



# Evergreen School Division

Box 1200 • Gimli, Manitoba • R0C 1B0 • Ph. (204) 642-6260 • Fax (204) 642-7273 • [www.esd.ca](http://www.esd.ca)

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April 8, 2020, 2020

To: Evergreen Community  
From: Roza Gray, Superintendent  
Re: **COVID-19: PUBLIC UPDATE # 10**

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Although Manitoba Education had not yet finalized details regarding expectations for K-12 during the suspension of classes, here is what we currently have planned in Evergreen.

## **General Questions**

**1. Will adjustments be made to learning expectations given that learning is more challenging for students because they can't attend school?**

Yes, we recognize that this is a challenging time. We know it isn't possible or practical for families to re-create school experiences at home. What students can achieve at home may look very different than what occurs in school. Therefore, every student will have a learning plan with flexible goals set and supported by a teacher.

**2. I think it's great that we were provided learning packages, but moving forward will my child be able to interact with the teacher and classmates?**

Teachers are learning to use Microsoft Teams, which is a secure and flexible platform that works like Facetime - students can see and hear the teacher and classmates that join the team meeting. Learning in the company of peers is important, especially at the middle and high school level, so teachers at these grade levels will be sure to have these virtual meetings available once per week for the students who can join. Access is available over computer or an app on a cellphone. More information will follow from schools about how to access this resource.

**3. I don't have internet / don't have a computer at home. Can I pick up a paper copy of what is shared on-line?**

Schools will have handouts prepared for those who have connectivity issues. Please let your child's teacher know if you cannot get on-line to view the posted resources so that copies can be made available for you to pick up. Schools will be in touch with you about a process to pick up materials in a way that maintains the physical distancing requirements of the Chief Public Health Officer.

**4. Can my child still receive video lessons if I don't have internet?**

We are looking at ways to provide the lessons in alternate formats so they can be viewed at home.

**5. How will work be submitted to the teacher?**

Teachers will request that work is submitted for feedback and review. Depending on the nature of the assignment, the submitted work may be shared via emailed photo/video, uploaded document, telephone call, or materials dropped off at the school.



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**6. How often will the teacher provide feedback and mark my child's ongoing work?**

Teachers will provide feedback to students in a variety of ways. Teachers may phone to speak to the student to check understanding, email feedback, request a virtual meeting or send home a paper copy with suggestions for further consideration and revision. The classroom teacher will determine which method works best for different learning tasks, and will take into consideration what is workable for students/families.

**7. My child has personal belongings left at school. How will I get them?**

Out of concern for the safety of our staff and to meet physical distancing requirements, public access to the school is limited to appointments only. Your child's school will collect student belongings and contact you to arrange a time for pick up. We are currently working on a strategy for pick-ups to occur towards the end of next week. If there is a pressing need for a different arrangement, please contact the school.

**8. What if my child doesn't understand the assignment?**

Please contact the teacher via any of the following means: email, phone call to the school, or Edsby message. Teachers will get back to you within 24 hours.

**9. What if I can't make it to the school to pick up learning materials?**

We are currently exploring options for home delivery. Please contact your child's school if you cannot arrange pick up.

## **Questions related to K-8**

**10. How much time should I expect my child to do schoolwork per day?**

Manitoba Education recommends the following targets for home learning: for students in Kindergarten to Grade 4, an average of 5 hours per week; for students in grades 5-8, an average of 10 hours per week.

**11. Learning from assigned worksheets is difficult. Will my child be able to receive lessons virtually from his/her teacher?**

We believe that it is really important for students to continue to see and hear their teachers, so teachers will be making video lessons for students. Lessons will be posted Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. These mini lessons will be shared in Edsby for students/families to view at home at a time that works for them. These video lessons are expected to be available in the latter part of next week.

**12. Will the teacher check in with us to answer questions and provide additional help for my child?**

Teachers have been asked to set aside Tuesdays and Thursdays to call or video chat with students/ families.

**13. How important is it to participate in the what is assigned for home learning?**

As important as it is for students to continue learning at home, we understand it can be a challenge to get schoolwork completed. We recognize that children and families are experiencing additional anxiety and pressure at this time, and completion of the assigned work may not be possible. Just do your best. In September, we will assess our students learning needs and will work diligently to fill in any learning gaps.



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**14. Will I get an answer key for the math problems?**

Yes, answer keys are available. Please contact your child's teacher.

**15. How do I know if my child is meeting the expectations?**

The teacher will provide feedback on your child's learning, and will provide you with guidance on how to support your child in home learning. We will provide you with 'tip sheets' on how to support reading and examples of appropriate writing.

**Questions particular to grades 9-12**

**16. If my child is guaranteed their 'baseline' mark, can my child stop working now?**

Not without consequences. All students are expected to continue to engage in learning or credits can be withheld. The baseline mark can improve with the additional evidence of learning to be submitted before the end of term.

**17. Learning from assigned worksheets is difficult. Will my child be able to receive lessons virtually from his/her teacher?**

We believe that it is really important for students to continue to see and hear their teachers, so teachers will be making video lessons for students twice a week. These mini lessons will be shared in Edsby for students/families to view at home at a time that works for them. Your school will provide a weekly schedule.

**18. Will the teacher check in with us to answer questions and provide additional help for my child?**

Teachers have been asked to call or video chat with students/ families no less than once every two weeks. Some students may receive more frequent contact in some course, depending on progress. Additionally, other staff from the school may also be in touch.

**19. My child is in grade 12. What about graduation?**

Students are expected to continue learning and complete assigned work. Particular attention and support will be provided to ensure on time graduation for students presently "on track" to graduate. The usual graduation ceremonies will not be planned for June. Alternatives to the usual graduation ceremonies will be discussed with families in May. Scholarship applications will still unfold in the usual timeframe so that funds can be made available to deserving students.

**20. On-line learning will not be possible for my child unless a laptop is provided.**

A limited number of devices are still available. Please contact the school.

**21. What about report cards?**

Report Cards will be mailed out on Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and will provide the "baseline" grade for the course. This baseline will reflect the work submitted on or before March 20<sup>th</sup>