

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Home of the Hornets!

Our Mission:

At SOSS, we inspire and support individuals to develop their full potential and to demonstrate a respectful, responsible commitment to community and society.



Principal's Message

Happy spring, everyone! We hope you are all settling in with regards to the Continuity of Educational Opportunities in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. By now, your son or daughter should be engaging in the academic opportunities being provided. The following items should have already been explained to your child:

- The online platforms used to deliver the continuity of educational opportunities are Google Classroom, Teams or Moodle.
- The video conferencing platform that is being used are Zoom or Teams
- We have collated the data from our online survey to determine which families

need technology and wifi access. If you are still in need and have not been contacted, please let us know.

-SOSS is following the ABCD schedule, however, some classes have shifted their meeting times to accommodate various "needs" such as work.

-Guidelines for Professional Boundaries for Online Learning should be maintained.

-The expectation is that students are engaging in academic opportunities.

-We will be exploring various options for grad. It is important. We will figure something out.

-We don't know when or if schools will be back in session. We will be following the PHO guidelines on this matter and will communicate information as it comes to us.

If you have not yet connected with us, please do so as soon as possible. We understand that these are challenging times. As a reminder, the school is open and office and Admin staff are available to answer questions and provide support. Take care and stay safe. We miss you!

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Updates on COVID-19

Please be checking our School website regularly at soss.sd53.bc.ca for any COVID-19 updates. They will be posted as they become available to us. A reminder that the school is open during the day, and you may reach the school by phone at 250-498-4931. Also our School Counsellors are available to all students, please reach out if your child needs to connect.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Stay Home (as much as you can). We are all in this together.

Grad News Scholarships

Grad Spring Fundraising has been cancelled.

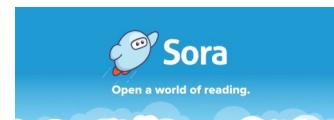
Scholarship deadlines are as follows:

May 1 – District Authority Scholarship application

May 15 – Francis Family Scholarship application

If you have applied to any post secondary institutions please be sure to check your email account regularly. The information they send is very important and often time sensitive. Don't forget to check each institution's Financial Aid section as there may be awards you can be applying for.

Library News

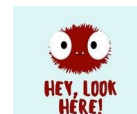


The Library misses you! Did you know that you can be reading or listening to audio-books while you are socially distancing yourself from all of the amazing books in our Library? If you go to the school website you can access Sora on the Library page under Student Supports on the website at:

https://soss.sd53.bc.ca/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1060903&type=d&pREC_ID=1356716

Your school login information will get you access to these books and audio-books which will keep you busy reading.

Academic Supports



Ask your student(s) these questions:

- Do you have an adult who assists, or supports you with your academics work?
- This could be a Case Manager, a Learning Support Teacher, or even an EA...
- Do you know that you can access these supports during remote learning?
- Do you know how to contact your support network remotely?

If your student(s) answered yes to just one of these questions, there is a way to contact their supports!

- Teacher or EA email (located on school website)...
- Teams – Case Managers, Learning Support Teachers, and EAs have been added to all of related classes...

Please make sure that during these times, that your child – and even you – are not missing out on the supports that will enhance and assist in their continuity of educational opportunities and success!

Did you know...

April and July start on the same day of the week in all years.

*"Smart is something
you become, not
something you are."*

APRIL 2020 MINISTRY GUIDELINES

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

ASSESSMENT

HOW SHOULD TEACHERS CHANGE THEIR ASSESSMENT PRACTISES DURING REMOTE LEARNING?



The evaluation of learning taking place after the suspension of in-class instruction should be in relation to a smaller selection of learning standards which students are able to complete at home.

GRADES

WILL ALL STUDENTS GET A FINAL GRADE FOR EACH COURSE THEY ARE ENROLLED IN?

Yes, all students will receive a final grade for each course they are enrolled in and successfully complete from now until the end of the school year. Grades 10-12 students will need to receive a letter grade and a percentage.



