



April 2, 2020

We are now near the end of the third week of a newly defined approach to learning in Alberta due to the suspension of in class learning because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since my last message to you, the principals in our schools have been working with their teams to prepare and launch our continuity of learning plan following the criteria set out by Alberta Education. Our focus has been primarily on reaching out to students and their families, touching base and determining everyone' capacity in terms of technology assisted learning. We have offered to lend computers to those families who feel they need extra capacity to allow their children to complete their work. Each school team has started to provide learning opportunities to students and support to families and principals/teachers will continue to communicate with you throughout the coming weeks. Thank you for your continued support and patience during this transition period as we navigate a new normal for education in Alberta. Each and every member of the school teams have been active and indispensable during this period.

As you know, last Saturday, Minister LaGrange announced an [adjustment to the K-12 system funding](#). These adjustments will be made to our revenue for the months of April, May and June unless classes resume before the end of June and they directly affect our base funding as well as our transportation budgets. Following this announcement, we made adjustments to our contracts with those companies who transport our students. Today, I have made the difficult decision to temporary lay-off our teaching assistants. They will return to their duties if classes resume before the end of June. During this time, teachers will continue their good work of focussing on students' needs and differentiating their learning experiences.



During these troubling times, as a system, we must stay focussed on our students and on the needs of their families. I invite us all to be aware of our own health and that of those we hold dear. In closing, I once again share with you a [link to resources to support mental health](#) at this time since it is normal for us to experience sadness and fear during this pandemic which is beyond our control.

Please stay healthy,

La directrice générale
Dolorèse Nolette