



## **PARENT/FAMILY UPDATE: Supporting, Assessing and Reporting Student Achievement and Well-Being**

This is a challenging time for everyone as we collectively work toward practices to set students up for success. We recognize that there are many inequities that exist within our system that impact student learning and achievement, including access to technology, familiarity with online applications, and support for learning. Teachers will keep these challenges in mind, as they support all learners and provide meaningful learning opportunities that are connected to the Ontario curriculum, leading up to end-of-year reports in June.

School staff will continue to focus on the mental health and well-being of students, while maintaining relationships in the continuation of learning. It is our commitment that assessment, evaluation, and reporting will be fair, transparent and equitable for all students and will focus on growth in learning and improvement. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please connect with your child's teacher and/or administration.

### **Elementary School: Assessment and Evaluation Update**

Final marks for all elementary students will not be lower than the mark they had prior to school closures on March 13, 2020. However, students will be given opportunities to improve their final grade.

Below is important information related to assessment and reporting for students and families.

Kindergarten educators will:

- Complete an end of year Communication of Learning that covers all learning from the end of Term 1 (end of January) until March 13.
- Continue to work collaboratively with parents/families to support students in remote learning in the areas of literacy and math.

Grades 1-8 educators will:

- Complete an end of year report card that will cover all learning from the end of Term 1 (end of January) up until March 13.
- Welcome conversations with families and provide feedback to students on their progress in the core subject areas (K to Grade 3: math & literacy; Grades 4 to 8: math, literacy, science and social studies).
- Use professional judgement to determine final marks in light of the challenging circumstances and the different learning environments students have at home. Assessments will only be counted if they improve a student's overall grade.
- Continue to provide accommodations and modifications based on the student's IEP (Special Education needs) or accommodate based on English Language Learner's needs.
- Learning Skills and Work Habits on the final report card should reflect information gathered prior to March 13.

### **Questions & Answers**

**What if my child missed a significant amount of school prior to school closures on March 13? Will anything be done to support my child?**

- Teachers will work with students and families to come up with a plan that considers the students' mental health, well-being and learning.

- Assessment and evaluation will be based upon the information and demonstration of student learning in the limited number of activities that were completed prior to March 13.
- Students will be given opportunities to demonstrate learning during remote learning and this should be included in the final report if it improves the student's overall grade.

### **My child says that the grades will not count after March 13 so they do not need to engage in learning from home. Is this accurate?**

- Although final marks are based on assessment completed prior to March 13, it is expected that every student will continue to learn during this time of school closures.
- Teachers will continue to connect with students and provide feedback so students can stay engaged in their learning. Educators will pay close attention to those students not engaging in remote learning and will provide a variety of options that are reasonable and practical.
- Individual circumstances of students and their families must be considered. Conversations with the teacher and school administration will take place should students not engage in learning from home.
- Teachers may include assessment and evaluation from after March 13 when preparing final report cards only when this data improves a student's final mark or progress.

### **Secondary School: Assessment and Evaluation Update**

Below is important information related to assessment and reporting for students and families:

- Final marks for all secondary students will not be lower than the mark they had prior to school closures on March 13, 2020. However, students

will be given opportunities to improve their final grade.

- Teachers will assign tasks for learning and assessment purposes (e.g. projects, weekly assignments, reflections, and/or culminating activities).
- Teachers will communicate results and provide feedback to students and families. The type of communication will depend on the type of remote learning platform the teacher is using with the student (e.g. Google Classroom, Brightspace, e-mail, phone calls, etc.).
- Teachers will use their professional judgement to determine final marks in light of the challenging circumstances and the different learning environments students have at home. Assessments will only be counted if they improve a student's overall grade.
- There will be no final examinations in June.
- Teachers will continue to provide accommodations and modifications based on the student's IEP (Special Education needs) or accommodate based on English Language Learner's needs.
- Schools will follow the [Online Code of Conduct](#) and [PR 613: Academic Honesty Policy](#).
- No student will have their graduation at risk due to school closures because of Covid-19 pandemic.
- For half credit or quadmester courses that began after April 6, learning tasks and assignments will be assigned to determine the student's final mark, keeping the individual circumstances of each student in mind.
- Final report cards will be issued at the end of June for all courses students are currently enrolled in.