

November 25, 2020

Dear families,

As you may have already heard, the government of Alberta has declared a public health emergency and [new health measures](#) have been put in place to address the rising spread of COVID-19 in our province. Our school system, like all others in the province, will be impacted by the new measures we have been directed to implement.

EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM (ELP), KINDERGARTEN AND GRADES 1-6

All students in the early learning program, kindergarten and grades 1 – 6 will continue to attend school in person and will follow the Scenario 1 guidelines until December 18, 2020.

Winter break will take place from December 18, 2020 – January 3, 2021 (inclusive) and there will be no school for all students. From January 4-8, all ELP to Grade 6 students will participate in online learning from home. We are in the process of planning for educational and scheduling expectations during at-home learning and will share our plan with families prior to the winter break. **Please review the figure below to take note of important dates for at-home learning.**

DATE RANGE	ELEMENTARY (ELP – GRADE 6)
Nov 30 – Dec 18, 2020	Students attend school for in-person learning
Dec 21, 2020 – Jan 3, 2021	Winter Break – No school for all students
Jan 4 – 8, 2021	Students attend school at-home through online learning
Jan 11, 2021	All students attend school for in-person learning in Scenario 1

All students will return to in-class learning (Scenario 1) on Monday, January 11, 2021.

Technology and internet access: Students that do not have access to a device for learning or internet access are asked to contact the school principal to discuss options for support.

- a. **New Chromebook sales:** We have approximately 50 new English keyboard units for sale at \$199/device. Please note that we have had these unused devices on hand since August and there is only 8 months of warranty left. Since the price of \$199 is well below retail price, we will not adjust the cost to accommodate for the limited warranty. In addition, we have approximately 25 new French keyboard Chromebooks for sale that have one-year warranty remaining. To purchase a Chromebook please visit our website mhpsd.ca.
- [Chromebook purchase options](#)

It is our understanding that this additional week of online learning is intended to increase the isolation period of our younger students to mitigate the risk of students bringing COVID-19 into

schools after the winter break. We understand that this unanticipated week at-home may put additional pressure on families and will do our best to support your child's learning.

LEARNING STANDARDS AND TIME COMMITMENT DURING [SCENARIO 3](#) (January 4 to 8, 2021)

ECS (Early Learning Program and Kindergarten)

- focus on early literacy and numeracy, physical skills and wellbeing
- approximately 1½ hours per day

Grade 1-3

- focus on language and mathematics learning outcomes that strengthen the development of literacy and numeracy
- incorporate health curriculum outcomes (with a focus on mental health)
- approximately 2 ½ hours per day

Grades 4-6

- focus on language and mathematics learning outcomes that strengthen the development of literacy and numeracy
- incorporate science, social studies and wellness (with a focus on mental health) curriculum outcomes
- approximately 2 ½ hours per day

We are all grappling with the change in our circumstances and are wondering how it might impact us and the ones we love. People have expressed a range of emotions about the new restrictions announced yesterday, particularly with respect to the shift in education delivery. This transition will not be without its challenges; however, we have highly skilled teachers, and our students are familiar with the tools they need in order to succeed. We also have a loving and committed community to support our students. We know that commitment, grace and compassion will lead the way.

Be well,

Mark Davidson, Superintendent
Medicine Hat Public School Division