



VAUGHAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

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March 25, 2020

We hope that you are well and taking good care of each other during this difficult time.

We know that you and your children are concerned about what is going to happen with the rest of this semester; if courses are going to get finished and if credits are going to be earned. Please don't worry, plans are being made to ensure that students have the opportunity to finish the semester. We don't know exactly what this is going to look like yet but soon we will have the details and we will be able to share these with you.

The Ministry of Education has asked each school board to develop a Learning Plan; a plan that would outline how students are able to complete courses. The Ministry of Education has stated that these first couple of weeks is a time for students to access Board resources and the Learning at Home portal to support students with independent learning and to keep their brains working. Over these couple of weeks our senior administration is in close contact with both the Ministry of Education and school-level administrators to work out the details as to how we are going to move forward with the rest of the semester; both in the short term to get students working on their course work and long term to so that credit count would not be interrupted.

We have included the links to both the Board's resources and the Ministry of Education's resources here for your convenience. This letter will also be on our VSS website.

YRDSB Resource Link: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Students/Pages/Online-Resources.aspx>

Ministry Education Resource Link: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-at-home>

We would also like to share with you some resources that have been put together by our school's Psychologist – please see the document attached to this email – we know that at this time we need to not only worry about our children's learning opportunities but also about mental/physical health as well.

Mental Health Resources/Online Activities to Support Children/Adolescents During School Closures

Individual Phone Counselling and Mental Health Distress Phone Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Individual Counselling - Free-of-Cost:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ https://www.bigwhitewall.com/▪ https://cmha-yr.on.ca/learn/covid-19/telephone-based-supportive-counselling/○ Individual Counselling - Low-Cost:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ https://openpathcollective.org/▪ https://www.affordabletherapytoronto.com/○ Crisis/Distress Lines - Free-of-Cost:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Crisis Response Service (24 hours) 1-855-310-2673 (COPE) ▪ Kids Help Phone (24 hours) 1-800-668-6868 ▪ First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Helpline 1-855-242-3310 ▪ Krasman Centre - Warm Line (non-crisis) 1-888-777-0979 ▪ York Region Street Outreach Van 905-853-3400 or 1-866-553-4053 ▪ Ontario Shores Crisis Line (24 hours) 1-800-263-2679
Museums and Historic Sites Hosting Virtual Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/travel/a31784720/best-virtual-tours/ ○ https://www.insider.com/museums-theme-parks-offer-virtual-tours-ideal-for-social-distancing-2020-3 ○ https://people.com/travel/stuck-at-home-you-can-visit-these-world-famous-sites-from-your-couch-for-free/
Online Learning Platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.edx.org/ ○ https://www.coursera.org/ ○ http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses ○ https://qz.com/1821327/450-free-ivy-league-university-courses-you-can-take-online/
Online Fitness Classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://ymca360.org/on-demand#/ ○ https://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-life-online-home-virtual-workouts-coronavirus-tt-0318-20200320-33lwwhwqavatzl3bz7jit7yozy-story.html

Please be patient – which we know is difficult at this time – there is still plenty of time for students to complete their courses. We will ensure that this gets done.

We will be in touch again soon.

Stay safe and look after one another and please stay home.

VSS Administration

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