



Bruce Middle School

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Dear Bruce Middle School Families,

This past Sunday, the Regional Health Authority and the Minister of Education recently announced that all K-12 students in Winnipeg and Brandon will be moving to remote learning for the period of **May 12th to May 28th, 2021**. Bruce Middle School will only be open to students who are in grade 6 who have parents that are critical care workers and to students from all grades who are supported due to exceptional needs. If you are a parent of a grade 6 student or a student with exceptional needs, please complete the survey that was sent out earlier today by the division to gauge the community's needs. Responses are due by Tuesday 8:30 am.

Know that our teaching staff are well prepared from our January remote learning experience and that preparations are well underway to prepare students for this most recent shift. We will be continuing with the remote learning schedules that were first used in January with some minor adjustments. These schedules will be sent home through parent email on Tuesday. Necessary supplies will be sent home as required to support these 12 days of remote learning.

Learn from Home plan (May 12th – 28th, 2021):

- Teachers will connect with their classes as they have throughout this term. All students are used to logging in to their accounts with teachers. Microsoft Teams will contain your child's daily meeting calendar and allow students to access assignments, links, projects, readings, videos, etc.
- During each day, students can expect both instruction and "extra help" throughout the day to ask questions. Know that each student will be provided with a minimum of 2 hours of synchronous/real-time instruction each day. The remaining time in the day may consist of additional instruction, independent work time and/or assistance in completing their assignments.
- Students who are behind in their assignments or who are having difficulties, may see themselves invited to participate in a teacher's virtual "extra help" time to complete with additional support. Students may also request to meet with their teachers during this additional extra help time.
- Students will **not** be following the odd and even day schedule for these two weeks during remote learning as teachers will be connecting with their students **each day** based on the schedules found within your child's TEAMS calendar.
- **Students will be expected to follow their schedules posted within their Teams calendars and to join on time at the start of each class daily.**

Attendance and Online Expectations:

We have learned a lot from the previous remote learning experiences in the spring of 2020. Students and families, know that:

- **Attendance will be taken within each class each day:** Students, please be in the habit of joining your scheduled classes at least 5 minutes before the scheduled class begins. Your teacher will be taking a virtual attendance. Be mindful of your space and your habits.
- **Cameras on and microphones muted:** We really want everyone to feel connected with each other during this time apart and we need to see your faces during your classes. We do ask that your microphones are muted while your teachers are teaching and that you use the “raised hand” function to participate in the conversation. Teachers will be expecting you to share your ideas through a variety of formats throughout the day within Teams.
- **Your assignments count for marks:** To be clear, assignments given on Teams during this period of remote learning will be evaluated and used towards your term 3 grades. Be sure to remain active in your classes and committed to completing each assignment as they are sent your way. Timelines will be fair and will provide students with sufficient time to complete all remote learning assignments.
- At this time, it is expected that when we return to in-class learning on **May 31st** we will return to the Team 1 and Team 2 alternate day schedule that we have followed until now. Know that this may change based on the recommendations made by our provincial health authorities.

Throughout the school year, our Bruce families have been outstanding in their efforts to follow directions provided by Manitoba Health. We urge you to stay the course over the next three weeks to ensure the health and safety of our students and community.

On behalf of all the staff at Bruce Middle School, thank you for your continued support.

Dan MacNeil

April Waters