

## Message to parents – January 8, 2021

1. Thank you to everyone for doing their best to adjust to the new way of learning due to the provincial lockdown. There are some **NEW** things to remember however:
  - a) *Everyone needs to remember that online learning right now is NOT the same as it was last spring. Students need to be in class synchronously on their cohort days. The platform for doing so is called 'Google Meet.'*
  - b) *Students having problems accessing Google Meet should START IN THEIR GOOGLE OR BRIGHTSPACE CLASSROOM for clear instructions. This is the same platform all students have been using since September. From there they will be given clear instructions on how to access Google Meet.*
  - c) *Students must log on to Google Meet between 8:30 and 1:40 on their cohort day to be marked 'present'.*
  - d) *Study Hall begins at 1:40 each day and students of either cohort can access their teachers online at that time.*
  - e) *Students are to be in class/Google Meet each cohort day according to the schedule the teacher has posted. For example, if the teacher posts that their Google Meet begins at 8:30 am, you need to log in at that time to ENSURE THAT YOU DO NOT MISS ANY MATERIAL/ASSIGNMENTS. However... you can still join the class at any time later in the day up to 1:40.*
  - f) *Students do NOT necessarily have to be on camera or speak during the Google Meet – but they need to join the class. Missing class simply because you don't want to be seen on screen is not something you should do as you will miss important material. You will see the teacher – but he/she and the other students won't see you unless you want them to and you turn your camera on.*
2. There is no word yet on applications for Full Remote Learning for Quad 3. The Board has all of the applications and we await word from them.
3. Our 'GRADE 8 INFORMATION PAGE' is on the school website. This is for any student in Elgin County who is considering AVSS for grade 9 next year. Since we can't offer traditional grade 8 Open Houses this year, this is our way to show potential grade 8 students and their parents what we are all about! Check it out – there is lots of information about our school and is a great way to learn more about AVSS!

4. **Course selections for AVSS students for next year have begun and Mr. Kesteloot has things ready to go in Guidance.**

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO REGISTER FOR COURSES IS POSTED IN THE STUDENT'S VIRTUAL CLASSROOM – LINKS INCLUDED. Be sure to have your student speak to Mr. Kesteloot directly if they are having any issues.**

**Courses for next year need to be selected by Jan. 22 – that's BEFORE we are scheduled to return to Face-to-Face learning at school.**

**And remember... the courses that are selected NOW will dictate what courses are offered for students NEXT YEAR! Be sure to give each selection a great deal of thought.**

5. Please remember that if you have ANY questions, please call the school and ask for Mr. Moore (Principal) or Mr. Wilkins (VP). We can also be reached at: [m.moore@tvdsb.ca](mailto:m.moore@tvdsb.ca) and [j.wilkins@tvdsb.ca](mailto:j.wilkins@tvdsb.ca).