



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1390 Fairdowne Road, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
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Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: Mrs. Sheila Morrison
Email: smorrison@sd69.bc.ca

Vice-Principal: Ms. Shauna Huggins
Email: jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Good evening Errington Families,

First of all, we hope that you and your families are feeling well and staying safe at home. We have missed you all, and there is nothing we'd rather do on Monday than have you all back in the building. Unfortunately, we will have to wait for that and look to doing things differently for the next while. As you most likely will have heard, our province has suspended "face to face" instruction and has tasked us with providing meaningful learning opportunities that students can engage in from home. Our goal is to continue to be an important and positive part of your family's life.

We have been working with the entire district leadership team for the past week, and will be working with our teachers next week to begin to address the following Ministry of Education priorities:

1. Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees
2. Provide the services needed to support children of our essential service workers in the community
3. Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance
4. Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students

BIG PICTURE FOR NEXT WEEK

- This week will be used for planning purposes.
- Only I and/or Ms. Fuhrmann (VP) will be working in the building next week. With that, we are restricted to certain hours in the building and will also be working from home.
- Teachers will be contacting families by phone or email later this week. We want to establish connection with students and families as we move forward with our planning around continuity of learning.
- We recognize that some students may need to retrieve *essential* items left at the school. We will eventually establish an appointment schedule for students/parents to enter the school if necessary. This will likely occur later in the week. Until we have this process determined, we ask that students/parents not try to access the building. Please contact me by email (smorrison@sd69.bc.ca) if there is an *essential* item you need from the school.

BEYOND NEXT WEEK

Teachers will work towards connecting with students in their respective classes and providing suggestions for learning activities. The focus will likely be on age appropriate literacy, numeracy and core competency development. This will look different; we will find a way to support our learners, but teachers need some time to plan how to best support our students in our current context. Ideas and suggested activities may involve subject area explorations and inquiry, but these activities **will not** be a continuation of grade specific curriculum or assessment.

INFORMATION FROM THE DISTRICT

We are in very fluid times, and information in this e-mail may change by next week. The best source of information is our School District website: www.sd69.bc.ca or the school website www.ees.sd69.bc.ca. Superintendent, Dr. Keven Elder, has posted his latest communications here. You can also email me if you have questions or concerns.

WORKING TOGETHER

We know many people may be anxious, nervous, and worried. We anticipate some trying times ahead, and we know we may make some mistakes. The plan is to take things slowly and carefully, and to act with compassion. We want to promote practices to maintain a safe and healthy community, support our students and families, and provide continuity of learning for all of our students. We ask for your patience and 2-way communication along the way. You can contact us via email (*preferred method for quicker response*) or phone:

- Email Mrs. Morrison (smorrison@sd69.bc.ca) or Ms. Fuhrmann (jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca)
- School phone number is 250-248-8446...press 2 for the staff directory and say my name (Sheila Morrison) and leave a message. *I will attempt to return your phone calls as quickly as possible.*

Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. We are trying to ensure we communicate with every family connected to EES, so your help sharing our messages out to those who may not have access to technology would be appreciated. If you know anyone who is not receiving information from EES or from the school district staff, please let me know as soon as possible. If your contact information has changed, please contact Ms. Martini at amartini@sd69.bc.ca and she will update your profile. If you are not on the electronic newsletter group, I encourage you to sign up as soon as possible as this is also the email group that we send out important information to. Signing up is simple. Visit Errington Elementary School website (<http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>). Scroll down towards the bottom of the home page to the brown area where it says "Sign up for our newsletter and keep in touch". Enter your email address. After you enter your email and click on "GO" an email will be sent to your email address. **You must respond to the email to become a verified member to receive newsletters.**

We are on this unprecedented journey together and appreciate your patience, flexibility, and support.

Sincerely,

Sheila Morrison, Principal