



Ponoka Secondary Campus  
6100 54 Street  
Ponoka, AB T4J 1N9  
Phone: (403) 783-4411  
Attendance Line: (403) 785-0741  
Email: [psc@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:psc@wolfcreek.ab.ca)  
Website: [psc.wolfcreek.ab.ca](http://psc.wolfcreek.ab.ca)

---

## **April 24, 2020 - Principal's Message, Mrs. Kathy McTaggart**

Wow, six weeks have already gone by since we had our last in class day of school. For me, this has been a very busy time, navigating how to keep students learning, planning for next year and fielding the million questions that go along with these activities.

While not every family has had the same experiences, one thing that is certain, all of our Ponoka Secondary students and staff have had a very different school and life experience than we are used to.

I do have some updated information I wanted to be sure to share with everyone, thus the message.

### **Assessment Plans for Students during COVID-19**

Hopefully everyone received the communication that our division had created for each school to share in regards to evaluating students in their academics moving forward. This was a 5 page document entitled: School Update on Learning Support Plans, Final Assessment Processes and At-Home Learning. The document is also available on our [PSC Website](#).

I wanted to summarize a few of the key points for you in this message and give you some specific information for our school.

- Our teachers are focusing their instruction and assignments on the key learning in each subject area, the most important items to know to move forward.
- Our teachers are adjusting the amount of school work to reflect the new circumstances: Junior High - 10 hours per week, Senior High - 3 hours per course per week
- **Students can improve their grades** by participating in the learning, putting forth the effort and learning the material provided during at-home learning.

- Students who do not engage in their learning moving forward will have their grade adjusted, we know that every situation is unique and are reaching out to families and students who have not engaged to determine their ability to do at-home learning and assist them in this. **A final grade is not automatically going to be a passing grade** if circumstances warrant concern
- It is important for students to keep working at their school work. Everything you can learn will help you be more successful at the next level.

## Final Grades

For June of 2020, final grades will be given in 1 of 3 ways.

- 1) All courses that are ongoing through at-home learning will be graded based on a division wide grade 7-12 rubric.

The rubric is based on a 0-4 scale with corresponding percentile grades.

The focus in the rubric is threefold:

- i) Engagement in the learning opportunities
- ii) Attempting the at-home learning tasks
- iii) Knowledge and understanding of the subject matter

A detailed rubric table can be viewed on our [PSC Website](#)

- 2) All courses that were essentially finished as of March 16th because they were completed or could not be carried on with the at-home limitations, will be awarded the mark that the student had achieved as of March 16th

### HIGH SCHOOL ONLY

- 3) CTS modules and work experience that could not be completed because of the shut down will be awarded as unallocated credits. These will be credits but will not qualify as prerequisite knowledge for subsequent CTS courses

## Powerschool

Effective 3:00pm Monday April 27, 2020, the student and parent powerschool access will be suspended.

Student work and assignments will still be given feedback via the new methods through e-mail, hapara and google classroom but because the final grade is weighted with engagement and student work as equal parts to knowledge it is no longer relevant to simply list a numerical assignment grade.

A current snapshot of where your student is at on the covid-19 rubric will be sent to parents and students at the end of each month.

## Fee Refunds 2019-2020

The school has reviewed all prepaid fees and determined which fees will be credited back to parent accounts based on the number of days students accessed the course in the traditional manner. A snippet of this is shown below:

<b>Fee Adjustments: 2019-2020 Term 2</b>		
<i>(81 Days in Term 2, Students attended 28 Days - Fee Reduced by 72%)</i>		
<u>COURSES</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Adjusted Fee</u>
Art 10 - S2	\$35.00	\$9.80
Art 20 - S2	\$35.00	\$9.80
Art 30 - S2	\$35.00	\$9.80

The fees credited are displayed in the fee collection system that can be accessed through the parent portal.

[Administration Procedure 505 School Fees](#) details school fees for the jurisdiction. Clause 8 of this procedure outlines the fee refund processes and parameters.

