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February 18, 2022

## **RE: NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENT (WITH OPT OUT PROVISION)**

Dear Grade 10 students and parents/guardians:

The Ministry of Education has introduced an online learning graduation requirement. Two online learning credits are required to obtain an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

For students who entered Grade 9 in 2020-2021, one secondary school credit completed during the period of remote learning from April to June 2021 has been deemed as "earned" towards the new graduation requirement. One more online learning credit is required.

Grade 10 students will be invited to complete a survey the week of February 28, 2022 to commit to taking an e-Learning course in the 2022-2023 school year. Students who commit to e-Learning will receive a follow-up survey after the March Break to select a course from a menu of options.

## **IMPORTANT:**

The Ministry recognizes that in-person learning is the best delivery model for the majority of students and has provided an "opt out" provision for online learning. Students who would like to "opt out" are required to complete the survey. There will be a link to an "opt out" form.

Online learning is different from the remote learning provided during the pandemic.

Online learning is most often referred to as e-Learning. e-Learning courses are asynchronous, which means students must be self-directed as they work through course content online. Teachers of e-Learning courses provide support, answer questions, and assess work. They do not teach lessons. Technology is required to access e-Learning through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Given that e-Learning students work independently, they require good time management skills and the discipline to complete course content on their own. Daily participation is essential to success.

If you have questions, please contact the school for assistance or visit rainbowschools.ca.

Staff will be happy to help you decide whether you or your child may benefit from online learning.

Sincerely,

B. Bourget

Bruce Bourget

Director of Education