



CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

6500 Southridge Avenue • Prince George, BC Canada V2N 5P9 • 250-964-5642 • www.cispg.ca



May 12, 2020

Dear Parents, Educators, and Students,

I hope you and your families remain safe, healthy and well.

There are two recent announcements at the provincial level. On Wednesday, May 6, Premier John Horgan announced [BC's Restart Plan](#), which is designed to move BC through the next steps of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes 4 **Phases** of which we are in Phase 1 moving to Phase 2 in mid-May and potentially Phase 3 for June 1st.

On Friday May 8, the Deputy Minister of Education shared a Five **Stage** Strategy for all BC schools. We are currently operating in Stage 4 and based on direction from the Provincial Health Officer and consistent with BC's Restart Plan, K – 12 schools shall move towards operating in Stage 3 by June 1. The following is a high-level summary of the five stages and more specific details will be provided next week.

<p>Stage 1 A return to full in-class instruction.</p>
<p>Stage 2 In-class learning for all students in elementary school (K to 7) on a full-time basis. *In-class learning for secondary students (Grades 8 to 12) on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for secondary students.</p>
<p>Stage 3 In-class learning for students in kindergarten to Grade 5 on a part-time basis. Access to in-class learning as needed for Grades 6 to 12 on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for students.</p>
<p>Stage 4 *(Current stage) In-class learning for children of essential service workers and vulnerable students. Remote and online learning continues for most students.</p>
<p>Stage 5 Suspend all in-class instruction for all grades and students. Remote and online learning for all students.</p>

*Details are forthcoming on what in-class learning and part-time will look like.

BC's Restart Plan indicates:

“An announcement on a phased approach to resuming in-class instruction will be made in the coming weeks. This will not be a return to normal. With weeks left in the school year, we anticipate many kids will not return to the classroom until September. But we are also exploring ways to safely get some kids back to school before the summer, to allow more parents to return to work. How these changes unfold are the focus of intensive discussion among Ministry of Education officials ... and other education sector partners.” (page 16 of BC's Restart Plan link above)

CISPG schools will continue their current practice of delivering on-line learning to students. We expect further guidance and updates from the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Officer after the long May long weekend with direction on critical health and safety guidelines that must be in place prior to the start of **Phase 2** of the Premier's Provincial Plan (which is **Stage 3** of the Deputy Minister's Plan). Once this information is received and reviewed by CISPG and its schools in the week of May 19-22, the plan, along with its timelines and protocols for implementation, shall be communicated with families the week of May 25-29, 2020. Schools will continue to offer childcare options for children of Essential Service Workers.

In the meantime, please know I continue to work closely with the Superintendents of Catholic Independent Schools of British Columbia, the Federation of Independent Schools Association (FISA), the Ministry of Education's Independent Schools Branch, WorkSafeBC, and our Principals in preparation for supporting this anticipated change in CISPG schools.

Thank you for continuing to do all you can to prevent the spread of this virus. May God continue to bless us as we journey forward, safely, together.

With gratitude and hope,



Chris Dugdale
CISPG Superintendent of Schools