

March 16, 2020

Attention: GSSD Parents/Guardians & Staff

We are providing consistency and structure in a very rapidly evolving context. Given the fluidity of information it is important that all stakeholders of GSSD are familiar with COVID-19 information and updates in Saskatchewan from the Saskatchewan Health Authority. The most up to date information can be found at www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus.

Students

- The Government of Saskatchewan has announced the indefinite suspension of classes for PreK-12 students beginning Friday, March 20th.
- Parents who are able to make arrangements for childcare are to stop sending their children to school immediately. No students will be permitted to attend school beginning **Friday, March 20th**.
- Every student will receive a final grade based on their current grade, and students will progress to their next grade level next year. Every student who is eligible to graduate from Grade 12 this year will graduate. The Ministry of Education and School Divisions will work with Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Institutions to adapt entry requirements for programs commencing in the next academic year.
- Contingency plans are being made to offer grade 11 and grade 12 courses to ensure our students are able to access skills necessary to be successful in post-secondary.
- We are working with the Ministry of Education on a plan to ensure ongoing learning opportunities for all students during the time that classes are suspended.

All School and School Division Staff

- All staff will continue to report to work as they do regularly up to and including Thursday, March 19th. Direction related to staff attendance after March 19th will follow.
- Confirmation was provided by the Ministry of Education that operational funding will continue and all staff will continue to be paid. Contractual obligations will be honoured.
- In conversation with Public Health officials in Saskatchewan we are advising all travelers within our school division to follow the directions as laid out by the Saskatchewan Health Authority. This includes:
 - Students & staff travelling outside of Canada are directed to self-isolate for 14 days; and,
 - Students & staff with flu like symptoms are directed to stay home. Individuals displaying symptoms will be sent home; families are asked to solidify an emergency contact.
- Staff are expected to continue working during the school closure. Additional details will follow. Continuity planning will occur over the next 3 days to solidify plans

Schools

- Transportation services will continue as regularly scheduled up to and including Thursday, March 19th.

Facility Use

- All facility rental agreements are cancelled.
- GSSD is awaiting confirmation from municipalities to determine next steps with joint use facilities (LCS fitness centre, Canora Parkland Public Library, Gloria Hayden Community Centre)

Please monitor social media and the GSSD website as we work together to support children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your patience during these complicated times.

Sincerely,



Quintin Robertson
CEO/Director of Education