at www.swcstuco.org. We continue to try to do our "usual" things in new and different ways!

As we settle into this "new normal" we are finding some successes:

- Flex Time is proving very useful for student support (teachers report more students [F2F and Remote] coming in than they would have expected), student workshops and activities that enrich and support instruction
- Online information evenings, assemblies, events and Fun Fridays are well "attended"
- SWC Student Hub is getting information out
- Teams and channels for each grade and specific interests within
- Social Media posts are reaching our community

We acknowledge that the same time, these times present incredible challenges to many in our school community. To that end...

- We have doubled our efforts and attention to mental health support. Please reach out if there is any way we can support your family!
- We are supporting students and staff through and with Teams. Please let the teacher know if your student(s) are experiencing challenges with technology or Teams.
- We have applied for (and received some) grant monies to support learning outdoors and place-based learning.
- We have launched an Unlearning poster campaign to highlight some of the notions (stereotypes, bias, etc...) that we all need to unearth and unlearn.
- Student Council is learning (and unlearning) in preparation for an anti-racism campaign.

Just in case you have not yet heard... there will be road work being done at 54th and Heather November 2nd – 20th.

Questions submitted:

1. Are we supposed to pay \$11 for a lock annually? Do we get a lock back every year or just the one in grade 12? (\$55 for one lock seems quite expensive and what are we to do with 5 locks?)

No, the Fee Schedule indicated that this was a one-time fee for Grade 8. The revised Fee Schedule says n/a for lock cost, as we are not using lockers this year.

2. Thank you for all you and your staff have done to attempt to keep our children safe from the virus while they are inside the school. But I'm concerned that once the students have exited the school, they forget about keeping safe distances from those not in their cohorts or in their close circle of friends. - I watch the students walk to and from school and they are walking close together and with no masks. So while all efforts to stay healthy are being followed in school - can the school send out reminders to stay safe outside of school as well? Much appreciated.

Thank you for noticing our work at school! We can and do remind students to stay safe outside of school.

3. From Teri Mooring: "@bctf is on record as saying masks should be mandated" so why aren't teachers all wearing masks during class? Wouldn't it be safer for all if everyone can just wear their masks when they're in the same class?

In Vancouver schools we take direction from the Vancouver School Board (our employer). The Vancouver School Board is in close and regular contact with Vancouver Coastal Health and the Public Health Officer. The BCTF is the teachers' union, not their employer.

4. Will we continue to have only 15 students max per class for Q2 or will the class size increase as we head into Flu season?

We will continue with a maximum of 15 students per class in Q2.

5. A parent donated 3000 face shields to Churchill through VSB. Have you received those shields yet and how will they get distributed amongst staff? students?

3000 face shields were generously donated to the Vancouver School Board. Churchill received its share of these face shields a few weeks ago. They have been distributed to staff upon request.

6. VSB will be reviewing their School Liaison Officer program soon. Can you confirm whether our Constable has had a positive or negative effect on our students?

The District has not had a formal look at the effectiveness of the SLO program for quite some time, and certainly not with a lens to our current situation. We welcome the review.

7. Good morning Ms. Vey-Chilton, thank you for your continued tireless efforts and support to keep Churchill rolling along and students and staff safe. In regards to providing support to female sports, field hockey and ice hockey are two varsity team sports at Churchill that have only girls teams. In an effort to advocate for girls-in-sports initiatives and keeping girls in sports, just looking to get the word out to raise awareness of the importance to try to get these programs to go forward in some shape or form this year, so to offer new and returning Churchill student-athletes an opportunity to stay engaged with sports and with their school community. The early teen years

unfortunately see a high drop-out rate from sports for girls – keep girls in sports! The Churchill Athletic Department is doing all they can to have these programs start up this year, hoping the Vancouver Secondary Schools' Athletic Association is doing the same. Our daughter is in her second year at Churchill and is very grateful to have had the excellent opportunity last year to be a member of both Churchill's girls field hockey and ice hockey teams. So with that, as there is a PAC meeting coming up next week, if it fits with the agenda, could an update please be provided on the status of these sports programs and perhaps look to garner support from the PAC and parents/guardians to get these teams to go ahead this year. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

- *The return to sports in Vancouver schools is governed by the BCSS Return to Sport School Plan (which was developed by BCSS and is continually under review with the Ministries of Health and Education and the BCCDC) and the VSSA.*
 - *Effective Tuesday, October 13, 2020 VSB senior management allowed VSB secondary schools to move to BCSS Stage 2 for school sports. In stage 2, intra-school activities (skill training, practices, etc.) within educational cohorts/learning groups are permitted. In this stage, inter-school games or competitions are still prohibited.*
 - *Stage 2*
 - *Intra-school activities within educational cohorts*
 - *May take place but under conditions specified by MOE plan*
 - *Reduced physical contact and friendly competition*
 - *Elimination of drills with intense and/or prolonged physical contact*
 - *Students from different cohorts can participate if strict physical distancing is implemented*
 - *Scrimmages/contests between cohorts is prohibited*
 - *Recommend no spectators*
 - *School sport and community sport are not aligned in return to sport timelines. Community Sport is in phase 3 and they are permitted to have competition, but the size and scope of the competition varies from sport to sport.*
8. Will the year be a hybrid like this year or do you see the school year going back to our regular linear system if there is a vaccine that can be distributed by September 2021.

We are really not sure! There may well be some things that we want to do differently when we emerge from the pandemic. It is a bit too early to say what next year will look like.

9. Does SWC intend to run a few information session for grade 12 students about universities and colleges? They have many unanswered question in this regard.

These sessions are ongoing (all online) and advertised in Teams.

10. Are the A and B blocks finalized for the remainder of the school year?

No, these are in the works for Q2 as we speak. We are creating these groups based on input from teachers about learning groups, requests to make things work with early morning and Flex classes, and student/parent requests. Please speak to your child's counsellor if you have a question or concern in this regard. Our first priority is Health & Safety. We are doing everything we can to organize and support students' time in the building with this top of mind.