



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

1251 – 1st Avenue SW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 8B4

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March, 18, 2020

Dear MHCBE families:

We are aware that you have many questions at this time. We want to assure you that Senior Administration, our Division Leadership Team and staff have been hard at work over the last few days collaborating and developing a plan for education delivery. It is our goal to make this transition as smooth as possible for staff, students and our families.

In times like this, we see human nature in its truest form. The outpouring of positivity during a time of crisis is a true testament to our resiliency and ability to work together as a team. It is our priority as a school division to be able to support our staff, students and parents during trying times. We will get through this together!

Education Delivery for Students

We are aware that all schools are different and have families with differing needs. We feel that teachers are in the best place to determine the needs of their students. Teachers, in close consultation with school principals, will work together to determine the best ways to serve our families. We are extremely proud of our staff who are working to produce quality education for our students. We are confident in our approach to delivering programming.

Students and families can expect a phone call or email check-in from their teacher early next week to discuss learning options for your child. Teachers will be in contact with families on a regular basis throughout the remainder of the school year to help students navigate this new delivery of education.

The next few months will require schools, students and parents to work closely together in order to create the best learning experience possible. It is only through our combined efforts that we will be truly successful!

Working Locations for Staff

As of Friday, March 20th, we will not require staff to work at their schools. Rather, staff will be able to work from home. This is based on recommendations from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health. This date has been set to help reduce opportunities for interaction as a way to stop the spread of COVID-19. We must all do our part to stop the spread and stay healthy.

Parents/guardians and students are reminded to pick up all belongings by the end of the day on Friday (or as instructed by your child's school). After this day, access to the school will be limited.

Technology

We understand there are various levels of technological capabilities in our community and know that not every family has direct access to technology. Staff are prepared to provide instruction no matter your situation. If you have any concerns about your child's access to technology or technological capabilities please communicate this with your child's teacher when they contact you. We are all in this together and we will accommodate students as best as possible!

School Fees and Payments

[Click here](#) for a separate document regarding school fees.

Supports for Students

Our Learning Services team has begun gathering resources for students and families during this transition. School Liaison Workers will be contacting families to offer support next week. We encourage you to reach out to your child's school liaison worker if you require immediate help with accessing community supports or feel that your child may require social/emotional assistance during this time.

Alberta Health Services Partners 403-529-3500

- Monsignor McCoy High School
- St. Mary's School
- Notre Dame Academy

Amy Gans amy.gans@mhcbe.ab.ca

- St. Francis Xavier School
- Mother Teresa School
- École St. John Paul II School

Neal Bainbridge neal.bainbridge@mhcbe.ab.ca

- St. Michael's School
- St. Louis School
- St. Patrick's School

We want to thank you very much for your patience this week as we have worked to put a plan in place. Although not all the answers are clear at this time, what we do know is that MHCBE has an incredible team of people who we know will continue to work together to provide the best education we possibly can for your children.

God bless,



Dwayne Zarichny
Superintendent of Schools
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education