



# Carleton North High School

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## **Final Assessment:** Carleton North High School

### **Rationale:**

In response to our fluid Covid-19 situation and evolving ideas around formative and summative assessment practices, we have determined that assessment in the final weeks of May and early June will look different at Carleton North High School in order to ensure our students the best possible representation of taught curriculum and learned outcomes from the 2021 school year.

### **Overview:**

As a staff we reviewed the situation from in this past January where we narrowly made our way through a traditional exam week despite the rise in exposure and cases of Covid-19 viruses in our region. This impacted several schools and families within our area and exacerbated stress for students involved when assessments had to be pushed or altered in order to accommodate gaps in learning time and opportunities for recovery of learned curriculum outcomes. As I shared in past memos, at that time we had in excess of 160 students in our school struggling to meet outcomes in two or more subjects. We started early intervention for these students after the first term and it was a tremendous struggle through to the end of January and well into second semester in February. We all want to and need to avoid these challenges and struggles this June.

In response to intervention, school staff have been offering regular support at noon and afterschool for those who wish to take hold of additional learning opportunities. Staff have offered opportunities for retesting, recovery of missed outcomes and various alternative projects. We have brought students in for extra days and provided quiet work places and access to related technology and adults for support. In further effort to support students as we conclude this year, staff have agreed to alter final assessments in such a way to maximize learning time, provide feedback and continue to assess students with the compacted curriculum. For some students, who are experiencing greater success, they will conclude final assessments and their curriculum by the 14<sup>th</sup> of June thereby exempting them from their final two instructional days. For others, who need more time to demonstrate completion of key curricular outcomes through varied means of assessment, they will be required to attend additional learning days between Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> in order to determine if they have met or not met the intended outcomes sufficiently.

### **Final Assessment Plan:**

- Starting as early as the 17<sup>th</sup> of May, staff will be staggering final assessments in such a way that a “test” may cover 2 or more class periods and be broken into various components. This will support students not having too much or too many things to prepare for at one time.
- Additional assessments in the form of presentations or projects have final deadlines that have either been shared with or will be shared with students at the same point in time.
- Teachers will continue to teach curriculum between May 17<sup>th</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup> and this material will be assessed using a variety of formative and summative assessment strategies.
- Upon the completion of final assessments, teachers will determine which students have successfully met and have completed the outcomes in their respective courses and those who need more time. They will inform students and families between the 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of June as to completion or need for additional learning time.
  - Students who require additional time and support in meeting key curricular outcomes will be required to attend school two additional learning days between the 15-18<sup>th</sup> of June and will attend classes periods 1-5 as per their regular student schedules. They must attend full days as per any regular day.
  - Teachers must submit grades for all classes and all students by Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> in order for report cards to be verified, printed and ready for pick up on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June.
- *Exceptions to this plan:* There are courses at Carleton North that operate differently than traditional core curriculums. Essential Skills, Cooperative Programs, Skilled Trades and other similar technology or Arts based courses require the completion of hands-on projects. Quite often students require additional learning time well beyond regular structured class periods. The teachers of these curriculums provide the space and time for students to complete their projects. They will communicate to their students the times that they are required to complete their respective course requirements during the same period of time.

### **Students with Conflicts:**

- Once students receive their assessment dates from each of their teachers, they will need to create a schedule and organizer for themselves from the 17<sup>th</sup> of May until June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- If they have multiple assessment on the same day, they will need to inform their respective teachers and they will work a reasonable solution to the conflicts between themselves and their teachers.

### **In Summary:**

- ✚ **We are not having a traditional exam week.**
- ✚ **Final assessments and opportunity to demonstrate key outcomes will occur from the 17<sup>th</sup> of May-June 18<sup>th</sup>.**
- ✚ **Students will either be exempt from the last two final learning days or be required to attend to complete outcomes in their courses the final days between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of June.**
- ✚ **Teachers will verify by the 14<sup>th</sup> of June which students are required to attend the remaining two instructional days they have with respect to day Carleton or Day North.**

Respectfully,

Jason J. Smith

