

SWC PAC Meeting

November 24th, 2020

Principals' Report

Quarter #1 is done! Quarter #2 is underway!

Report Cards will be available in MyEd on November 27th

We surveyed students for some feedback on Q1 and feedforward to Q2. Some stats:

- 475 students completed the survey, in grades 8 through 12
- When asked "*How is school going for you so far this year, all things considered?*" students rated it 3.62 out of 5 stars
- When asked "*How many hours are you spending on school work (outside of class time) each day?*" the average was 3.58 hours
- Students were close to evenly split (though the majority was on the no side) on the question around moving to a 1 week block rotation
- 76% of students reported that they are finding time to keep mentally and physically healthy
- When asked how connected they are feeling to school students said 3.18 out of 5

The survey also asked students:

- What worked well for them during Quarter 1
- What worked well during Remote Learning
- What was their biggest challenge during Quarter 1
- What we could do to support them

Answers to these questions have been and will be shared with different groups of staff and students

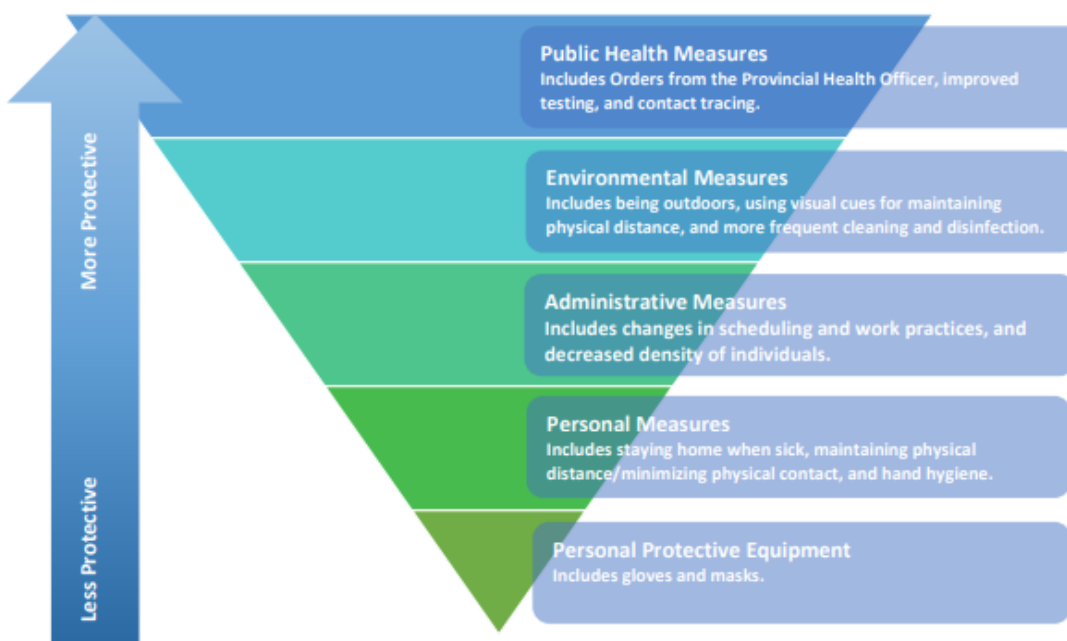
The District will be surveying students and parents, keep your eyes open for a survey soon!

We are in the midst of planning our usual seasonal planning and celebrations:

- Articulation events will be held as much as possible on the dates advertised, but be virtual events this year
- Course Planning will also follow our traditional timeline, with students choosing courses before Spring Break; this will also be done online
- Student Council, Grad Committee and a variety of clubs are forging ahead with celebrations, charitable efforts, and so on; online as well

We remain committed to our plans to keep everyone safe here at SWC and welcome your reinforcing this at home! Please join us in encouraging students to maintain physical distance, even with friends!! We also welcome questions to churchill@vsb.bc.ca!

Hierarchy for Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures for Communicable Disease



Questions from PAC:

1. When will grade 12 students write the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment? Will it be on-site test administration only or remote/from home option will be available? Thank you.

Grade 12s will not write the Literacy Assessment this year

2. What are teacher expectations around remote learning?

Teachers are expected to have 3 points of contact each Remote Learning week. What those "points of contact" look like is up to the teacher.

3. What are some ways the school is proactively supporting students' social emotional health at school?

- Grade channels have been set up to communicate with students around grade-specific issues and concerns, wellness tips and other fun things are posted here
- Staff are establishing and encouraging routines and healthy habits - coming to school regularly, logging on at home at certain times, sleep hygiene
- The community is demonstrating that education and life go on, even in a pandemic, and encouraging acceptance and support of differences in choices
- We are working to maintain positivity amongst students and staff (learning can still happen, friends are still out there, we're all in this boat together) and focusing on community wellbeing

- Student Council is planning events (Halloween, Fall Fridays, Canley Cup, Among Us tournament) and marking occasions; Grad Committee is designing Grad Wear
- The school and school clubs are posting positive news on social media (follow our SWC Mental Health Network on Instagram, or Churchill Secondary)
- Grade 8 Fun Fridays – activities in Teams
- Administrators greet students at the door morning and afternoon each day

4. For IB11, can they still make a change on their course selection now?

We are not changing students' course selections in any grade.

5. Will Q2 class schedule accommodate students with Flex classes, (ie students with Flex A assigned to Session A F2F classes)?

Yes, as much as possible this is the plan!

