



March 23rd, 2020

Good day Parents,

As further clarification was provided by the Ministry on Friday, we are now ready to begin in providing learning at home activities for our students. However, we still want to ensure that we slowly set up learning experiences for students at home, as we do not wish to overwhelm parents and students during this difficult time. We have encouraged our teachers to be reaching out and making sure that parents know that learning experiences are coming, and to ensure that their students know that their teachers are thinking about them during this time.

The Minister has provided an open letter to parents, as well as an FAQ regarding the continuation of learning for students. These two letters are attached. These documents should help parents understand the direction of the province that will be guiding our schools moving forward.

A summary of the learning experiences that will occur at each grade level is provided below.

K-6 Learning:

- K-3 – focus on language/literacy and mathematics/numeracy, average of 5 hours of student work per week
- 4-6 – focus on language/literacy and mathematics/numeracy outcomes, and there will be opportunity to incorporate science and social studies outcomes through cross-curricular learning, average of 5 hours of student work per week
- Religious Education learning opportunities are to occur at all grades in K-6

7-9 Learning:

- 7-9 – focus on core subjects, average 10 hours of student work per week
- For K-9 – Optional courses are not included in the direction from the Ministry. It is suggested that optional teachers assist by providing activities that can be integrated into core subjects or provide optional activities for students who desire this enrichment. We want to leave these as supplemental activities and allow the focus to be on the core subjects, as stipulated in the attached document.
- Religious Education learning opportunities are to occur in grades 7-9

10-12 Learning:

- 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

- As many students require current courses for diploma, post-secondary entrance or scholarship requirements, it will be expected that most current courses for students (now and into Q4) be supported
- Expectation of 3 hours of student work per course, per week

Students in Congregated Programs:

- Program teachers and staff can work to support students at home with their learning goals as outlined in their LSPs
- These are individualized per student and will need to work with families to determine the best ways to support at home learning
- Parents are encouraged to reach out to the program teachers for support

Assessments, Grades, Reporting, Exams, Credits:

- PATs and diploma exams have been cancelled. Schools will be sharing shortly alternatives for students registered for the April diploma exams. June exams will not be held.
- Opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning will be provided in the courses per grade levels listed above.
- We need to understand that we are engaging in unusual learning and living situations that should not result in students being penalized on their progress reports.
- Teachers will keep in mind that tests cannot be performed in a secure setting and that assignments and projects may be a better and more engaging reflection of student learning at this time.
- Principals do have the opportunity to award up to 15 credits per student to assist with their marks in senior high. Principals will be considering this moving forward when there is more information provided from the ministry regarding processes and when this would be applied. In the meantime, students should be supported by all teachers to try to resume courses as usual.
- All students will receive a progress report at the end of the year. Further information about distribution will be provided in upcoming weeks.

I want to assure you that as a school, we are committed to supporting your child during this challenging time. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or me if you require further information.

In the meantime, we are thinking about and praying for each and every child and family in our community.

God bless,

Mrs. Tina Madden
Principal