



March 20, 2020

Dear Parents:

The decision to cancel classes in Alberta on Sunday, March 15, 2020 has put us all into a very different situation. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make changes to how we work with our students.

Contacting Families

Over the past few days, teachers have reached out to check on students and families. They have also asked a few questions to help us develop our plan to continue to deliver programming. In addition, we have been working with the province regarding what learning opportunities and support should be available for students during the time when they are not in front of their teachers. Over the course of next week, teachers will reach out to students and parents to let them know how materials will be shared, collected and assessed.

Continuity of Student Learning and Instruction

Teachers will use a variety of methods to provide learning opportunities for their students, which could include print and digital media. We will start small to ensure that students experience success with their home assignments while assuring parents that this will be possible. Our teachers have been directed to begin providing their students with learning materials sometime during the week of March 23 - 27th. Today, Alberta Education provided all school districts with the following direction. You can read more here:

<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=69874B5C32DE7-C7B9-FAFF-518A0FF91DCFD41D>.

Prekindergarten to Grade 3

The initial focus for learning for students in Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 3 literacy and numeracy, however; teachers may decide to include cross curricular integration in other subjects such as Science and Social. Students in these grades can expect an average of 5 hours of work per week.

Grades 4 to 6

For students in Grades 4-6, the focus will be on literacy and numeracy, with opportunities for cross curricular integration in Social Studies and Science. These students can expect 5 hours of work per week.

Grades 7 to 9 and Grades 10 to 12

For our Junior High and High School students, the focus will be on core courses. Students in Grades 7-9 can expect approximately 10 hours of work per week. For students in Grades 10-12 can expect 3 hours of work per week per course.

For students in Junior High and High School registered in courses such as Physical Education, Music or CTS, teachers may provide learning opportunities for students, where appropriate. More details will be forthcoming for these courses. For students who are unable to complete these courses, principals will have the ability to award credit.

Grade Progression and Report Cards

Students at all grade levels will receive a final grade and report cards for the 2019-2020 school year. All students who were on track to progress to the next grade will. All Provincial Achievement Tests for Grades 6 and 9 and all Diploma Exams for Grade 12 students are cancelled.

For students in High School courses, schools will work with students to complete courses to the best of their ability, providing a final mark and awarding credits. Students on track to receive 100 or more credits will still be eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma. Principals have the ability to award up to 15 credits to students in Grade 12 whose program has been negatively impacted by class cancellations.

Thank You

We would like to extend our thanks to all of our Grasslands families as we make changes during this unprecedented time. We understand how stressful this is for everyone, including our students. Our students working with a school Wellness Mentor will still be able to access those supports by contacting the school. If your child needs more support, please contact the Brooks Alberta Health Services Addictions and Mental Health office (403-793-6655) or the Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868). Should you have any questions about this information, please contact your child's teachers or administration at the school.

Sincerely

Scott Brandt

Scott Brandt,

Superintendent, Grasslands Public Schools