



## School District No.59 (Peace River South)

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*(From the office of the Board of Education)*

March 26, 2020

Dear parents and guardians:

Just two weeks ago, students were learning and playing together in busy classrooms. Since then, the COVID-19 pandemic has put us in a new world of health warnings, physical distancing and indefinite shutdowns. I'm sure it has affected your family, perhaps in very difficult ways. To protect our loved ones and the healthcare system we all depend on, we can endure it for a while longer. Let me offer special thanks to those who are providing essential services and particularly those that work in healthcare who are always helping the hurting.

Although stopping this virus requires a period of physical separation from friends and neighbours, I've reminded my children that in the fight against this invisible enemy, people and nations around our planet are working side-by-side like they never have before.

In Peace River South, Superintendent Candace Clouthier, is leading our team as they prepare for the return of staff and teachers after spring break. I deeply admire the tireless efforts they are making to rapidly redesign public education to meet the challenge we face, which is to provide continuity of learning during a suspension of in-class instruction. Please remind your children next week that their teachers will be thinking of them as they plan a new way of learning outside of our usual buildings.

I am constantly amazed at the dedication of every staff member in our district. Their professional and personal commitment to your child's education holds firm. As this new way of learning takes shape, teachers and administrators will be in touch with you to provide information on how learning will continue. Thank you for your patience through this sudden transition. I encourage you to take time to thank your teachers and staff for the passion and effort they will be investing to make this a successful school year for your child, pandemic or not!

In the meantime, I hope you are able to take time together as a family and make a few memories to enjoy after we are through this dark season. Winter will eventually leave us, and children will soon be teaching us safe physical distancing by splashing in every muddy puddle.

Better days are ahead. Soon, we will be working, playing and learning – all together again.

Sincerely,

Chad Anderson  
SD59 Board Chair