

PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION



Know your impact...
Learning is everywhere

COVID-19 Pandemic Response 2020
Supplemental Learning Plan



Learning is everywhere

Dear Prairie Spirit Parents and Caregivers,

My name is Lori Jeschke and I *get to* be the Director of Education for Prairie Spirit School Division. My husband and I start our days with the question, *what do you get to do today?* Here are a couple of things on my list: I *get to* work alongside incredibly dedicated and passionate educators and staff. Together, we *get to* learn and lead alongside over 11,000 amazing students and their families in Prairie Spirit School Division.

Even though our school buildings are closed, our playgrounds are quiet and there are no yellow school buses out on the roads, we are still Prairie Spirit School Division and we are going to be okay. This is an unsettling time we find ourselves in, and the days and weeks ahead of us are unfolding in an entirely different way than we had planned. We will adapt, we will be flexible, and we will continue to do everything we can to support.

I encourage you to read through this document. As you read, I hope you will find:

1. We are going to be there for your children and for you.
2. Learning is everywhere and it will look very different than it does in a classroom. That's okay!
3. Our first priority is building opportunities to connect.

We believe learning is everywhere and we will do our best to help facilitate that. Some places are trying to capitalize on that very concept; offers on Facebook and other social media sites ask you to purchase an instructional product that will make things easier. We will do our very best to support student learning without the need for parents to purchase additional resources.

I remember having my dad as my Grade 6 teacher and I had the chance to teach one of our two boys when I was a Grade 6 teacher myself. I know my dad loved teaching and I do, too, but having a parent as your teacher isn't always a piece of cake! Your children have a lot of "teachers" in their lives. You were their first teacher in a long line of other teachers like schoolteachers, coaches, neighbours, grandparents, older siblings, etc. Don't be afraid to lean on the other "teachers" in your child's life. Sometimes a call from grandpa goes a very long way!

The saying, "it takes a village to raise a child" takes on new meaning for us right now. How do we build the sense of community a village offers in a time when we are practicing social distancing and not able to connect in the usual ways? I see the building of "villages" all around – hearts displayed in windows, families out for walks, people dropping off groceries on doorsteps and the list goes on. We will do our best to be part of the "village" that you lean on in the days to come.

Thank you for the care you are giving others. I hope you are taking care of yourself, too!

Lori Jeschke, Director of Education
Prairie Spirit School Division



Introduction to Learning Plan

On March 16, 2020, the Government of Saskatchewan announced an indefinite suspension of classes in all provincial schools in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Following this announcement, a provincial Response Planning Team was established to provide high level guidance for school divisions related to student learning matters during the indefinite suspension of classes.

Prairie Spirit School Division implemented its Education Continuity Plan as a result of the declaration of a pandemic and subsequent announcement of the suspension of classes. A component of this plan is the continuity of services during an interruption caused by a global pandemic. As a school division, our most important work is safety and our most important function is learning. This document details a **Supplemental Learning Plan** for Prairie Spirit students during the suspension of classes.

Prairie Spirit's **Supplemental Learning Plan** describes learning opportunities divided into two general sections:







- students in Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 9
- students in Grades 10 to 12

Both sections include an overview of responsibilities for staff, parents and students during the indefinite suspension of classes. Responsibilities differ with the age and maturity level of the students in different grades.

The Prairie Spirit **Supplemental Learning Plan** is consistent with the direction provided by the Government of Saskatchewan through the provincial Response Planning Team.

For information related to COVID-19, please visit www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus.

PRAIRIE SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION

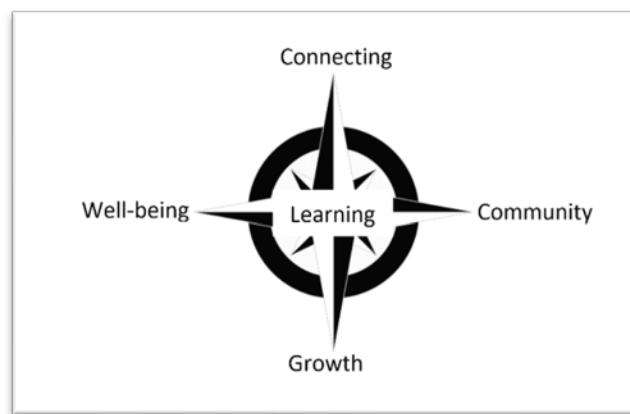
	<p>The education sector in the province paused from March 20 - 27.</p>
	<p>Supplemental Learning Plans will be presented to Prairie Spirit staff and families, starting on Monday, March 30.</p>
	<p>Take good care of yourself and your family. Be kind!</p>
	<p>Wash your hands often with soap and warm water, or use a hand sanitizer.</p>
	<p>Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.</p>
	<p>No tissue? Cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.</p>



Finding our way together

Learning ultimately begins in the home and schools walk alongside families and learners as the learning journey evolves. Prairie Spirit School Division is able to support learners and families to learn and grow at home.

Prairie Spirit commits to continuing to walk alongside families and learners during this time. As part of our commitment, we provide our compass to guide us as we go.



