

Dear Byrne Creek Students and Families:

I hope that everyone had a restful long weekend. I have some important information to share with you regarding the **New Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement** that will be **in place for students graduating in the 2023/24 school year (current grade 10s) and beyond**.

As part of the Province of British Columbia's commitments to truth, reconciliation, and anti-racism, the Ministry of Education has announced that it will be implementing an Indigenous- focused graduation requirement for all students. This change to the graduation requirement will be in place for students graduating in the 2023/24 school year (current grade 10s) and beyond.

The change requires that 4 credits of the current 80-credit graduation requirements for the BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) include an Indigenous-focused course(s).

As this information was not available at the time of course selection, we want to give our students the opportunity to plan ahead and meet this new graduation requirement prior to their grade 12 year if they so desire.

We are asking current grade 10s who wish to take an Indigenous-focused course next school year to fill in the following form indicating their new choice and what they would like to drop. Students who wish to complete the requirement in Grade 12 do not have to fill out the form.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LV7swROUrEgeab99Ida2QpCEOZYyB5lr7PNE3BncZpURUNJVvpGWIVKWTBCSFZPRIFRTVhZMFMxNC4u>

Eligible course options being offered at Byrne Creek next year are listed below:

Grade 11 options that meet the Indigenous-focused course requirement:

- English First Peoples Literary Studies + Writing 11
- English First Peoples Literary Studies + New Media 11

Grade 12 options that meet the Indigenous-focused course requirement:

- BC First Peoples 12 (this course can be taken in grade 11 or 12)
- English First Peoples 12

It is important to note that the English First Peoples 11 & 12 course meet the Language Arts requirements for graduation. They are equivalent to the English 11 & 12 courses that we offer, and they are recognized and accepted as such by all universities and post-secondary institutions in BC. BC First Peoples 12 also meets the Social Studies 11/12 Grad requirement.

The big ideas, learning standards, curricular competencies and course content for all courses can be

viewed at the [BC Ministry of Education Curriculum website](#).

For more information on the new Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement please refer to the BC Ministry of Education document [Indigenous-Focused Grad Requirement Overview](#).

If you have any questions about taking these courses next year or planning for graduation, please contact your counsellor.

Sincerely,

**Effie Aadland (she/her)**

**Principal**

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