6. Kids are currently just attending either morning or afternoon sessions. Will this change? If yes, when?

This will not change until we hear from the Ministry of Education that we are moving from Stage 2 to Stage 1. The current model is Vancouver's approved Stage 2 Restart Plan.

7. Some students were showing sick symptoms, why they were still allowing to be in the class?

It is our expectation that all parents/guardians/caregivers are conducting the Daily Health Assessment with their children before they head out for school each day! Students with "key symptoms" are to stay home and seek a health assessment.

8. Is there a way to provide space for physically distance activities (such as badminton or volleyball) on a sign up basis based on cohorts during flex blocks? Our students receive PE for 1 rotation intensively and then nothing for the rest of the year? The community centres offer some drop in youth sessions, but it would be nice to help build a bit of community/informal meeting time in a safe manner for the students. This is a very difficult time for youth to stay motivated to leave their computer screens and to be active all alone without school team sports or gym classes. Are there any outdoor activities students can engage in together?

I will pass this along to the PE Department, to see if anything that maintains physical distance could be arranged. We just finished the Cross-Country season, and Churchill had some great results! The BCSS Return to Sport Plan restricts students participation in sport to their cohort only.

9. Please send a key to read the student schedules that are sent out. We are having difficulty and are repeatedly frustrated as parents decoding schedule shorthands. a légend/interpretation key would really help. Thank you.

We will put something together and post on the school website!

10. Other Secondary Schools have moved to a one week F2F, one week remote schedule. Would Churchill consider this? My children are finding 2 weeks a long time to not have face to face instruction.

A few other schools are piloting the weekly block rotation. The District will gather feedback and data during this trial and potentially make a district-wide change for Q3.

11. The ministry of education (VSB) unveiled the new curriculum that they had consulted the industry about what skills our kids needed in the workforce and redesigned that in mind. What stood out for me in that meeting is our kids needed better social skills, learn how to work in groups. What is ironic now high school students are not doing video conferencing and to me, that is a critical future job skill (and desperately needed emotional, academic and for the future). Why aren't teachers doing this versus remote learning? And if there is a school closure, will they do video conferencing? I realize why we are only getting 9 of instructions versus 25 (1/3 of student time would be self-reflection or group work which is the remote learning time) and there had to be a choice hire more teachers so there is only 15 kids in class or have less hours of instruction. Why isn't the school board up front with the numbers and the reasons for all of the above? Explaining the why makes people more open to changes, understanding and open to live with it.

It is not possible to offer synchronous remote learning within our current block rotation and bell schedule (if this is what you mean by video conferencing?). If schools close, we will have a very different schedule, of course, which could potentially/possibly involve synchronous learning....

12. Do you have any courses to help my son 's speaking and listening skills? thanks

Please reach out to your child's counsellor to discuss available supports.

13. Is there ONE platform to keep informed? Churchill's website isn't always updated, STUCO website, Instagram, Twitter and MS Teams (which parents don't have access to) don't provide the same information (ie Among Us Tournament - many didn't know about it until registration was closed)

The website is the official VSB-provided source of information for the community. Social media sites are managed by different student and staff groups and offer more timely information. The best source of information for students is Teams.

14. Dr. Bonnie Henry finally mandated masks indoor but not in schools (since BCED seems to have a another set of rules). BCTF suggested their members wear masks and to set an example for others. Are teachers using masks and/or face shields for the duration of class??

Staff and students are not required to wear masks in their classroom cohorts, though my observation is that many do.

15. Could you explain about the specific scholarship for International Students?

Please contact Ms. Wanda Yee with questions about scholarships.

16. How can the PAC support increased teaching during 'remote learning'? At present kids are struggling on their own.

Parents are encouraged to speak to their child's counsellor and/or teachers about their child's learning needs. At the District level, the DPAC speaks for PACs, moving their questions and concerns forward to VSB staff.

17. Is it possible for teachers to arrange online study groups for Grade 8's who are new to Churchill?

Please contact Ms. April Salter, Grade 8 Counsellor. I believe she would be happy to help!

18. Just wondering when grade 12 start applying for post secondary And what is the process?

Ms. Grace Lee, Grade 12 Counsellor has a great website which answers many of these questions. That said, the post-secondary institutions your child is interested in should be your first stop for application information.

19. Sun Run advised that all 2020 T-shirts' were delivered to their team captain. Please advise where the kids can pick up.

Mr. Greg Pears, in the gym, would be the person to see.

20. Will there be a list of scholarships available? What are the general requirements for applications to scholarships.

Ms. Wanda Yee is in charge of scholarships at Churchill. She posts in the Grade 12 Team often. This is the place I would send students interested in information.

21. Will you consider improving the remote component of the school day so that there is actual teaching?

The Remote Learning part of the school day is designed by the teacher. The District has indicated that 3 points of contact are required each week. On our recent Q1 Survey, the vast majority of students at Churchill reported that their teacher was in contact more than 3 times per week. If you have questions or concerns please contact the teacher directly.

FYI, WeChat groups (main and individual grade chats) have been busy since Friday's letter. Many are considering keeping their child at home this week and were wondering if they can take a leave of absence without penalty or affecting their grade. They're also wondering if there is a grace period they can remove their child from school without losing their spot or receiving a lower grade.

Parents/guardians/caregivers concerned about the safety of attending school should contact their child's counsellor to discuss.

Students are able to leave Churchill to enrol in an online program with Vancouver Learning Network at any time.