



March 20, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians:

**Re: Continuing Student Learning**

The Alberta Government issued a continuing student learning news release today. In that release the Government stated that new guidelines are in place to direct how students will learn while classes are cancelled due to the provincial health emergency. Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools is continuing its work to identify how to continue teacher-directed learning for students.

The Government stated that school authorities will offer at-home learning opportunities to all kindergarten to Grade 12 students, either through online means or through other accommodations, such as course packages and telephone check-ins. Government expects that every student regardless of their geographic location or socioeconomic status, will continue to learn while classes across the province are cancelled.

The news release stated that to identify what content needs to be delivered, teachers will evaluate curricular outcomes that have not yet been covered, prioritize remaining outcomes based on what is manageable for students working from home, and will plan specific tasks and projects for students.

The Government broke down the content delivery for each grade as follows:

**Kindergarten – Grade 3:**

- Education content will focus on language/literacy and mathematics/numeracy outcomes of the provincial curriculum.
- Teachers will assign an average of five hours of work per student per week, and will be expected to work with their students and parents on the delivery of these materials.

**Grades 4-6:**

- Education content will continue to focus on language/literacy and mathematics/numeracy outcomes, and there will be opportunity to incorporate science and social studies outcomes through cross-curricular learning.
- Teachers will assign an average of five hours of work per student per week, and will be expected to work with their students and parents on the delivery of these materials.

**Grades 7-9:**

- Education content will focus on core mathematics, language/literacy, science and social studies curriculum outcomes.
- Teachers will assign an average of 10 hours of work per student per week, and will be expected to work with their students and parents on the delivery of these materials.

**Grades 10-12:**

- Education content will focus on specified and core courses required for high school graduation requirements, including language (English, French and French language arts), social studies, mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics.
- Content from other courses will be delivered where possible, and accommodations for students unable to complete courses are in place.
- Teachers will assign an average of 3 hours of work per course per week, and will be expected to work with their students and parents on the delivery of these materials.

**Grade progression and report cards**

Every student will receive final grades and will receive a report card, appropriate to their grade level. Teachers will be responsible for assessing a student's progress and assigning a final grade. School authorities have committed to ensuring parents are consulted and kept informed of how assessment will be determined in this unique circumstance. All students who were on track to progress to the next grade will. Where possible, schools will work with high school students to complete their courses to the best of their ability, providing a final mark and awarding credits. If a student is unable to complete a course that would have allowed them to progress to the next grade, principals have the ability to award credits to ensure student progression.

**High school diploma criteria**

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. For any courses that are started, schools will complete them with the student to the best of their ability, provide a final mark and award credits.

If the student is unable to complete a course that would have led them to achieving a high school diploma, such as a work experience or a career and technology studies course, principals have the ability to award credits to ensure the student graduates.

**Provincial assessments**

All Grade 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests and Grade 12 diploma exams are cancelled. Under special circumstances, students can request to write a diploma exam. Students wishing to do so should speak to their teacher and school administrator.

**Resources for parents**

Parents may want to supplement student learning by providing their children with additional resources. The following provincial resources are available to parents:

- LearnAlberta.ca: more than 4,000 digital resources aligned with Alberta's K-12 curriculum.
- My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource: provides parents with information specific to each grade level.

**Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools:**

Given what is stated in the Government's news release, after the Spring Break schools will be announcing how they will provide for continuing student learning. Given that teachers don't return until Tuesday, March 31, 2020 schools may need the week of March 31 to April 4, 2020 to finalize their plans.

We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding as staff work to determine how to ensure student learning continues during this very challenging time. Please understand that the delivery process will continue to evolve as staff work through the issues and concerns that will emerge over time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terry Pearson  
Superintendent of Schools  
Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools