

Eugene Reimer Middle School

Parent Tips: Learning at Home



Routine

Disruptions in routines can be stressful. A [regular schedule](#) helps maintain a sense of normalcy and stability. As a family, it's good to set up a weekday schedule including:

- regular bedtime, wake-up and meal times
- getting dressed and ready for school (even though they're at home)
- time for learning
- time for breaks
- daily physical activity
- daily communication with friends and family
- Make a schedule and write it out with your child. Attach it to the Fridge.

Space to Work

Setting up home learning space to work can help children focus. If possible, the space should include:

- a quiet atmosphere
- good lighting
- a desk or table at a comfortable height for your child
- a storage basket or bin to keep supplies (paper, pens, pencils, markers, books, etc.)
- access to a computer/tablet or other smart device if possible
- This should be in a common area of your house. Not in your child's room.

Helping your Child

How much involvement you have will depend on your child's age and needs. Following are suggestions designed for specific age and grade levels. General suggestions for children of all ages include:

- Let your child see you're interested in what they're doing and be positive and cheerful in your approach.
- Encourage positive communication with the child (to give and accept instructions).
- Encourage the development of good work habits and help your child take pride in work well done.
- Be patient with your child and yourself. This is a new experience for everyone and will take some time to adjust to. The most important thing is for your child to feel safe, loved and supported.

Learning From Home:

As you know, the provincial government announced on March 17th that all in-class instruction in BC schools would be suspended indefinitely. Since that announcement, our district staff has been busy establishing a plan to move education forward during this challenging time. While there is still much to determine, I hope that this letter provides some answers for families about the next few weeks.

Safety First and foremost, we want all staff, students, and families to stay healthy and safe during this critical time of the COVID-19 outbreak. Our schools will remain closed to students as staff work on a plan to deliver instruction remotely.

We recognize that education is an integral part of all of our lives, but we must put the health and well-being of our families first. Provincial health officials have asked us all to stay home as much as possible, so our plan below recognizes that commitment.

Continuity of Learning Plan

We continue our work on developing a plan to support students as we make this transition to a virtual learning environment. Before we begin this process, we must give time for our staff to become comfortable with various tools that will support their work. While our learning plan continues to take shape, below are some key focus areas for our schools:

- the social and emotional well-being of students.
- support for core curriculum learning standards through meaningful interactions.
- a reasonable amount of time for each child to work on their learning every week.
- a manageable amount of technology or materials required at home.
- enhancing access to a variety of e-resources to support instructional delivery.

We understand that teaching and learning will look different throughout our K- 12 system. Our intent is not to replicate regular classroom instruction, but rather to provide opportunities for home learning during this very challenging time. We do not know how long the provincial government will suspend in-person instruction, but we are preparing for it to be a considerable time as the COVID-19 virus continues to spread throughout our province.

Reporting on Student Progress

The provincial government announced last week that every student will receive a final mark for this year, that graduation assessments were being postponed, and

students would be able to progress to the next grade level or graduate, as usual, at the end of this school year.

Final Thoughts

Schools will continue to provide flexible opportunities, resources, and support for our students, adapting to the individual circumstances of our families. We continue to post new updates on our school webpages, so I encourage you to visit it regularly. We are all in this together, and I am confident that we will rise above these challenges. Thank you for your understanding and your patience, and I wish you all to stay healthy.

Sincerely,

The Staff of Eugene Reimer Middle School