

Hello everyone,

As you may be aware, the Alberta government has announced a <u>provincewide extension of the</u> <u>winter break</u> for Kindergarten to Grade 12 students until January 10th. This means there will be no student learning throughout next week and this includes access to online learning.

We know this announcement may create childcare challenges for some families, and we thank you for accommodating this government priority to reduce the spread of the rapidly spreading Omicron variant and to allow school jurisdictions time to prepare for their newest reality.

In light of the changing pandemic, this coming week, our staff will be working to ensure they are fully prepared to support face-to-face learning, and if necessary, temporary online learning in some or all of our schools beginning on January 10th. Please note that all in-person co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, including athletics, are paused until January 10, 2022.

When students return to school on January 10th, we are anticipating that the Government of Alberta will provide high-grade medical masks and rapid tests kits for each student and staff member that will be available for distribution. Details on the current state of Covid-19 in Alberta are available on the provincial government website.

As always, we appreciate your support as we navigate the latest phase of the pandemic. We do wish you a safe, healthy, and happy New Year, and we will provide updated messaging to you later next week as it becomes available.

Yours truly,

Kurt Sacher Superintendent of Schools