

Message to Parents – January 15, 2021

1. With the government's announcement of the provincial lockdown, please note that nothing has changed for our students who are presently working online. As of today, we are scheduled to return to school for in-person learning for COHORT B on Monday, January 25. Cohort A returns to school on Tuesday, January 26. If that date changes you will hear from me ASAP.

2. IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM LAST WEEK'S UPDATE:

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.*

3. We really need students to select their courses for next year ASAP. Below is a VERY important message from Mr. Kesteloot in Guidance:

Course selections for next year should be in by Friday, January 22nd. Please note that all students, including those that are graduating and not returning, need to complete the process in myBlueprint. All information, including course calendars and step by step videos, can be found on the AVSS Guidance website under "Course Selection" (<https://sites.google.com/a/qotvdsb.ca/avss-guidance/course-selection>)

As a reminder, after courses are selected, you must click "Review Course Selections" at the top of the page and then click "Submit Course Selections" on the following page to complete the process.

If you have any questions, please check the guidance website first and then email Mr. Kesteloot in guidance for any extra assistance.

As Principal, I would add that 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.

This is a VERY important task that we would really appreciate being done ASAP. The sooner the better would help us all out immensely!