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May 5, 2021

Re: Shift to at-home Learning Kindergarten to Grade 12

Dear Parents/Guardians of BTPS Students:

May 4, the province announced that all Kindergarten to Grade 12 students across the province will now temporarily shift to at-home learning beginning May 10, with a return to in-school learning on May 25. BTPS makes this shift with a heavy heart. Friday, May 7 was not a day that our students were attending school as this is a staff professional learning day in BTPS.

Your student's teacher and school will provide you additional information on learning expectations. We have been informed that Alberta Education will share provincial expectations with us which will be communicated with all of you. We want everyone to know that our students will not be behind as the pandemic is beyond our province and all students have encountered the same interruptions this year. Our staff have gone above and beyond to ensure that we are maximizing student learning in BTPS classrooms. I could not be more proud of the work in our schools. Staff will continue to provide excellent learning opportunities for your student at-home.

We appreciate all of your support as we transition to at-home learning. This has been a challenging year for our students as they have not had consistency in their school year. When people are isolating and staying at home more, it can be a challenging time. There are supports available:

- [Youth Mental Health](#)
- [COVID-19 and Your Mental Health](#)
- Mental Health Helpline: Phone: 1-877-303-2642
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868

As students are at-home, we hope that they are able to get some fresh air and activity every day. Here are some suggestions for outdoor activities ideas:

- [50 Simple Outdoor Activities](#)
- [Alberta Council for Environmental Education](#)
- [31 Outdoor Activities](#)

The shift to at-home learning is to limit the spread of COVID-19. I hope you all stay safe.

Take care,

Rhae-Ann Holoien  
Superintendent