



PRAIRIE ROSE SCHOOL DIVISION

45 Main Street S. Box 1510 Carman MB R0G 0J0

Ph: (204) 745 2003

Fax: (204) 745-3699

March 14, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

RE: COVID-19 – MANITOBA GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRAIRIE ROSE SCHOOL DIVISION (PRSD) PREPARATION AND PLANNING

Late Friday afternoon, March 13, 2020, Manitoba school divisions received information from the Minister of Education which announced that Kindergarten to Grade 12 classes will be suspended in the Province of Manitoba beginning March 23, 2020, for three weeks.

As per the Minister of Education's direction, the next four weeks for PRSD students, parents/guardians, and staff will be as follows:

- ✓ **March 16 – 20, 2020:** K-12 staff and students are in schools to prepare and plan for the learning that will take place during the two weeks that students are not in school.
- ✓ **March 23 – 27, 2020:** K-12 students do not attend school. Professional and support staff is required to be in schools supporting learning of students who are not in school.
- ✓ **March 30 – April 3, 2020 –** Spring Break
- ✓ **April 6 – April 10, 2020:** K-12 students do not attend school. Professional and support staff is required to be in schools supporting learning of students who are not in school.

As per the Minister of Education's direction, PRSD's principals and teachers will be required to work on continual learning plans this week and they will be required to communicate their respective plans to parents/guardians.

As Superintendent/CEO, I have scheduled a meeting with the PRSD senior administration team, PRSD principals and vice-principals, and PRTA and CUPE representatives for 8:30 AM, Monday, March 16, 2020, to provide clarification to the provincial announcement and to answer questions regarding PRSD's cancellation decisions that are outlined in this letter.

In addition to the above provincial announcement, PRSD will be implementing the following operational actions until further notice:

- ✓ All schools will be limiting student and community member access to school buildings 30 minutes before school starts and 30 minutes after school ends

- ✓ All school assemblies, concerts, field trips, sporting events and practices are cancelled
- ✓ All scheduled incoming guests to schools; presentations and performances are cancelled
- ✓ All off-site activities (field trips) are cancelled
- ✓ All off-site, out-of- school division, professional development activities are cancelled
- ✓ All community use permits for PRSD facilities are cancelled
- ✓ All off-site career development and/or student volunteer programming is on hold
- ✓ All planned meetings in the division will be assessed as to whether they can be postponed, cancelled, or done by conference call and/or other electronic means
- ✓ All schools, divisional buildings, and school buses will be required to implement enhanced cleaning protocols as determined by the PRSD Facility and Transportation Supervisors

PRSD will take all necessary measures to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in our schools and in our communities. Therefore, all students and staff who show flu-like symptoms are asked to not report to work or school and to take the advice of Manitoba Health, which could include quarantine in residence.

PRSD will communicate with all stakeholders as quickly as possible as our province moves forward with COVID-19 decision making.

It is important for us all to be attentive, flexible, and to take personal and collective responsibility to protect ourselves and each other. As COVID-19 continues to spread through its natural cycle, PRSD decisions and responses will be guided by provincial and national government agencies that are best positioned to inform our decisions and to help navigate effective decision making.

I recognize that this is a lot of information to process, however, I want to ensure all stakeholders that PRSD will take all proactive and preventative measures to keep our schools and work places as safe and healthy as possible as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve in our province.

If you have any questions, please call me at 1-204-745-2003 or by email at tosiowy@prsdmb.ca.

Respectfully yours,

Mr. Terry M.J. Osiowy
Superintendent/CEO