



THE INSIDER
CAMPUSWIDE NEWSLETTER

KELOWNA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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INFORMATION ON ZOOM PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Hello KCS Parents,

We are thankful that we can "kick off" our offsite learning with a K-12 chapel tomorrow. Tomorrow's chapel is being hosted through Zoom Webinars. This is different than the Zoom Meeting platform that most schools across British Columbia, including Kelowna Christian School, are using. The only participants in tomorrow's chapel will be our invited panellists, those that have been asked to speak and pray. Those wanting to watch will be attendees. Attendees cannot post pictures, cannot participate in a chat group, and cannot zoombomb the crowd. Our attendees can only watch. We have opened our chapel up to grandparents, alumni, and family. It is a great time for anyone in our community to feel a part of community as we celebrate the Easter Message. You do not need to "login" to enjoy tomorrow's chapel, you just need access to zoom through the link and password provided. Please click the link to join the chapel tomorrow: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/328868762> Password: 2870

There have been a few questions about Zoom and Zoom's security. We are thankful to have both Brad Martens and Dwayne Faust on staff. Along with being the Elementary Vice-Principal, Brad is a consultant on tech and internet safety for our Society of Christian Schools in British Columbia. Dwayne Faust is our Director of Information Technology and is an expert in his field. Both of these gentlemen are examples of how God has provided KCS with so many talented people. The below message comes from Both Dwayne and Brad.

Once the Ministry of Education's announcement that K-12 in-class instruction was suspended, there became a clear need to have a video conferencing tool. A critical piece of K-12 education is the personal connection between the teacher and student, and implementing a video conferencing tool helps maintain this connection during this time of off-site learning.

Many of you are aware that Zoom has been scrutinized over their security and privacy practices as of late. With millions of people turning to Zoom over the last couple of weeks due to Covid-19, Zoom has undoubtedly been thrust into the spotlight. Media stories of "Zoombombing", where uninvited guests hijack Zoom meetings, often being disruptive and inappropriate, are surfacing. Zoom has also recently admitted that they haven't been forthright in their privacy language, leading many individuals to believe their Zoom meetings are end-to-end encrypted and private between user. This is partially true, but misleading, because Zoom as a company has access to their servers, theoretically allowing them to access the Zoom data. In response to these concerns, Zoom has redeployed resources to focus on their privacy and security policies. They have since released an updated iOS app as well as an updated version of its Windows and Mac

software to patch and address some of the identified vulnerabilities.

Any technology platform has inherent risks and vulnerabilities. Kelowna Christian School's focus and priority remains on ensuring that steps are taken to minimize these risks and vulnerabilities to the best extent possible. Zoom comes with a fairly robust set of controls that allow the teacher/host to control many aspects of their meeting. Kelowna Christian School has built an implementation plan which requires particular settings to be in place, such as requiring the teacher/host to have a password protected meeting, requiring the teacher/host to accept students into a Zoom meeting, and limiting the feature of screen sharing only to the teacher/host of the meeting.

[The BC Ministry of Education just announced they have secured Zoom licensing](#) with an agreement that Zoom data will reside in Canada among other security enhancements. KCS will have to wait until the Ministry of Education sends out further instructions for implementation before we can take advantage of the agreement.

Participant (parent/student) Responsibilities

- You should never share a teachers Zoom ID# or the password associated with that Zoom ID#. Many of the situations the media are highlighting are the result of meetings not being properly secured by the host of the meeting. Our chapel tomorrow is being hosted by zoom webinar, not zoom meeting, so we are able to control the participants in a different way.
- As a family, you may already have a Zoom account, but a Zoom account is not needed for students to join their teachers and classmates in a Zoom meeting, and is recommended that students don't sign up for a Zoom account. You have to have the program downloaded on a device to join a Zoom meeting, but account signup is not needed.

Blessings,



Mike Campbell
Head of School



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