



Information Bulletin for Parents/Guardians March 25, 2021

We have been informed by Public Health Sudbury and District, that schools will continue to be closed for face-to-face learning for the week of March 29 to April 1, 2021. As such, all elementary and secondary students will continue to engage in remote learning (unless otherwise advised) up to and including April 1, 2021. We will update parents and guardians as information becomes available.

We thank all of our parents/guardians for their understanding and support during these challenging times.

What is Synchronous learning?

Learning that happens in real time. It involves using text, video, or voice communication in a way that enables educators and other members of the school or board-based team to instruct and connect with students in real time. Synchronous learning supports the well-being and academic achievement of all students, including students with special education needs, by providing educators and students with an interactive and engaging way to learn. It helps teachers provide immediate feedback to students and enables students to interact with one another.

What is Asynchronous learning?

Learning that is not delivered in real time. Asynchronous learning may involve students watching pre-recorded video lessons, completing assigned tasks or contributing to online discussion boards.

What will Remote Learning look like?

- Approximately 180 minutes of synchronous learning time will be offered to kindergarten students and 120 minutes of asynchronous learning.
- Approximately 225 minutes of the instructional day will be synchronous learning for students in Grade 1 to Grade 8, and 75 minutes will be delivered asynchronously.
- Students in Grades 9-12 will receive approximately 225 minutes of their course delivered synchronously and 75 minutes asynchronously.
- Our educators will use their professional judgement to provide flexibility to students who cannot fully participate in synchronous learning.
- Teachers will continue to provide various learning experiences, not all of which will require online computer-related instruction.
- Assessment continues during the remote learning period.

Student Supports

- Students with special education needs will continue to be supported by their classroom teacher in the online environment. Students that receive resource or educational assistant support in person will receive similar supports in remote learning.

Mental Health Resources

Our School Mental Health team will be reaching out to students and families throughout the week of March 15th to help provide resources and support. In addition, students and families can access further mental health resources, including Kids Help Phone, which offers 24/7 counselling and referral services across the province. To use this free resource, youths can call 1-800-668-6868, or text CONNECT to 686868. School Mental Health Ontario also has a number of great resources for students, parents and families on their website at www.smho-smsso.ca.



Looking for Learning Resources?

The Ministry of Education recently announced the launch of two new portals developed by Ontario certified teachers. **TVO Learn** and **TFO IDÉLLO, apprendre à la maison**. Secondary students can access TVO's **Independent Learning Centre (ILC) Open House** and Portes ouvertes pour les cours TVO ILC in French-language, which provides access to 144 Grade 9 to 12 courses.

We also provide a rich array of supports and resources in our Learning Support Hub for parents and students, located at [SCDSB Learning Hub](#).

Student Transportation

There will be no student transportation services for either elementary or secondary students until further notice.

Extended Day Programs

During the remote learning period, there will be no Extended Day Programs permitted in elementary schools.

Child Care Centres in Schools

At this time, child care centres will remain open in schools.

Electronic Device Distribution

Should students still require a device, they are asked to contact their school.

We will continue to update families on our Board website. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and partnership and for working together to help keep everyone safe. Should you have any questions please reach out to your school. Please note that our schools remain open and while staff may not be onsite, they will check phone messages on a regular basis.