

Good afternoon elementary EIPS families:

As you're aware, the Government of Alberta announced new targeted measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. Some of these measures impact Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) and in-school learners. Specifically, the province is suspending all in-school classes—kindergarten to Grade 12—for a two-week period. The new measure impacts all schools throughout Alberta, starting May 7.

As a result, **all in-school classes are cancelled throughout EIPS from May 10-20**—May 7 is a professional learning day for staff and a school-closure day for students. In-school classes resume on May 25, 2021.

The new directive affects all in-school learners, except those enrolled in a school system program or individuals requiring specialized supports. Students registered in the out-of-school learning stream will continue as usual.

During this time, students will move to a temporary online-learning model—similar to how students learned between January 6-8. Those students who've already transitioned to temporary online learning will continue to do so until May 25. Every day, students will log on to [Brightspace](#) and select their scheduled subject—either language arts or mathematics. Immediately, they'll see teacher updates, learning information, required assignments, quizzes and links for virtual instruction.

Brightspace log in information for students:

Web address: <https://eips.brightspace.com/>

Username: EIPS student email address

Password: EIPS student password

NOTE: Contact the school for assistance with resetting passwords.

TEMPORARY ONLINE LEARNING: May 10-20

May 7 is a professional learning day within EIPS, which means there is no school for students that day. As such, temporary online learning starts May 10.

Morning

- Students will participate in a whole-class virtual learning session, which will start with attendance, followed by a virtual lesson led by the student's in-school class teacher.
- Students must join the virtual lesson five minutes before it's scheduled to begin.
- Student cameras must be turned on during all virtual instruction.
- Once the lesson is finished, students can leave the meeting to work on the assignment.
- The teacher will then assign students to small groups and a timeslot. During that time, the teacher will address specific questions about the lesson, provide further instruction or run additional activities.

Afternoon

- Students will participate in another whole-class virtual learning session, which will start with attendance, followed by a virtual lesson led by the student's in-school class teacher.
- Students must join the virtual instruction meetings five minutes before it's scheduled to begin.
- Student cameras must be turned on during all virtual instruction.
- Once the lesson is finished, students can leave the meeting to work on the assignment.
- The teacher will then assign students to small groups and a timeslot. During that time, the teacher will address specific questions about the lesson, provide further instruction or run additional activities.
- The teacher will share the whole-class and small-group meet times and how to join through Brightspace.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- Students must have access to the internet and a computer, Chromebook or tablet.
- Students who don't have access to the internet or a computer, Chromebook or tablet, can contact their school to make alternative arrangements.

FAMILY SUPPORT

EIPS understands the provincial-mandated change to learning may create challenges for some families. Please know, the Division's No. 1 priority is the safety and wellness of students and their families. As such, all EIPS employees are working diligently to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Additionally, all school counsellors and support teams continue to work with students and families, sharing mental health resources and information. For a list of resources and supports, visit [EIPS Mental Health Resources for Families](#).

SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS AND SYSTEM PROGRAMS

Students enrolled in the following system programs will not transition to online learning and instead continue with in-school learning: PALS, GOALS, PLACE, STEPS, LINKS, SEAS, CSP and Connections. School teams will also consider any additional supports for students with significant learning needs to support their programming.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Families are reminded to continue to monitor their child for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 by completing the verbal [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#). If you answer "YES" to any of the questionnaire questions, follow its instructions and use Alberta Health Services' [COVID-19 self-assessment tool](#), or call [Health Link](#) at 811, to determine next steps. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 is asked to notify the school or Division to ensure the proper cleaning and public-health measures are followed.

MORE INFORMATION

As more details become available, EIPS will continue to share information and updates.

Information will also be updated on eips.ca, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and each school website. For all other questions and concerns, contact your child's school directly.

On behalf of everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, thank you for your patience, understanding and commitment to learning. Adapting to the temporary online learning is an adjustment for everyone. Our goal is to make it as seamless as possible.

Sincerely,
Elk Island Public Schools