



Stu Henry
Superintendent of Schools
COVID-19 PARENT LETTER #6

March 17, 2020

Dear Families:

We know the current pandemic has created an unprecedented change in all our lives. As you know, due to the seriousness of this situation, the Government of Alberta suspended classes on Monday, March 16 as a necessary step to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

Red Deer Public wants to reach out to help support our students and families during the time that classes are suspended. We want students to keep learning and are working hard to facilitate this. We are also mindful that these are difficult times for our families and we want them to remain healthy and well.

You will have questions and we want to try to answer them for you. Our district website at www.rdpsd.ab.ca will have the most current and up to date information and is updated regularly. You can also contact our principals if there are school and student specific questions that you need help with.

KEEP STUDENTS LEARNING...It is important that all students continue to be engaged in learning. You should know that our teachers have been working hard this week to put together a plan to provide continuity of learning while students are away. We will have consistent practices across Red Deer Public Schools with a focus on:

- Kindergarten - Activity Based ideas
- Elementary - Literacy and Numeracy
- Middle Schools - Core subject areas
- High School - Current courses in timetable with a focus on core courses

Teachers are planning to provide learning materials by 9:00 AM each day that will take approximately 2 hours per day for elementary and middle school students. Time for high school students will vary depending on the courses they are taking.

Schools will be communicating with their students and families on Wednesday with more specific information. Teachers from our school will be connecting with students* and families later this week. We will start distributing* learning materials on Monday, March 23rd. **NOTE: Using their Red Deer Public email accounts - please contact the school if you need account information.*

We certainly know there is a lot going on for families right now and recognize you may not be able to complete all of the activities given in a day...that is completely fine. Our intention is just to provide you with resources to keep your children actively learning and prevent regression while students are not coming to school.

KEEP YOUR FAMILIES HEALTHY AND WELL: We recognize the challenges that come with students being away from school. While there are many restrictions in place, students should continue to be engaged in learning and activity. Continue a regular daily routine with expectations for home activities and responsibilities. Be sure to follow

guidelines provided by Alberta Health Services while also trying to make things as normal as possible. As appropriate, play outside, be active, stay connected with friends, read lots of books, there are many learning resources available online and remember to have quality family time. Lots of things have stopped, but many good things can continue!

On behalf of staff across Red Deer Public Schools please know that we are thinking about you and your children. We miss having them in classes and wish we were learning together.

Sincerely,

Stu Henry

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