WILL ALL STUDENTS BE GIVEN A PASSING GRADE, NO MATTER WHAT?



No, students will not be given a "free pass." Students are expected to continue their learning for each course they are enrolled in and expected to demonstrate that they know and understand the learning standards for successful completion of the course.

COURSE COMPLETION

HOW MUCH COURSE WORK NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED?

The Ministry is not mandating or specifying the minimum number of hours that must be completed for a student to receive credit for a grade 10, 11, or 12 course. Hours do not necessarily reflect the actual learning that occurs. The focus is on determining if, and how, sufficient learning has taken place during these exceptional circumstances.



WHAT IS CONSIDERED "SUFFICIENT LEARNING"?



Grounded in the curriculum, teachers will assess what individual students know, understand, and are able to demonstrate to determine whether enough learning has taken place to enable the student to pursue further learning in the curricular and content area.

DO STUDENTS NEED TO COMPLETE MORE COURSE WORK IN ADDITION TO WHAT WAS COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE SUSPENSION OF IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION?

Yes, students are expected to continue their learning for each course they are enrolled in. If students are experiencing challenges with this, they should be working with their teacher and/or school principal directly.



GRADUATION

WILL ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE?

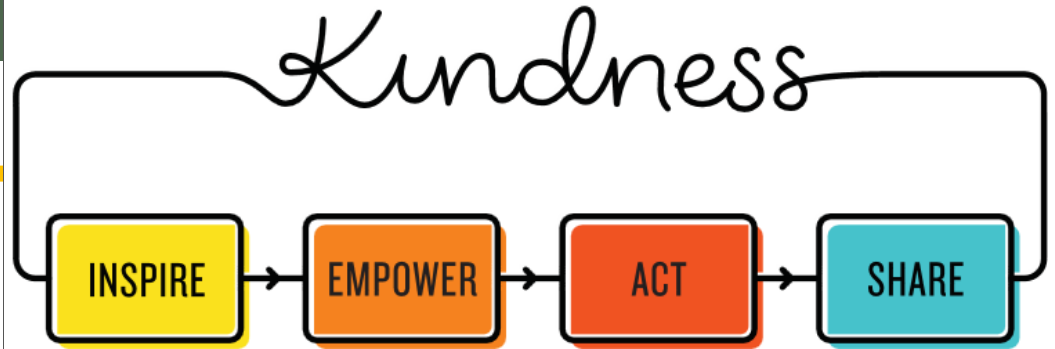


Every student eligible to graduate this year will graduate. To be eligible to graduate means a student will satisfy all graduation requirements upon successful completion of the courses underway . . . This does not mean that students will graduate "no matter what."

This information has been collated from British Columbia Ministry of Education documents found below.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/undergraduate-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k12-c19.pdf>
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/undergraduate-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/bc-ministry-of-education-questions-and-answers-continuity-of-learning-k-12-education-system.pdf>

"We must all face the choice between what is right and what is easy."
-Albus Dumbledore



In these difficult times, it is challenging to keep our children engaged. Technology seems to have taken over as we try to stay home as much as possible. Here are some ideas on what you can do with your Family to get through the days.



GO FOR A FAMILY HIKE OR BIKE RIDE

Staying active is very important during these self-isolation times. There is an attachment sent with this Newsletter outlining the importance of Aerobic exercise.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Challenge your family to a game of cards or a board game that has been sitting around collecting dust. No better time then now to reconnect over a good game of Life!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Make some popcorn and snuggle on the Couch for a good movie! Some new releases are available to stream at home now since the Movie Theatres are closed.



CREATE A FAMILY ART ALBUM

Each Family member creates a work of art! Start a scrapbook of this art to look back on. Let's embrace our creative side.

GO FOR A DRIVE

Load the Family into the car and go for a drive! Maybe you will discover some great hiking spots or play eye spy.

