



MEMO

Date: Friday, December 4, 2020

Topic: **Update for parents, guardians, and staff**

This update is two-pages in length.

Meeting for parents and guardians:

- The next evening meeting for parents and guardians is scheduled for Tuesday evening.
Topic: Meeting for parents and guardians
Time: Dec 8, 2020 at 6:00 PM
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/92747382603?pwd=RmUvbGJqQ0FQRHRTdk8zUStZR01OZz09>
Meeting ID: 927 4738 2603
Passcode: 218623

January plans:

- The Province has announced that for the two-week period from January 4 – 15, 2021 students in Grades 7 to 12 will move to full time remote learning.
 - Grade 7 - 12 students with special needs and students at-risk may be accommodated in the school or classroom setting. In this context, special needs students will be defined as those students on individualized programs with IEP's. Potential attendance of at-risk students will be considered by schools on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Director of Student Services.
- There will be regular classes for Kindergarten to Grade 6.
 - Optional remote learning will be available for Kindergarten to Grade 6 students, should families wish to keep their children at home for the two-week period following the holiday break.
 - Families considering this optional remote learning are asked to notify their school by noon on December 14, 2020 to facilitate planning.

Remote Learning:

- Individual schools will develop specific plans for supporting their students during remote learning. These school-specific plans will be communicated to parents by Friday, December 18.
- Remote learning for students in Grades 7-12 will be facilitated by the regular classroom teachers and will include a combination of both synchronous and asynchronous delivery. If internet access is not possible, then print-based options will be available for students.
- Classroom teachers in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will prepare learning packages for any students who opt for remote learning.
 - From January 4 – 15, K-6 classroom teachers will focus on those students present for in-school learning. They will not be expected to provide simultaneous support to both in-school and remote students.
 - Support for those K-6 students learning remotely will be provided by other school and divisional staff. This support may include synchronous learning as well as individual student or small group check-ins.
- Schools will strive to achieve the Manitoba Education Standards for Remote Learning, to the greatest extent possible. However, we recognize that during this time-limited period of remote learning, synchronous learning standards may not be fully achieved.
https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/support/remote_learn_standards.html
- Ideally, there will be family-owned devices that students may use. However, families may submit a request to their principal to borrow a school device if needed for at home learning.

Final exams for Grades 9-12 students:

- Final exams for students in Grades 9-12 are cancelled for January 2021. The blended learning environment for this semester combined with the upcoming move to remote learning has and will create challenges for equal access to instruction. By cancelling exams, regular classroom teaching and learning may continue up to and including Friday, January 29.
- Classroom teachers have two options in lieu of final exams:
 - If there is sufficient evidence of learning and understanding, a student's final mark may be calculated using the term mark from September to January.
 - If additional information is required, or at the discretion of the teacher, an alternate summative assessment may be provided.
 - This alternate summative assessment should be of the take-home variety so as not to require time be taken from classroom instruction. If possible, teachers should provide this alternate assessment by January 6 so that students may start working on it during their remote learning period.
 - The alternate summative assessment may have a mark value at any level up to and including the value of the original exam for a particular course.