

May 28, 2020

Dear parents and legal guardians:

In response to the announcement of *Phase 2: Restoring Safe Services* made by Premier Pallister, the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine has worked in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer to provide you with a plan for the *limited use* of schools in June.

First and foremost, our first priority is to reassure you that the safety of our students, staff and families is paramount and we are following public health guidelines: frequent hand-washing, two-meter distancing and use of the screening tool (<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>).

The Ministry has indicated that classes are suspended until the end of June. Distance education will continue and we apologize for the challenges this may cause. We also understand that, for some families, the amount of schoolwork given may also cause challenges. If that is the case, please inform your child's teacher.

The Ministry has indicated that schools would be open but with *limited use* as of June 1, knowing that not all school divisions are able to reopen their schools on this specific date. We must consider the amount of work to do, in a short period of time, to ensure student health and safety; more so for the DSFM as we are a school division with schools across the province.

The DSFM has prepared a plan for reopening, that has been submitted to the Ministry for approval:

June 1 to June 5: Sanitary preparations will begin: school cleaning, rearranging classrooms in order to follow the two-meter distancing guideline between desks, affix gel hand sanitizer, etc.

June 8 to June 12 (transportation will not be provided): Individual student-teacher meetings may begin by invitation. Teachers are to return to school to sort and remove any classroom items that do not follow the distancing guideline. **Distance education ends June 12.**

June 15 to June 28 (transportation will not be provided): Individual student-teacher meetings will continue by invitation. Teachers will meet students in small groups of 4-5 students at a time to ensure the distancing guideline and cleaning measures. All schools will create a meeting calendar to facilitate individual and small-group student-teacher meetings and to avoid surpassing the limit of individuals in a public space (50% of regular occupancy for the DSFM). **The expectation of the Ministry of Education suggests that every student should meet with his or her teachers at least once from now until the end of June.**

The main objective for these meetings is to allow students to see their teachers one last time and to end the school year on a positive note. It is also a good opportunity to inform our students about the distancing measures that will likely be mandatory in September. Our teachers will also use this time to complete student profiles to help guide pedagogical interventions in September.

Respectfully,



Alain Laberge
Superintendent
AL/am