

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Good morning everyone,

First, we would like to express our gratitude for your continued support this week, a week filled with uncertainty, change, and many challenges. We hope you are finding ways to enjoy your family time. Thank you for your words of encouragement and support.

This email will serve to outline the steps Warner School is taking in moving forward to support students in their courses. Please note that there are links to important information embedded in this email, and we ask you take time to carefully read through all information with your child to be aware of all aspects of this process.



### **Online Course Delivery - Classes will resume March 25<sup>th</sup>**

This week, we have been waiting for guidance from the province with regards to the expectations to help inform how we move forward in supporting our students as a school.

- As it stands, the province has indicated schools provide a “base level of instruction” to their students.
- As we look to work within these parameters, and through collaboration with other schools and school divisions, Warner School will be moving towards delivery of course content, and connection with students, through an online interface.
- The primary application that will facilitate this course delivery for some grades will be Google Classroom
- While Google Classroom will be used as a baseline for communicating with students, teachers may use additional platforms for lesson delivery and content creation (Dojo, PowerPoint, GoFormative, HAPARA, etc.). We will try to not overwhelm you with too many options.

### **How to Access Google Classroom from Home:**

Google Classroom is a communication and collaboration platform that will enable teachers and students the ability to connect in real-time, as well as facilitate access to class resources and materials. Students in the school district are able to access and download this software for free.

- The first step is ensuring your child knows their Horizon email and password.
- This will also be important as all teachers will be using email to communicate with their students moving forward.
- The email should read **firstname.lastname@hsd67.ca** , and their password will be unique to them.
- They should be able to login to their email through any google chrome browser.
- **Parents Guide to Google Classroom – will be included with your first week’s packet.**

### **Reconnecting with your teacher:**

Careful consideration has been given to how the “new” school day will be structured, with the goal of:

- Keeping students connected to their current teachers.
  - Offering a level of sequence and structure.
  - Allowing students to progress through their classes in a predictable and consistent fashion.
- Our course delivery seeks to preserve the greatest opportunity for our staff to maintain connections with students, support the work they will be undertaking online, and provide as much stability and support as possible, in a time where we believe this is of great importance.
- On March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, teachers will be in contact with students through email and/or telephone to communicate how their classes will proceed.

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***Chrome books and first assignments can be picked up Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, in the gym. The rest of the school is not accessible during this time.***



- Moving forward, not all classes will proceed in the same fashion.
- We are aware of the potential challenges to both students and teachers in their availability during the day.
- Teachers will communicate their availability to students and will be available during the school day via email or telephone.

### **Another Way to Connect**

Students that have had access to the school over the past week may have noticed that we are using SchoolMessenger to connect with the community. Please be encouraged to follow us on Facebook, to follow our webpage – [www.warner.horizon.ab.ca](http://www.warner.horizon.ab.ca) or [www.horizon.ab.ca](http://www.horizon.ab.ca) for division information.

### **Moving Forward**

Knowing that we are transitioning into an unfamiliar space regarding how our students and staff will be connecting, we do so with the knowledge that there will be continued challenges and changes ahead. Often, a decision made one day is forced to be different a day later. Thank you for bearing with us. As we move forward, our first priority at Warner School is supporting our students and community. We are considerate of the concerns surrounding how students will receive the education and information they are currently missing, and how to support their transition into next year. Please understand that each step we take moving forward is based on the understanding that:

- We are all in this together.
- We understand that we all will face challenges working and connecting in an online environment.
- Every one of the staff at Warner School is here to help families and students through this process with the best intentions and with all available resources we have.
- We move forward through this process with a growth mindset understanding that things cannot be exactly as they were when students were able to be in the school.

We will also continue to be receptive and responsive to the direction provided to us by Alberta Education and work alongside all stakeholders in the best interest of our students, staff and community.

Thank you again for all of your support and we wish you health and wellness during this time of uncertainty.

Sincerely,

Warner School Staff