Buck Mountain Central School



Box 30, Buck Lake, AB T0C 0T0 Phone: (780) 388-3900 www.buckmountain.ca bm@wrps11.ca

April 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and that everyone was able to take some time to relax over spring break. I know that everyone is feeling the stress of all of the changes that we have had to endure over the last few weeks. As we enter April, we are excited to be able to engage our students in their studies. While our approach to teaching our students will be through an at-home program, our teachers are thrilled to be connecting with our students once again. Our plan, the BMC Learning Continuity Plan, will focus on making sure our students are engaged in their classes and are learning the necessary skills and knowledge to be successful at the next level. What students learn this year prepares them for what's next.

Learning at home involves planning, cooperation, goodwill, and patience between teachers, students, and families. BMC is involving our parents and students in a partnership as we implement this plan. Teachers will provide direction to students about what is important to learn, and we are prepared to help students learn in different ways. Our primary platform will be online through Google Classroom, but we will be making accommodations for students by creating take-home packages if online access is not possible. It is our intent to meet the learning needs of all students. BMC will prioritize contacting any students that are not accessing online resources. We are once again asking all students to make sure they are checking their school emails. If you need any assistance with an email account please contact bm@wrps11.ca.

The partnership between BMC and our families is going to be crucial for the success of all students. I encourage our parents to reach out to the school when you have any questions. We are here to work with you and to solve problems as they arise. I am passing the same advice on to our students. Advocating for yourself and asking for help is going to be critical. Please note that every teacher is here to support you. As of today, all core courses have an associated Google classroom and will have content available to students on or before Friday, April 3rd.

A few key aspects of our plan that everyone needs to be aware of is that we are focusing on core classes with only a few High School options being available for students to take. Below is the projected course load for each Grade:

★ Grades 7, 8, and 9 → Math, English Language Arts, Social or Science

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- ★ Grade 10, 11, and 12 → Semester 2 Core Courses that were scheduled in the timable (Math, English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Physics, Biology, and Chemistry).
 - Grade 10, 11, and 12 students will be able to enroll in option classes through the Learning Commons. If you would like to take a course please contact the school.

Please note that we are looking for students to engage in each course for approximately 3 hours per week. Students working through Google classroom can expect weekly instruction and daily engagement. If you are completing your work through a take-home package, there will be an outline and pacing guide for each week. At home, it is important that students create a structure to complete their studies. Families can support students by helping them to be organized and establish a good place to learn, as well as monitor and encourage students to remain focused. We are supporting this by sharing with families an example of what students' weekly schedule may look like, based on grade level. If a student or family needs assistance for any reason, please contact the school.

I want to reiterate that as a school, we are here to help. We are very confident in the program we have developed for our students, and I truly believe that they will be successful through this at-home learning approach. I encourage our students to engage in their studies and ask for assistance when necessary. Teachers are available and we are invested in our students' success.

Jon Meyers

Sincerel

Principal

Buck Mountain Central School;