



Dear Families,

May 8, 2020

On Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the provincial government outlined a plan for the gradual easing of restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Included in this plan is a measured approach to phasing in a return to learning in classrooms. Our schools have been safe throughout this pandemic, and plans are being developed to ensure they will continue to be as the return to in-class learning progresses and more students are in our schools.

The stages outlined by government are as follows:

<b>Education stages for K-12 students</b>
<b>Stage 5</b> Suspend all in-class instruction for all grades and students. Remote and online learning for all students.
<b>Stage 4 *Current stage</b> In-class learning for children of essential service workers and vulnerable students. Remote and online learning continues for most students.
<b>Stage 3</b> In-class learning for students in kindergarten to Grade 5 on a part-time basis. Access to in-class learning as needed for grades 6 to 12 on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for students.
<b>Stage 2</b> In-class learning for all students in elementary school (K to 7) on a full-time basis. In-class learning for secondary students (grades 8 to 12) on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for secondary students.
<b>Stage 1</b> A return to full in-class instruction.

Schools and staff in SD27 have worked hard to expand our service in Stage 4, while adhering to health guidelines. Over the coming days, the District will be working with employee groups to ensure the broadened in person service meets with the ongoing changes to any health guidelines and protocols that apply to schools.

Schools will be reaching out to parents in an effort to determine if and how many parents intend on sending students to school. As indicated, parents have a choice and may “volunteer” to send their child(ren). If parents do not choose to send their child, the continuity of learning through distance will continue, but it will not be as robust as in-class instruction and may not be with the child’s regular teacher.

***“Learning, Growing and Belonging Together”***



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We are looking forward to having more students back, and rest assured, our plan begins with people. We continue to focus on the health, safety and wellness of all of our people—our employees, our students, our families, and our communities.

Thank you to all of our staff for their amazing work through this, to our communities and to you for your continued patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Chris van der Mark  
Superintendent of Schools