



# BRITANNIA NEWS UPDATES FOR FAMILIES

FRIDAY, APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## Hello Britannia Families,

We have the following updates and information for you as we reach the end of the first month of cancelled classes.

Goal for this past week:

- To develop assessment plans at the school. Continue to support students without access throughout the week.

Vancouver School District Priorities During the COVID – 19 Response:

1. Safety and wellbeing
2. Communication
3. Connection
4. Continuity of Learning

## Student Belongings Pick-up

- The district has informed schools that students may come to schools to retrieve from their lockers **materials that are needed for learning at home.**
- This is not an invitation for continuous student access, but a one-time gathering and distribution exercise for students requiring materials to learn at home.
- There will be an opportunity in the future, if classes remain cancelled, for **all students** to pick up their personal belongings.
- Only students (not adults) will be permitted in the school.
- Students will:
  - enter the school from the door that next to Britannia Elementary. (and if there is a line-up to enter, wait 2 m behind the student in front of them)
  - be escorted by a member of the school staff to their locker and then out of the building.
  - exit the school by the door by Ms. Sugar's room that leads to the ice rink.
- Students are NOT permitted to gather outside the school before or after picking up materials.
- Students may only be permitted into the school according to the following schedule:

Surname	Date	Time
A to C	Wednesday, April 29	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
D to J	Thursday, April 30	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
K to M	Friday, May 1	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
N to S	Monday, May 4	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
T to Z	Tuesday, May 5	11:30 am to 1:30 pm

## Access to Technology.

- Through generous donations from The Song Ching Ling Children's Foundation of Canada, the Rotary Club of Vancouver through the Vancouver Sun Children's Fund Society's Adopt-A-School Project and the Vancouver Basketball Foundation, Britannia Secondary has purchased 150 Chromebooks. These devices are being loaned out to our students with no or limited technology as was determined by information collected from students and families in March. We are incredibly grateful to these organizations for their support of our students. Distribution of these devices began today and will continue through next week.
- We will be contacting students who have no or limited access to a Wi-Fi network at home next week to provide them with an option from a service provider that has been arranged by the school district.

## Health and Safety

- Ensuring health and safety is our top priority as we all work to support our students.
- Should you have any pressing concerns or needs including food and groceries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's grade counsellor or program teacher.

## Food and lunch distribution

- For students who were part of our Lunch Smart program, daily lunches continue to be available for pick up in the cafeteria 11:30-1. Starting Monday, students who would prefer the option of picking up a bag of groceries with a week's worth of lunch supplies may do so instead.
- We are very fortunate to have received donations from the Vancouver Sun Children's Fund Society's Adopt-A-School Project and from The Homework Club at Britannia to provide further support to our families.

## Continuity of Learning

- Goals: The continuation of learning and assessment during the COVID-19 response will recognize and reflect the following learning goals:
  - Learning Together: A partnership between families and educators
  - Learning in a New Space: A journey with many pathways of curiosity and exploration
  - Learning for All: An opportunity for engagement and connections for all students
- Teachers continued to communicate with students this week offering learning opportunities through the Microsoft office 365 'Teams' program.
- Assessment and Reporting of Continuity of Learning
  - The district has developed guidelines for the assessment and reporting of the learning that will take place during the COVID-19 pandemic and has shared this plan with VSB staff
  - The district is creating a document for families to explain the guidelines. This will be available to families next week.
  - Some of the key understandings of the district guideline are:
    - Students will receive a final grade in each of their courses.
    - Each student will receive a report card in June with a final grade in each of their courses.
    - Final grades will take into consideration assessment of learning prior to spring break and evidence of learning in relation to essential learning standards during the learning at home period.
    - Every student eligible to graduate from Grade 12 this year will graduate.
    - Schools will continue to support individual students who were not achieving a passing grade as of March 13.

- Continuity of Learning Resources
  - Ministry of Education
    - [Keep Learning](#)
    - [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
  - [VSB COVID-19 Updates](#)

#### Staff Contact Information

- If you would like to contact a teacher, counsellor or administrator, their emails may be found [here](#)

#### Additional Resources

- [Vancouver Coastal Health COVID-19 Information](#)
- Once again, we would like to pass on a link to an online resource, created by one of our teachers, that gathers info about supports for our students and their families <https://careerlifeclub.com/pandemic-support>

We would like to thank our parents and guardians for their support as we continue to transition to remote learning while classes are cancelled. We are also very thankful for the members of our community who have reached out to offer support for our families. The staff at Britannia are truly grateful.

Take care,

**The Brit Admin**

Britannia Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/britannia-secondary/Pages/default.aspx>