



Small Schools Make a Difference

2020/12/30

Dear parent(s) and guardian(s),

As a preventative measure, the Government of Ontario announced that all students will temporarily move to remote learning on January 4, 2021 and that schools within the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, including the Superior-Greenstone District School Board, can resume in-person instruction on January 11, 2021 for both elementary and secondary students.

This means that our students will spend one week learning remotely after the winter break before returning to in-person instruction in the physical school. As you know, staff and students were instructed to bring their technology devices home in the event that temporary remote learning would occur. Our staff have prepared for this shift during the first months of the school year so teaching and learning can continue remotely on January 4, 2021.

Students are required to check the Edsby platform the morning of January 4, 2021 to receive direction from their classroom educator(s). Students will be required to engage in 300 minutes of learning each day which will include online learning with their teachers and independent work assigned by their teachers. As per the Ministry of Education requirements for remote learning, instruction will involve the following:

- For students in Kindergarten, a minimum of 180 minutes of direct online instruction daily.
- For students in Grades 1 to 8, a minimum of 225 minutes of direct online instruction daily.
- For students in Grades 9 to 12, 120 minutes a course in a quadmestered school.

The commencement of classes will follow your child's regular school timetable and attendance will be taken. Students are expected to attend their classes remotely. Please note that your child's school will be contacting you on Monday, January 4, 2021 if your child has significant special education needs.


For additional information regarding Remote Learning, please see the Remote Learning Fact Sheet, available at <http://www.sgdsb.on.ca/upload/documents/fact-sheet-remote-learning-aug-22--002-.pdf>.

If you struggle with Internet connectivity, you may be able to receive a device to help. Please contact your child's school on the morning of January 4, 2021 to discuss your request. If you have any technology challenges, please follow the instructions contained on the Information Technology Support Fact Sheet available at <http://www.sgdsb.on.ca/upload/documents/fact-sheet-information-technology-final.pdf>.

Please note that during the remote learning week, our counselling services will be available online. As well, other mental health resources for students can be accessed on the SGDSB webpage at www.sgdsb.on.ca, as well as on our Facebook and Edsby pages.

Thank you for your patience, flexibility and understanding as we continue to work to ensure everyone's safety. If you have any questions or concerns, please phone the school on January 4th. We wish you an enjoyable holiday and the very best in the New Year.

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Morden Cormier', written in a cursive style.

Nicole Morden Cormier
Director of Education