

RED RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION DIVISION SCOLAIRE VALLÉE de la RIVIÈRE-ROUGE

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Date: April 6, 2020 Time: 2:30 p.m.

To: RRVSD Community

From: Brad Curtis, Superintendent & CEO

Re: COVID-19 UPDATE #7

All resources and further updates for the RRVSD Community will be posted on our

website: www.rrvsd.ca

Manitoba Education has released a document titled K-12 Education COVID-19 Response Planning. This document has been shared with all administrators and teachers of RRVSD. We have pulled excerpts from the document to share with you.

These are the Key Actions in Response to COVID-19 as provided by Manitoba Education:

- K-12 in-school classes will be suspended indefinitely for this school year. Classes will resume as soon as Public Health advises it is safe to do so.
- School buildings will close, while maintaining minimal staffing for teacher access and to operate child care centres, where applicable.
- Student marks will be maintained at the most recent assessment (baseline), but students will be expected to continue learning and complete assignments. Teachers will teach remotely, assess progress, and assign a final grade.
- In addition to baseline, Grades 9-11 students will be given a 'designation' by teachers: "No Recovery Work Required" or "Recovery Work Required".
- Grades 9-11 students who do not engage in remote learning will be allowed to progress, but schools will implement recovery learning in the 2020-2021 school year.
- 2019-2020 Grade 12 provincial assessment will be cancelled, but options for teacher assessment will be implemented.
- Early and Middle Years provincial assessments are complete for the current school year, therefore unaffected this year.

These are the Principles as defined by Manitoba Education during COVID-19:

- No student will be held back due to COVID-19 pandemic. All students on track to graduate will graduate. Adult learners will be included in planning.
- Learning and assessment will continue. Teachers are there to foster learning for all. All students receive a final grade and report card. At-home learning will be facilitated by teachers through online platforms and printed material, with outreach for students at-risk, i.e. without Internet.
- Resources will be redirected to ensure that students actively engage in learning during the suspension of classroom learning. "All Hands on Deck" Students, Parents, Teachers, Principals, Superintendents, Trustees and Manitoba Education partnering to ensure success.

• Plan is future oriented. Efforts are not only forward-looking to reopening classrooms but looking at multifaceted ways of learning after COVID -19.

These are the Roles and Responsibilities as defined by Manitoba Education during COVID-19:

Department

- Coordinate and oversee provincial level planning in response to the suspension of in-class K to 12
 instruction in Manitoba.
- Facilitate K to 12 stakeholder communication and planning pertaining to issues, priorities, and implementation of pandemic response planning.
- Resolve urgent matters and make recommendations regarding resource implications of response
 plans and opportunities for future system improvement, e.g. new configuration of distance/online
 learning, parent portal for engaging in education, and improvements to Manitoba Professional
 Learning Environment (Maple).
- Ensure accessible resources to support parents and students at risk.

• Division and School Leaders

- Participate as part of provincial planning.
- Ensure provincial expectations for teaching, learning and assessment are implemented, within the local context.
- Review and re-allocate resources as needed (i.e. technology, online platforms, print-based materials, non-teaching staff).
- Mobilize efforts to support students at risk.

Teachers

- Plan, prepare and communicate learning experiences that support grade-level curriculum outcomes and can feasibly occur within the home setting.
- Continued daily support for student learning, including support for families to manage learning at home.
- Monitor and assess student learning and assignments.
- Assign a final grade, as well as identify future recovery learning needs.

Parents

- Work with the teacher to ensure that learning continues.
- Support students learning at home.
- Look for opportunities to promote learning within the context of daily life.

Students

- Complete assignments and participate in learning.
- Talk to parents and teachers about any concerns or difficulties.

K-8 Learning and Assessment:

- Teacher-directed learning will be implemented to provide education for students through other online tools (i.e. See-Saw, Edsby) and print-based learning.
- InformNet and Distance Learning Unit courses are not available for K-8 Grades. Several other student and parent-centric platforms are available.
- The focus will be on literacy and numeracy with opportunities for science and social studies outcomes. Learning will also incorporate physical activity and artistic expression.
- Teachers will maintain relationships with students and families via phone calls, emails, and other technical support.
- Teachers will set goals for students and assess progress.

• Learning recovery needs will be identified in June for the following year.

Grades 9-12 Learning and Assessment:

- Teachers are now offering other learning online, course packages, and telephone check-ins. Teachers are prioritizing outcomes and planning specific tasks for students.
- Streams of Teacher-Directed Learning:
 - Existing online systems that have been launched and delivering Manitoba curriculum (existing resources).
 - Teachers using InformNet within their virtual classrooms.
 - Distance Learning Unit print-based credit recovery modules, with initial focus on Grade 11 and 12, to allow teachers to support and assess students without internet.
- Consideration for Educational Assistants to support home learning by assisting with check ins and offering supplemental supports to students.
- Special efforts will be made for Grade 11 and 12 students. Resources will be reassigned to support these students to ensure they have knowledge needed to graduate.

There is limited access to school buildings according to the following direction from Manitoba Education:

- Close school buildings. Minimal staffing to allow building access:
 - for teachers to access their classroom resources
 - for childcare centres operating for essential workers
 - for routine maintenance and cleaning

Parents, guardians and students - please remain in contact with your teachers and school staff to receive the most up to date learning resources available.