



CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

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March 18, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

I wish to recognize the very difficult and anxious time it is for families in our communities. The COVID-19 global pandemic is uncharted territory for us all, and we have all been impacted. I hope and pray it can be a time that we can support one another and our communities by doing everything we can to prevent the further spread of the virus.

Yesterday, BC Education Minister Robert Fleming directed BC Schools to immediately suspend in-class instruction until further notice (see attached). As a result, there will be no in-class instruction happening for students of Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George (CISPG) following spring break, until further notice. While students will not be in schools, staff are expected to provide for their 'continuity of learning'.

I met with the BC Catholic Superintendents twice this week and will continue this regular collaboration at the provincial level. I met with all CISPG principals today and we have meetings planned before the end of spring break and daily beginning March 30th, so we are current on the matters associated with such a big change in education in our province. Principals will send a letter to families with more details before the end of spring break to communicate what is known by then and where to receive updates.

We are committed to doing all that we can to maintain the safety and learning for your children. When we return from spring break, school staff will take time to prepare for the 'continuity of learning' and will be working on timelines for implementation. Student learning will continue but it will look different.

We continue to work closely with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Office of the Provincial Health Officer and Northern Health on the COVID-19 response. Please visit the Northern Health official website for updates www.northernhealth.ca and your school website.

We know that you have many questions and we ask for your patience as we plan together with the Provincial Government and await further details from them.

I ask for your continued prayers and support for all in our communities. Please continue to do everything you can to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 while supporting those in need and keeping the health and wellness of those we love our top priority.

With hope,

Chris Dugdale
Superintendent of Schools, CISPG