



# Evergreen School Division

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March 27, 2020

To: Evergreen Community  
From: Roza Gray, Superintendent  
Re: **COVID-19: PUBLIC UPDATE #8**

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The news continues to be dominated with information about COVID 19; yet, many matters remain quite uncertain. Today, School Divisions expected hear a decision by the Province regarding whether class suspensions will continue past April 9, 2020. Although such an update was not provided, Divisions were informed that the decision rests with Dr. Roussin, the Chief Public Health Officer, who stated yesterday, *"It would be difficult to imagine a scenario where we would be lifting our social distancing strategies in the next two weeks."*

We continue to wait for clarification from the Province, but it seems likely that a Public Health Order will be issued next week extending the suspension of classes. This decision is expected to include details regarding the time frame for the suspension of classes as well as a general plan for teaching and learning. Anticipating that such a decision was possible, Principals and Division staff are already working to support teachers to provide continued learning from home. These plans will be informed by direction from Manitoba Education, which is expected in the new future.

Many parents/guardians provided positive feedback about the learning packages that were sent home last week. Thank you to all the staff who worked so diligently to prepare them and get them into the hands of students/parents. Additional thanks to those staff who continue to work in our buildings to prepare them for the eventual return of our students.

As important as it is for students to continue learning at home, please keep in mind that 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 all the assigned work may not be possible. Just do your best. Parents/guardians and students are asked to keep in regular contact with classroom teachers as we move forward.

As we move into the spring break it is important to keep in mind that social distancing continues to be the recommended method to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Although children are encouraged to spend time outside, congregating to play is not safe. To this end, all school playgrounds have signage discouraging use.

Additional information will follow when it is available after spring break.

Stay safe and healthy!