

Message to Families: COVID-19 Update

May 7, 2020

Dear Families,

As you may have heard, the Ministry of Education recently confirmed that supplemental learning will continue for the rest of this school year. There will be no resumption of classes in schools for the 2019-2020 school year. While we appreciate the clarity that this announcement provides, it also may leave a sense of loss and a feeling of a year cut short. We will not get to participate together in those traditional year-end activities that mark the end of a year of learning. However, there will still be many opportunities in the coming weeks for both learning and celebration of the school year. I encourage you to stay well connected to your child's teacher to continue to supplemental learning journey and to celebrate the year in alternative ways.

Our staff have continued to provide learning opportunities for students while we all continue to learn how best to provide those opportunities in these uncertain times. Spring is often a challenging time for students to stay focused on learning and for many students that challenge may be more obvious in the remote learning environment. Teachers and support staff continue to work hard and find creative ways for learning to occur and they appreciate the hard work of students and parents to stay connected, engaged and learning.

With the cancellation of classes for the year, you might be wondering about a few other things:

1. **Student belongings left in school** will need to be picked up in the coming days so that we can begin a thorough cleaning and sanitizing of the school. Please watch for information from your school or your child's teacher about how we will manage that process safely. Schools remain closed so please wait for communication from the school before coming to pick up belongings.
2. **Student Registration for next year continues.** We don't know exactly what next year will look like, but we will be ready and excited to welcome your children back to school. Your school's website has online registration forms available and registration information is also on the "Parent" tab of our website at www.srsd119.ca. If you have children ready for **Pre-Kindergarten** or **Kindergarten**, or you have children moving from an elementary school into **High School**, we look forward to welcoming them into our schools.

More information from the Ministry may be coming in the coming days, but in the meantime, please remain vigilant in your efforts to prevent the rapid spread of COVID-19, especially as the weather warms and the Re-Open Plan is moves into the next phases. Take care of each other.

Yours in Education,

Barry Hollick, Board Chair and Robert Bratvold, Director of Education