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November 27, 2020 - Principal's Message, Mrs. Kathy McTaggart

Hello once again,

Things are changing very quickly these days. Suddenly we find ourselves back in the situation where we are participating in at-home learning. The school division sent a letter to all parents on Wednesday evening, please ensure you have read this as it contains important information regarding the format of the next few weeks of learning for your children. (I have reattached those communications to this message).

As a division, we are very committed to keeping students moving forward with their academics and make the next month as productive as possible. Here at PSC, we are planning to mirror our at-home learning with our classroom learning. Students should be up and ready to be engaging in their learning by 8:40am. They will be engaging in google meets, assigned work, learning, testing, feedback, and class discussions throughout the school day, which ends at 3:24pm.

Unlike the emergency remote learning that occurred in the spring, at-home learning will include all the required areas of the provincial curriculum.

I wanted to take the opportunity to give you details specific to **Ponoka Secondary Campus**.

- **Live online classes** - are scheduled Nov 30 - Jan 8 (excluding Christmas break). Your child can expect these live online classes during their regularly scheduled class time slot. (Eg: If your child has math 9 between 12:41-1:59, they will have a live google meet with their class for a portion of that time). Your child will continue to be taught by their regular teacher. An important part of the live class is an opportunity for our students to see and interact with each other, please ensure your child has their camera ON, so that everyone has a chance to

see one another. We miss your children and want to see and hear them during class.

- **Student Work Time** - when students are not in a live class or in a small group class it is expected that they will be working individually on activities assigned by their teacher.
- **Grading and Assessment** - Assessments will be submitted, graded, recorded and counted toward a student's final grade.
- **Attendance** - Attendance will be taken and recorded in powerschool. If your child is ill or going to be away and cannot engage in their learning, parents/guardians still need to phone in to excuse their child from their learning that day. If your child misses too much of the course and has not achieved the outcomes covered, they will be reassigned to the flex class upon return to in person learning to support them in building the required skills and knowledge.
- **Communication** - Your child's teacher will be using google meets, students wolfcreek email and their learning platforms as their main communication tools with their students. As teachers need to communicate with parents they will be using email and phone as their main communication. You can contact your child's teacher via email or phone, please remember, our teachers are still teaching during the day so will not be able to provide an immediate response.

Tips For Success - I wanted to provide some pointers for parents to ensure your child is in the best possible position to have a successful at-home learning experience.

- Continue to have regular sleep and wake up times for your child that allow them to be up, alert and ready for learning by 8:40am
- Create an established space for your child to do their school work so that they have a 'school spot' and a 'off school spot' within your home
- Remove as many distractions as possible during their learning time.
- Have the proper tools. Students should have their binder, paper, pen, pencil, calculator and an electronic device which has video/audio capabilities.

Good Luck Parents, you can do this!

Sincerely,

Kathy