

April 9, 2020

## **Re: Suspending Work Experience Placements Due to COVID-19**

Dear Students, Parents and Community Partners,

Please be advised that, due to the health and safety risks associated with the current COVID-19 pandemic, all unpaid, community-based Work Experience placements are suspended indefinitely. A Work Experience Facilitator from the SD#33 Career Education department will be in direct contact with students and employers to cancel any current placement arrangements.

In addition, please note that any new requests for Work Experience placements will not be facilitated for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, but these requests will be noted and revisited in the Fall.

This directive does not apply to students currently employed in paid work placements in essential service sectors. These students should continue to log their paid work hours if they intend to apply those hours toward their Work Experience course credit.

Though we recognize the importance of maintaining opportunities for our students, and we truly value our community partners, we must prioritize the health and well-being of our students above all else. We are grateful for your cooperation and look forward to re-establishing our partnership when it is safe to do so.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at (604) 798-2332.

Sincerely,

Chris Reitsma District Work Experience Coordinator Career Programs Department Chilliwack School District #33