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March 16, 2020 3:00 p.m.

To: Parents / Guardians of BRSD students

Re: Coronavirus update - next steps for schools

Hello everyone.

Thank you for your continued patience as we make our way forward through this unprecedented situation.

Our School Division, along with all other school authorities in Alberta, has been in conversation with Alberta Education today, and together we are working on a plan for ensuring educational opportunities continue to available to students, even though school buildings are closed.

We have been told to expect the cancellation of classes to be longer-term, likely until the end of this school year. So it's important that we take the time to put quality plans in place.

By the end of spring break, on March 30, we expect to be able to share a clear direction.

In the meantime, we have two other updates to share:

- Every BRSD school is preparing a 'pick up process' so parents can retrieve their children's belongings from school, along with basic learning supplies. Each school's plan is slightly different, so you will hear from your school directly.
- Spring Report Cards were to be distributed today. These will either be delivered through postal mail or shared when parents pick up their child's belongings, depending on the school.

I know there are many, many more questions to answer. We will continue to provide updates as frequently as we have new information.

Please remember that the reason for cancelling classes is to keep students, families, staff and communities safe and well during this unusual circumstance.

Thank you for your support.

Rita Marler, Superintendent of Schools