

March 17th, 2020

Dear Parents:

We are writing today to provide an update related to the provincial response to COVID-19 and the plans that are underway in Prairie South. We know there is much uncertainty for families and staff, and wish we had all of the answers to your questions. Our goal continues to be to support your children and your family, and we are committed to providing information as we become aware of it.

On March 16th, the Government of Saskatchewan announced the indefinite suspension of PreK to 12 classes in Saskatchewan beginning March 20th. "Indefinite" may mean that school is finished for the year, or it may mean that when the COVID-19 outbreak stabilizes, we will be able to return to school sometime sooner than next fall. When we have more information from the Ministry of Health, we will let you know.

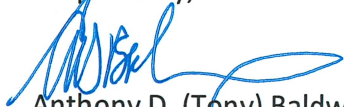
Today the Ministry of Education announced a pause period for school programming in Saskatchewan from Friday, March 20th to Friday, March 27th inclusive. As a result of this announcement, Prairie South has activated our Business Continuity Plan which will see a stoppage of work throughout the school division with the exception of essential business services.

When the pause is lifted, our teachers will reach out to provide instructional support for our students and resources for parents. In the meantime, remember that an hour of reading followed by a discussion of what was read is an amazing ELA lesson and a batch of cookies with measurements of ingredients makes for yummy math. Being an attentive mom or dad will help your child feel settled during this challenging time. We continue to work actively with the Ministry of Education to plan for continued learning opportunities for students and families and we will have more information for you related to this in the coming days. The Ministry of Education is also working on a plan to ensure the successful completion of grade 12 for students registered in that grade.

Once again, further information will be sent through SchoolMessenger and will be posted on www.prairiesouth.ca as well as our Facebook and Twitter accounts. For information about COVID-19, please visit www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,



Anthony D. (Tony) Baldwin
Director of Education



Robert Bachmann
Chair, Board of Education