



Update March 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

This has been a challenging week for all our students, staff, parents and communities. We miss the students dearly. We miss hearing them read, watching them learn, the excitement of new discovery and the joy they bring to our lives.

Today, the Government of Alberta, with input from the Alberta School Boards Association, the College of Alberta School Superintendents, the Alberta Teachers' Association and the Association of Independent Schools & Colleges of Alberta, announced new guidelines for student learning while in-school classes are cancelled due to Covid-19 (coronavirus). The guidelines focus on the safety of staff and students, ensuring resources continue to flow to the education system and providing school divisions with the flexibility required to meet the unique needs of their students. Attached is a letter from Minister of Education Adriana LaGrange. The letter explains the new guidelines for continuing student learning <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/241399>.

Earlier this week, school divisions were asked to wait on announcing and providing programming for students until the guidelines were developed by Alberta Education. Throughout the week, we have been working hard on a plan going forward. This work includes creating alternative programming through the use of technology. If a family or a community does not have access to technology, alternative programming will be arranged. Early next week, teachers will be contacting you on further details.

Thank you for your continued patience during this challenging time. If you have any questions or would like further information, please refer to the Northland website www.nsd61.ca or contact Communications Coordinator, Curtis Walty at curtis.walty@nsd61.ca or 780-624-2060 ext: 6183.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras
Superintendent of Schools
The Northland School Division