

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Spring Break has ended, and teachers are actively engaged in the process of navigating what the coming weeks will look like for students in the K-12 system. We recognize that this is an incredibly difficult time for all of us. We are all worried about the safety of our family and friends and how we can continue to ensure their well-being. We want to assure you that all of our planning to support learning opportunities for your child is focused on the safety and well-being of our students, our staff, and our parents.

We encourage you to read the following three documents as they contain important information regarding what learning will look like moving forward:

- 1) [Letter to Parents and Guardians from Minister Fleming](#)
- 2) [Community Update](#) from Superintendent Ken Minette
- 3) Ministry of Education [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Although schooling and the learning opportunities that can be facilitated by teachers will look much different, we want to ensure that parents and guardians know that classes have not been cancelled and teachers will be working to continue delivering learning opportunities for students. We recognize that the learning opportunities that teachers can provide to students from a distance cannot replicate what can occur in the classroom; however, staff will be doing their very best to ensure that students are given the best learning opportunities possible with a focus on their social emotional needs first. Thursday, classroom teachers of D block will be calling individual students to check on how best to continue their learning moving forward. Being intentional, respectful, and thoughtful, knowing this is new ground for all of us. We are all learning together on how to do it best.

Starting the week of April 6, focus will prioritize connecting students to their classroom teachers through Google classrooms. It is important to construct digital classrooms before introducing curriculum. Students will be required to sign into Google Classrooms for their courses and will need to use their SD51 accounts to do this; **personal Gmail accounts will not work**. (Students who cannot access their SD51 account should email Mr. Stewart: [scott.stewart@sd51.bc.ca](mailto:scott.stewart@sd51.bc.ca)) On Monday, all Classroom codes will be posted on the school website, along with “how to” instructions for students not familiar with Google Classroom. Students who were already using Classroom in a course will continue to use that same one and do not need to re-sign up.

At this time, Grand Forks Secondary is not open to the general public. We are implementing a system that will allow students and parents to come to the building to retrieve the resources and belongings needed at this time. The staff have prepackaged all your child’s belongings into a bag, and we will be asking parents and students to come to the main entrance on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 8:30 – 3:30 for pick up. Someone will be at the front door to meet you and will bring your prepackaged belongings to you. Please be mindful of who is at the door in front of you and maintain the 2m social distance required. If you prefer to stay in your vehicle and have your things brought out to you, please call the office 250-442-8285 and we will have someone bring it out. Our foremost goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff, and parents and to do this effectively, we need to manage as little traffic throughout the facility as possible.

We know there are many questions and they vary at each grade level. Unfortunately, we do not have answers to many of these questions right now, but please be assured we will do our utmost to seek

answers in a timely manner as we navigate this unprecedented time together. To find answers to the questions where we do have answers, we would ask that you refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document from the Ministry of Education.

We appreciate your patience and understanding, and we are committed to alleviating the stress created by these uncertain times through open and frequent communication.

Yours truly,  
GFSS Admin