

**March 16, 2020**

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Parents, Students, Staff**

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff:

School superintendents from across Alberta took part in a teleconference with the Executive of the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) and the Deputy Minister of Education, Andre Corbould today. The main message resulting from this teleconference is **that we will work together as partners in education on a consistent provincial strategy for ensuring that all students in Alberta have online education**. This means that we will develop online materials and a consistent approach to communicating with parents and not rush to send home one or two lessons at a time.

At the present time, we have the following answers to some of your questions:

**Q: How do I access materials in my child's locker?**

A: Principals will communicate with you about how to access lockers and personal effects tonight or tomorrow.

**Q: When will my child receive supports through online education materials and regular communication with their teacher(s)?**

A: I will communicate a timeline when online materials are ready and a process that will be followed with your classroom teachers regarding online education by next week.

**Q: Why do I need to wait for online materials?**

A: Teachers need time to prepare lessons using digital means that meet guidelines of Alberta Education.

**Q: Will my child have access to counselling and other specialized supports?**

A: Yes, your child will have access to supports such as counselling through digital means, which will be part of the forthcoming communication about programming.

**Q: Will my child receive a final grade in their courses?**

A: Yes, this is the goal of a provincial strategy towards online programming.

**Q: Will my child graduate?**

A: Yes, students who need to take one or more diploma exams to graduate will be informed as to how to take the required diploma exams.

Please look forward to ongoing updates as information is available. Thank you for being partners in education in this unprecedented time of change.

Sincerely,  
David Keohane, Superintendent of Schools