Diefenbaker School Report to PAC

Jan. 21, 2021

1. Happy New Year! We’re off to a great start for 2021 and everyone has returned in good spirits.
2. TL students: next return date is Feb. 1 and families have until Jan. 25th to inform us of their intent. Currently about 90 out of 410 students are learning from home and the District TL program has been extended to March 12, 2021.
3. We continue to emphasize Provincial Health and Safety Protocols. Eg remaining in our cohorts, maintaining physical distance when we can, wearing masks as much as we can, frequent handwashing. In addition to our custodial staff cleaning schedule, teachers are doing their own cleaning as needed.
4. Communicating Student Learning (Option A) Mid-Year Summative Assessment Posts will be available to families on Jan. 29th. Parents are encouraged to go to their child’s Portfolio on the Portal to see these posts and other evidence of work. Reports for TL students will also be available on Jan. 29th.
5. Several District and Provincial Surveys will be carried out next month:
   1. Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) – survey for Grade 5 students with regards to their social and emotional well-being; in conjunction with UBC
   2. FSA’s for Grades 4 and 7 - currently planned to start the middle of February; participation in the assessments is strongly encouraged to gather data to determine the impact of the pandemic on student learning
6. Registration for the 21/22 school year has begun online, as well as the application for various District Option Programs including LFI which are due Jan. 22nd. Transfer Applications will open Feb. 8th. **Families are also asked to return their “Intent to Return” notice asap to help our planning for next year.**
7. We continue to work on our SR focus and our Kindness Umbrella. The focus has shifted to “Kindness to Others” and we have several events planned for February including a Zoombly, Window Display, Random Acts of Kindness Challenge, Pink Shirt Day and Food Bank Drive.
8. Other updates:
   1. Technology: thank you for purchasing 12 iPads for our carts; school has purchased 13 laptops to build a class set. We would like to request from PAC 2 more laptops to complete our cart at 30.
   2. Outdoor Classroom: looking for installation in early Spring and possibility of using District Maintenance staff to purchase and install instead of using the private vendor
   3. Track: the City has finally given approval for the track to be installed; waiting for Maintenance to do the work
   4. We are working with PAC on improvements to traffic safety

**Thank you again for your continued support!**

**We will get through this together!**