



THE INSIDER
CAMPUSWIDE NEWSLETTER

KELOWNA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

A CHRIST-LIKE COMMUNITY PASSIONATELY TRANSFORMING THE WORLD.

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MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

To the KCS Community,

Last week, Kelowna Christian School hosted the 1A Girls Basketball Provincials. It was fantastic hosting 15 other schools from across the province. Our fan support during the provincial final was off the charts and played a pivotal role in rallying us from 22 points down to a 2 point game with 3 minutes to go. Our girls captured bronze. On Monday, we hosted our 8th annual Jazz & Java evening. It was another incredible showcase of the exceptional gifts and talents of so many of our students from grades 7-12. Both of these events were large community gatherings that helped us meet our mission and vision while acting out our core values. With the growing global understanding that "Social Distancing" can "Flatten the Curve" of the spread of COVID-19, these types of events are rapidly being put on hold to protect those in our community that have suppressed immune systems or connect regularly with the elderly.

As a school, we are closely watching the worldwide COVID-19 developments and the impact it may or may not have on all stakeholders within our community. We are receiving regular updates from FISA, SCSBC, and our Provincial Health Officer. The global response to the pandemic is changing daily, and as a school, we are forced to react daily while also trying to be proactive and project what things might look like after Spring Break. We do not seek to under-react or overreact, but we desire to be proactive and prepared for a variety of situations.

It's important to be aware of travel advisories for countries affected by COVID-19. Please check [Public Health Canada COVID-19 Travel Advice](#) for up to date information.

If you are leaving Canada, it's advisable to register with the Government of Canada [Registration of Canadians Abroad program](#).

If you or any of your family members are exposed to COVID-19, please seek medical attention and notify the school. If the virus becomes a significant problem in Kelowna, our school will create a public health email that will be monitored by the hour. For now, please send any questions, concerns, or updates to [Mike Campbell](#).

The next few weeks

Today Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced 7 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., including the first case on Vancouver Island, bringing the total number of cases in B.C. to 46. Here is today's statement - <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0074-000470>. While 46 cases are small, the exponential growth of those infected has been evident in other parts of the world. This is why the model of social distancing to flatten the curve is becoming more common in Canada and in the world.

We are reminded to remain aware of all risks, but also asked to understand that young healthy people are at low risk of becoming ill. At the same time, schools and workplaces can act as places of transmission and we have many students and parents with weakened or suppressed immune systems. For this reason, we will continue to act conservatively.

The most recent bulletin from SCSBC encouraged our schools to begin planning ways to offer a digital school platform in the event that schools are closed for a prolonged period of time. While we don't know yet if this will occur, we need to be proactive in case it does.

Kelowna Christian School will make a final decision on our Mexico Missions Trip no later than Monday. Our senior band trip to Seattle has already been postponed. Again, while we recognize the limited risk to our travelers, we also recognize that many of our homes do have family members (including some of our students) with weakened or suppressed immune systems. We also don't want our students to be quarantined or stuck at a border outside of Canada, especially now that the classification of "pandemic" could change insurance safeguards on trips.

Over the next 24 hours and over spring break, we will be extra vigilant in disinfecting high touch surfaces and will do a deep clean of both campuses. Our admin team will reconvene during the second week of Spring Break to set up new procedures on cleaning, hygiene, Evangel traffic flow, and any new provincial and global requirements. Our admin team will ensure proper policies, processes and procedures are in place for when school resumes. I will update our community before our return to school and will provide additional updates if there are pieces of new information pertinent to our KCS community.

There are some great sources of information available regarding COVID-19. They are:

[BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
[BC Ministry of Health \(MoH\)](#)
[Health Canada](#)
[Interior Health](#)

Our staff were also sent an update today.

Be blessed and safe while on Spring Break! This pandemic has caused some anxiety in my own children and I am praying that we can all lean on Him during this complicated time. God is good and I am praying for all of you in our special Kelowna Christian community.

Blessings,



Mike Campbell
Head of School



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