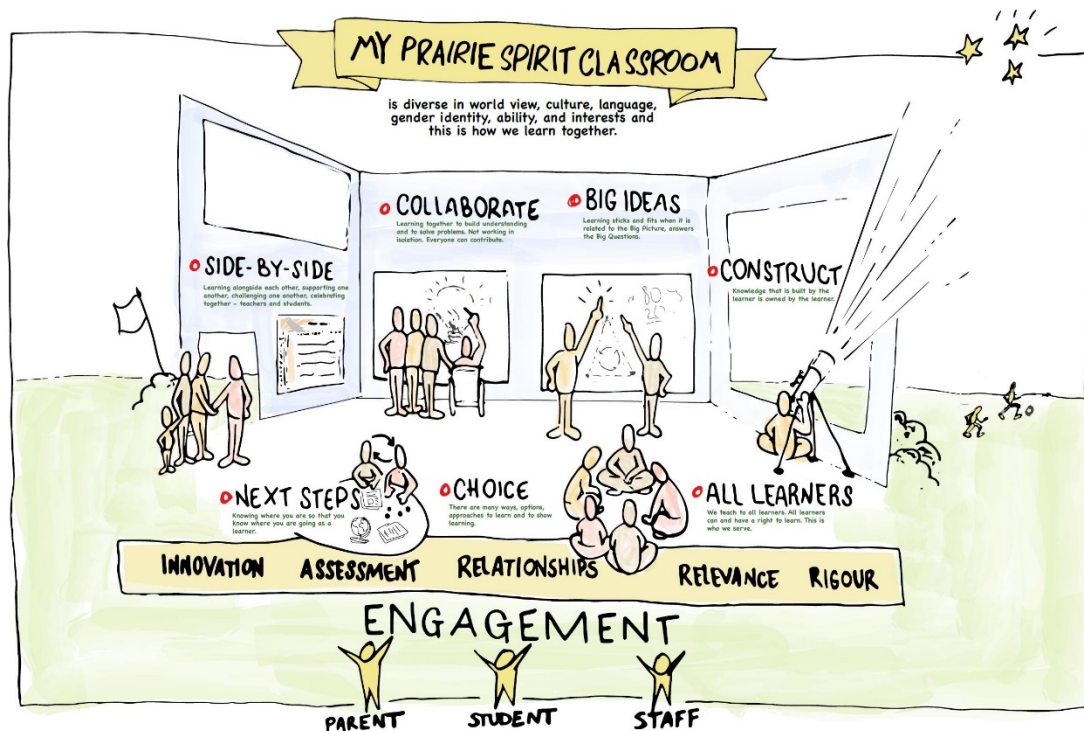
Learning is Everywhere

John Dewey said, *“Learning is not preparation for life; it is life itself.”*

As a result:

- We believe that learning is about the well-being of the learner. We commit to providing learning opportunities for all students that foster assurance and well-being.
- We believe that learning is rooted in family and community. We commit to providing learning opportunities that encourage the learner to engage with family and the broader community.
- Learning is growing - intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually. We commit to providing learning that supports the intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual growth of all learners.
- Learning is about making connections and connecting with others. We commit to connecting with families and learners and helping them to connect their learning to their own lives and to the lives and learning of others.

My Prairie Spirit Home Classroom



[My Prairie Spirit Classroom](#) provides a frame for all that we do in Prairie Spirit.

In *My Prairie Spirit Home Classroom*, learning is everywhere – it can be active, messy, unpredictable, hands-on and highly personalized, with connections to community and well-being.

In Prairie Spirit, we acknowledge learning in the home through the following principles:

- **Side-by-side learning opportunities** – exploring and discovering new ideas and concepts together and talking about these experiences and the learning that’s taking place, either with an adult, other children, or an imaginative or virtual audience. Your child will continue to grow in their learning if these conversations offer opportunities for reflection and feedback with possible next steps.
- **Choice and voice in learning experiences** – the belief that your child has something to say and that they are capable of making learning decisions.
- **Well-being** – consider the needs and interests of your child to understand what they want to learn and provide them with your positive attention and company when possible.
- **Learning is everywhere** – let children represent and transform the world around them, as this provides a window into their thoughts and perceptions, and helps adults see the world in new ways.
- *At least once a week, I have the opportunity to speak with a teacher about the next steps in my child’s learning efforts.*



Prairie Spirit's Aspirational Learning Goals

In Prairie Spirit, our students and adults learn without limits in a world of possibilities, supporting one another, challenging one another and celebrating our learning together.

We create environments where learners are able to inquire, discover, take risks and apply their learning in the real world. We are developing engaged citizens who demonstrate confidence, courage, empathy and commitment in shaping positive change for the benefit of all.

Prairie Spirit Learners

- Feel accepted, confident and safe to engage in learning where individual diversity, ability, interests, backgrounds, cultures and life experiences are welcomed and valued.
- Are active and contributing participants in the classroom, school and community, where engagement and a sense of belonging are both nurtured and promoted.
- Possess intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect with and for Indigenous Peoples of Canada (Calls to Action 63.3).
- Achieve learning goals, regardless of gender, culture and ancestry.

