

Dear Byrne Creek Students and Families:

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 would like to provide opportunity for our current grade 9 students to complete this requirement in grade 10 if they so choose.

We are asking current grade 9s 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 11 or 12 do not have to fill out the form.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LV7swROUrEgeab99Ida2QpCEOFZYyB5lr7PNE3BncZpUNVVPT0o0UIhBODZBWkpCRIRIWE03OTFHMS4u>

Eligible course options being offered at Byrne Creek for students going into grade 10 are listed below:

Grade 10 option that meets the Indigenous-focused course requirement:

- English First Peoples Literary Studies + English First Peoples Writing 10

In grades 11 and 12 students will have the following options:

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 10, 11 & 12 course meet the Language Arts requirements for graduation. They are equivalent to the English 10, 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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