HUGH BOYD SECONDARY SCHOOL



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April 3, 2020

Dear Boyd parents/guardians

During these extraordinary times, our first priority is to provide a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees and we hope that your family is staying safe and, whenever possible, staying home. This first week 'back' after spring break has been hectic and complex for our teachers, staff and our school, and we appreciate that these are incredibly challenging times for our students and their families. We genuinely appreciate the patience and understanding of the Boyd community.

This week, every Boyd student should have received a message from each of their teachers and our students were asked to reply to these emails. The purpose of this communication was to reconnect and check-in to see how our students are doing. Additionally, the school is trying to confirm that our students are digitally connected and receiving emails. Please note, the school will endeavour to follow up with any student who did not reply.

The school also sent home an electronic survey and we asked that each Boyd family complete this online by 2 pm today. The purpose of the survey was to determine the capacity of our students to engage in learning activities from home. If you did not receive this survey link, please phone the school on Monday, April 6 at 604-668-6615 between 8 am and 2 pm.

We also sent a message to each family to determine if students needed to access our school to retrieve any important items. Please note, to ensure that our students remain safe and our school environment remains clean, this invitation is limited to students needing essential items only, and will be offered in short, structured times, beginning on Tuesday, April 7. The survey link was sent yesterday (Thursday), and an appointment request through this survey must be completed by 8 am on Monday, April 6.

Finally, our teachers have been meeting and working together using various digital platforms to plan what a 'continuity of learning' will look like for Boyd students. All ten Richmond secondary schools are also collaborating so that members of our wider community are receiving similar messages. To be clear, learning will be different. We understand that students and families are facing a lot of stress, and the focus of school will be on engaging students in interesting activities and limited to 15 hours per week. We want to engage our students in authentic thinking, researching and communicating while focusing on the key core and curricular competencies and big ideas of their courses. Students will hear more about what learning will look like from each of their teachers by no later than mid-April.

We know that students and families, especially Grade 12s, have many more questions and we will continue to communicate regularly in the days and weeks ahead. Thank you again for your patience, and we ask for your trust, as we continue to engage with and support our students in these remarkable times.

Hoping you are well and please, stay safe.

Sincerely, Mr. R. Johal Principal