Prairie Spirit Readers

- Read for pleasure, learning and growth.
- Cultivate a lifelong love of reading.
- Read like a writer and write for a reader.

Prairie Spirit Writers

- Read like a writer and write for a reader.
- Believe in their ability to communicate and contribute.
- Write with confidence, demonstrating independence and interdependence.

Prairie Spirit Mathematicians

- Are accurate, efficient and flexible when working with numbers.
- Deal confidently and competently with everyday and new situations that demand the use of mathematical concepts.

Prairie Spirit Graduates

- Have real choice after high school because they can collaborate, communicate, create, solve problems and engage as contributing citizens.
- Are confident to make choices for their future based on the broad areas of knowledge and skills they have acquired.



Section 1: Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 9

Responsibilities and Connections

Prairie Spirit schools:

- Acknowledge and ensure ongoing accessible learning opportunities through the development of a supplemental learning plan for Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 9 students.
- Provide support for students, families, and staff in the implementation of learning plans across the school division.

School staff:

- Offer and acknowledge accessible learning opportunities to students and families under the direction of the principal.
- Seek out supports as necessary to best meet the needs of student.
- Take care of your own health.

Learning is a lifelong process. From birth onward, children's experiences and opportunities contribute to building a strong foundational skill set for life.

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada

Parents and Guardians:

- Assist, support, encourage and care for your child in their learning and well-being.
- Know that learning takes many forms, whether in play, online, or in a book; it can sit in a subject area or be found in the world around you – learning is everywhere.
- Take care of your own health.

Students:

- Take pride in being a reader, writer, mathematician, and a lifelong learner.
- Take care of your own health.

Pre-K to Grade 9 children/youth are encouraged to play as much as possible unplugged. Do your best; we know that this is a complicated time and some screen time is fine!

It might also be helpful to create a schedule for the day so that there is some structure to include time to:

- read (and be read to)
- write
- connect to the outside world (via phone, email, FaceTime, etc.)
- move
- be creative
- give back (chores, bake for someone, etc.)
- soon, connect with your classmates/teacher and do the work you discuss

*Teachers will set up specific times to gather together multiple times a week

Family Resources:

Prairie Spirit School Division Resources:

- [Student Resources](#)
- [Working from Home](#)

Ministry of Education Resources for Parents:

- [Math at Home](#)
- [Literacy at Home](#)



Section 2: Grade 10 to 12

Responsibilities and Connections:

Prairie Spirit schools:

- Develop a Supplemental Learning Plan consistent with provincial requirements to ensure ongoing learning opportunities for Grades 10-12 students.
- Provide support for staff as the plan is implemented across the school division.

School staff:

- Implement the plan as directed by the school division under the supervision of the principal.
- Provide learning opportunities for students and support students and families as the plan is implemented.
- Connect with students.
- Take care of your own health.

Parents and Guardians:

- Assist your teen by providing direction regarding expectations for student participation, communicating with teachers, offering encouragement and, when they are able, working directly with their children as they are learning.
- Take care of your own health.

Students:

- With the support of parents or guardians, make a decision about which classes they will participate in.
- Inform the school about their choice.
- Do your best.
- Take care of your own health.

Most students who wish to continue in a course will fall into one or more of three categories. We plan to support all in reaching their goals:

1. Students who wish to continue learning in a specific subject area with the support of a teacher.
2. Students who are missing specific outcomes and wish to gain that understanding/skill prior to moving on to another grade or post secondary.
3. Students who wish to improve the grade they had received as of March 16.

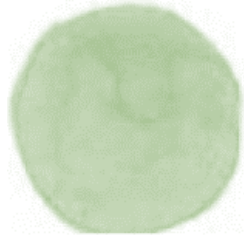
Students will let teachers know whether they would like to improve their mark and then a plan can be made. We are continuing to get details from the Ministry of Education about this plan.

Those students who wish to engage in additional learning in the content area will inform their teacher/school.

As with the Pre-K to Grade 9 students, youth are encouraged to spend time unplugged and off screens. It would also be beneficial for them to have a schedule for at home learning and could include time to:

- read (and be read to)
- write
- connect to the outside world (via phone, email, FaceTime, etc.)
- move
- be creative
- give back (chores, bake for someone, etc.)
- Do work/assignments/tasks assigned by the school

*Teachers may set up specific times to gather together as a class multiple times a week.



Learning is Everywhere

What to expect in the next two weeks

Week One – Connect and Assess

Monday, March 30:

Principals will be reconnecting online with their staff following the “pause” mandated by the provincial government.

Tuesday, March 31 to Friday, April 3:

Teachers and school staff will be:

- Reconnecting with families using technology (phone, email, Office 365, etc.)
- Gathering information about where students are at and exploring options for moving ahead
- Training to use new technology and new applications
- Planning for teaching and learning at a distance
- Ensuring students know what to expect in the coming weeks and, possibly, months

Week Two – Ready to Learn

Monday, April 6 and beyond:

Continuing to learn, connect and grow together!

As teachers, parents and students, we will be learning and adapting together to the new ways of connecting.