

Response Planning Team Update – May 7, 2020

Please find enclosed and attached a letter that School Division's can share with their parents regarding the status of education in the province. Feel free to use this document in its entirety or include it as a part of your regular communications with your families.

COVID-19 Education Update for Saskatchewan Families and Caregivers

Saskatchewan's Education Response Planning Team is offering a sincere thank you to students, families, teachers and staff as you continue to adjust to new ways of learning due to COVID-19. Your commitment to learning is to be commended during this time that we are together in education by being apart.

On the advice of Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer, the Education Response Planning Team has informed Saskatchewan's school divisions that in-class learning for K-12 students will not resume for the remainder of the school year.

As learning will continue remotely at this time, we encourage students and families to take advantage of the supplemental learning opportunities being provided in ways that work best for your situation.

We understand that the end of the school year is an exciting and important time for students, staff and families, and particularly for our graduating students. We appreciate the importance of graduation ceremonies and farewell celebrations as they often involve not just our families and staff but the broader community as well.

While the Chief Medical Officer has prohibited indoor and outdoor public and private gatherings of more than 10 people during Phase 1 and 2 of the province's Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan, we know that school divisions are working on plans to post-pone or find alternate ways to celebrate these important celebrations virtually or otherwise. It is important that we continue to work together, while being apart, to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our province.

The Education Response Planning Team offers our sincere congratulations to the thousands of graduates and their families across the province

We also wish to congratulate our teachers and staff who are retiring at the end of this school year. While the school year won't end as we thought it would, with hugs from colleagues and high fives from students, we wish all retiring teachers and staff the very best as they embark on new paths. Your impact will live on in the students whose lives you have influenced throughout your career.

The Education Response Planning Team is working with all school divisions to begin planning for what in-class learning may look like in the new school year, although the timelines will depend on the safety of everyone in Saskatchewan schools including students, teachers and school staff. As they continue to work with education partners across the province, they would like to wish you the very best in learning as we approach the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

More information about how education will look in September will be provided as soon as possible.

We thank you for your continued leadership during these challenging times.