

November 25, 2020

To: Parents / Guardians of BRSD Students

From: Rita Marler, Superintendent of Schools

Re: We are transitioning temporarily to online learning for Grades 7 to 12

Hello everyone!

On Tuesday, November 24 Premier Jason Kenney announced that, due to the extremely high numbers of COVID-19 cases in Alberta, our education system will be moving to a different learning scenario.

Starting Monday, November 30, **Grade 7 to 12 students** will temporarily be learning online, from home. This online learning scenario will stay in place until the Christmas Break begins at the end of the day on December 18. The first week after the break, from January 4 to 8, **all students in Kindergarten to Grade 12** will be learning online. In-person schooling is set to resume on Monday, January 11.

School divisions did not know about this switch until it was announced. But here are four things we can say for sure:

- 1. We've got this.**  
School divisions have known a shift to a different learning scenario was a possibility and we planned this school year based on the possibility. We are prepared.
- 2. We learned from the spring.**  
All staff have learned from the 'emergency online learning' experience in the spring. We are better prepared and have plans in place to continue offering most courses. These four weeks of online learning will be much more of a full curriculum experience for students.
- 3. We are here to support students.**  
Whether students are online or in a classroom, BRSD teachers, Educational Assistants and school support staff, Family School Liaison Workers and Mental Health Capacity Building team members are ready, able and willing to support students learning and wellbeing.
- 4. You will get more information soon.**  
Since last night, division and school leaders have been hard at work on implementation plans. You will hear more specific details from your child's school soon.

Take good care. I will be in touch again soon.

*Rita Marler*