

## Fort McMurray School Division

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Nov. 25th, 2020

Dear Parents:

As was announced by Premier Kenney yesterday, schools will be moving their secondary students to online learning as of Nov. 30th. Elementary students remain in the brick and mortar schools until December 18th. The Minister of Education met with all Superintendents yesterday to review the recent announcement and answer any questions. The following points were made clear:

- -ALL grade 7-12 students would be learning online between Nov. 30th-Dec. 18th 2020 and again from Jan 4th-8th, 2021.
- -Kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be learning online from Jan. 4th-8th, 2021 only.
- -January 11th all students will return to the brick and mortar schools.
- -This will NOT be the same as learning from March to June 2020
- -This will include all subjects including CTS and options courses where possible
- -Diploma exams are optional for the remainder of the school year and are a decision to be made by the student and their parents

As we prepare to move our grade 7-12 students to an online learning platform, and later our Elementary students, FMPSD has the following expectations of students:

- -Students will attend class online daily, as if attending the brick and mortar schools
- -attendance will be taken in each class as usual
- -all assignments and online assessments are required to be completed as usual

Additionally, we need parents to understand that:

- Learning is being transferred to the home environment. This may include live online classes,
  pre-recorded lessons, materials provided in online classroom environments, or paper-based
  options. Your classroom teacher will work to provide the material in the way they feel will meet
  the learning needs of the students in the classroom. Not all staff will utilize the same
  instructional approaches during this time of home-based learning.
- Not everything that your child does as an assignment is counted toward their report card mark; some of their work is formative assessment, which means they get feedback so they can improve in preparation for a summative assessment which will be included in report card marks.
- If they are not completing assignments, then we cannot provide feedback and help them improve or prepare for the final assessment.
- Parent portal will continue to have assignments and assessments updated every two weeks (Junior High and High School) so that parents can see what assignments students have not completed. Elementary teachers will continue to update grades monthly.
- Parents will be contacted for unexcused absences, online behavior issues, and insufficient work
  habits as they would if we were in the brick and mortar schools.
- CTS and options classes will continue as best as we can provide online
- More information about assessments can be found <u>HERE</u> (<a href="https://www.fmpsdschools.ca/Assessment.php">https://www.fmpsdschools.ca/Assessment.php</a>)

Thank you for your partnership in making sure your child's learning continues through these changing times.

Sincerely,

Annalee Nutter, Assistant Superintendent Education and Administration

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