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|  |  | **Dr. Kearney Middle School**10723 – 92 Street, Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3J4Phone: 250-785-8378 🞟 Fax: 250-785-1678 |

October 17, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

By now you have likely heard about changes to the curriculum in BC schools. The redesigned curriculum for Grades K-9 is being implemented during this school year. A few weeks ago, a letter from Mike Bernier, the Minister of Education, was posted on our website. In this letter he discussed developing a new approach for reporting to parents.

In an effort to communicate better with parents and guardians regarding what students can and cannot do, we are piloting gradeless reporting in most elective courses. Instead of one, traditional, averaged, overall letter grade that has been issued for the whole course, teachers will assess and report on the student’s progress in the main curricular competencies and content. We believe that this will give the parents and guardians a greater understanding of their child’s progress in a variety of areas within a course.

Curricular competencies and content will be reported on using the following scale:

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|   | Beginning | Student demonstrates some recall of facts but is significantly lacking in understanding. |
|  | Developing | Student demonstrates an understanding of portions but is missing the big picture. Student may be unable to apply what has been learned to new situations. |
|  | Accomplished | Student demonstrates a big picture understanding and can apply it to new and different situations but lacks subtle details or explanations. |
|  | Exemplary | Student demonstrates superior understanding, includes subtle details, shows relationships between concepts, and applies understanding to more complex situations. |

At this point we are exploring various electronic and paper options for informal progress reports and for formal report cards.

We would like to invite you to our first information session, which will take place at the school on Tuesday, October 25th, 2016 at 6:30 pm in Room 109. We are looking for feedback from as many parents as possible. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please send your comments by email to one of the school administrators. We will host another meeting in November.

Sincerely,

Wes McKnight, Principal – wmcknight@prn.bc.ca

Jerelyn Orcutt, Vice Principal – jorcutt@prn.bc.ca