



"If you seek a better school, look about you"

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April 14, 2020

L'Anse Area School Parents,

As I'm sure you already know, the governor has issued multiple executive orders which are far-reaching in impact, designed to slow the spread of Coronavirus. The recent order included the suspension of in-person K-12 instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year unless restrictions on public gatherings and use of school buildings are lifted sooner. Executive Order 2020-35 also encouraged schools to continue to provide education to all students by having a Continuity of Learning Plan approved by their Intermediate School District. Once an approved plan is in place, this time will count as fulfilling the district's required amount of 'instructional days' for the school year. L'Anse Area Schools intends to begin implementing a plan for home-based learning with students beginning April 17th and ending on June 11th. Senior students are only required to complete a final project in their English class that must be finished by May 22nd. They will also be given optional opportunities to improve their grades from prior to the closure. It is also the district's goal to provide as many of the traditional senior year experiences that we are able to after conditions improve, including a commencement ceremony.

The district will provide all materials required to have access to electronic instruction including a chromebook for each student in grades K-12. The younger grades also have paper packets in addition to online activities. The Executive Order indicated that the issuance of grades and awarding credit is a local decision. The work completed during this at home time will be recorded in the 4th marking period for letter grades in the Jr-Sr High School and on a basis of Credit or No Credit for Grades K-5. Students should be strongly encouraged to complete what is requested by teachers so they are not missing out on some of the pieces needed to be successful in the next class or grade. Semester 2 exams have been cancelled in the Jr-Sr High School and Semester 2 grades will be calculated by averaging 3rd quarter (before closure assignments) and 4th quarter (participation/completion of the continued learning plan). All state standardized testing has been suspended for the Spring of 2020 also. Juniors will take the SAT in the fall.

All students who were on track for grade promotion prior to the closure, will be promoted to the next grade level. All senior students who were passing graduation requirement classes prior to the closure, will graduate. Students who were not passing, will also have the opportunity to improve their semester grades. The 3rd quarter marking period will remain open until May 1st to allow additional time for students to complete

missing work from prior to the closure at their teacher's discretion. All students in grades K-11 are expected to participate in the final quarter of the year but the amount of work given is not intended to be as much as during the typical school day.

Teachers will use a variety of methods to keep pupils at the center of educational activities, including outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections, and to help pupils feel safe and supported during this time. Parents and students should expect school staff to be contacting them in a variety of ways. Each teacher's weekly plans and work expectations will be posted on the school website (lanseschools.org). School email is the best way to contact teachers or other school staff at this time.

Parents can continue to monitor progress through Skyward Family Access and please remind older students to be checking their school email. If there are packets to pick up, they will be available during food distribution on Wednesdays. Families who are not participating in the food program will be provided a different pick up time. Our school staff understands that the plan for continued learning at home is a greatly altered version of learning in the regular school setting and should be approached with much flexibility and consideration for a wide variety of home environments.

I encourage you to be thinking about your children's response to the stress around Coronavirus and allow them opportunities to discuss how they're feeling. If you have any concerns, you may reach out to our school counselors and they will provide resources to assist your child. Please continue to do whatever you can to keep yourself and your family safe and healthy as we all move through these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Tollefson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Susan Tollefson
Superintendent