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January 10, 2022

RE: Final Exams

Given the uncertainty of the Omicron variant and the potential for increased learning disruptions for students due to illness in the coming weeks, and in alignment with Alberta Education's decisions regarding Diploma exams, the following adjustments are being made to the high school calendar and final exams/cumulative final assessments.

The key priorities of Ecole Notre Dame High School this year remains focused on mental wellness and addressing challenges in learning progressions resulting from the pandemic. School staff and students have also expressed a desire to ensure that students gain the experience of writing cumulative final assessments, as both feel this is a potential life long skill and delaying this experience is causing potential further anxiety regarding future exams.

Final exams and/or cumulative final assessments will take place on January 25 and 26, 2022 for students in core classes, in grades 10, 11, and 12. The weighting for the final exam will be 10%. Teachers feel that this weighting will allow students to write the exam in a lower stakes testing environment. To deal with the potential impact of the pandemic and students being impacted by illness we are implementing a policy that a student's mark can not be negatively impacted by a final exam. However, we are asking that you ensure your child participates in the valuable learning experience if they are healthy as a way to help them continue to develop skills for lifelong success. Teachers do not anticipate the final exam negatively impacting the students overall mark given it's low weighing. Summary of the final week of school / final exam week (below):

Monday January 24	Tuesday January 25	Wednesday January 26	Thursday January 27	Friday January 28
Last day of classes	AM Final Exam Period 1 Classes 9:00-11:00 am	AM Final Exam Period 2 Classes 9:00-11:00 am	Make Up Day for Students Absent from Exams	Organizational Day No classes for students
	PM Final Exam Period 3 Classes 12:30-2:30 pm	PM Final Exam Period 4 Classes 12:30-2:30 pm		

Teachers at Ecole Secondaire Notre Dame will work, as always, to ensure that balanced, broad based assessment continues to take place until the end of the term, and that the final mark results in a fair and accurate assessment of the student's knowledge of the learning outcomes for the given course. If a student is required to miss their exam due to illness or isolation requirements, please contact their teacher or grade administrator and we will work with students to allow them to write the exam at a later date.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to any member of the school administration team.

Sincerely,



Ike Hanna
Principal



Curtis Lansing
Gr. 10 Vice Principal



Andrea Gringhuis
Gr. 11 Vice Principal



Ryan Birch
Gr. 12 Vice Principal