- The fee credit must exceed \$100 prior to any fee refund being processed. Any lesser amounts remain on account for future fee assessments.
- The fee credit will be applied to any fee balances outstanding for any students in a family prior to any fee refund being processed.
- **The parent must request a fee refund in writing in order for any fee refund to be processed.** If a fee refund is not requested the balance will remain on account for any future fee assessments.
- Partial Grad Fees are still being considered and will not be refunded until a firm plan for grad and related costs has been established

### **Registration of students for the 2020 – 2021 School Year**

It is once again registration time at Ponoka Secondary Campus. With Covid-19 gathering restriction processes still in place, our registration of students will look different this year.

We have posted our 2020 -21 High School and Junior High Registration Guides on our website at [psc.wolfcreek.ab.ca](http://psc.wolfcreek.ab.ca) which we ask that parents and students familiarize themselves with. We encourage you to start thinking about and discussing the courses that you require and the options that you have. High school students may also login

into [MyPASS](#) to verify what credits you have earned/completed and what requirements you still require to attain your Alberta High School Diploma or Certificate of Achievement.

**Senior High Students** (Gr 10-12) Starting this week, Mrs. Slater, our Academic Advisor has sent out a google form to students. Students will be asked to fill in the form with their course requests. She will be going through each form and entering the data into powerschool and following up with your family if she has any questions. If you have questions about course selection please reach out to her. Rhonda Slater (403) 783-4411 Ext 5169

Please note: call will appear as a *Unanimous* or *Call ID Unknown* and we apologize for this as Mrs. Slater continues to work from her home.

**Junior High Students** (Gr 7 – 9) will only need to select their option requests via a Google Form which they have used this year to sign up for options. All students will be automatically enrolled in the core subjects: Math, Social, Language Arts, Science and PhysEd. This option sign up will be sent out the week of April 27- May 1

**Incoming Students from our Feeder Schools** - I will be sending letters home to all Ponoka Elementary, Crestomere and Mecca Glen parents through their current principals next week to begin the process.

**What about Grad 2020** - Well, my hopes of still being able to gather together as a group are over. With the announcement yesterday from chief medical officer Dr. Deena Hinshaw that no festivals or large gatherings will be able to take place until September at the earliest, we now know that we will not be able to have grad as originally planned.

We must ensure we are following the provincial guidelines and have been checking our ideas with health services.

We would like to invite Grad's, along with their parents, to a google hangout on **Thursday May 7 at 4pm** so we can share our limitations, ideas, gather your ideas, and get your input on this very special occasion. Grade 12's will receive the invite to this hangout in their wolfcreek email in the coming weeks. If you have ideas and would like to share them please feel free to do so. We very much want to make this a special event for our grade 12's.

**Lockers** -we have done our final locker call out, any remaining locker contents will be getting recycled as of Monday.

**Earth Day Challenge** - Well I really extra missed the students on Wednesday April 22, it was Earth Day! This is the day at school where (weather permitting) we do our annual town of Ponoka Pitch In.

I have decided to still challenge the students to still participate this coming week. For the week of April 27 - May 1, I challenge Ponoka Secondary Campus students and families to do a garbage pick up of their choosing. There are many many miles of ditches, river banks, and streets that could use a cleaning.

As is our custom, I do have some categories in which students can win prizes by sending in pictures of their finds and clean-up.

### **For Ponoka Pitch In 2020 - April 27 - May 1**

I challenge the students and families of Ponoka Secondary Campus to get outside, maintain your 6 foot circle and clean up your community.

Prize Categories for 2020 are:

- 1) Most family members involved and actually picking up
- 2) Largest amount of trash collected
- 3) Most reusable Item (my favorite category)

Email me ([kathy.mctaggart@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:kathy.mctaggart@wolfcreek.ab.ca)) your photos for proof and we will announce the winners May 6th.

Stay Healthy

*Kathy*