



# Turtle River School Division

Box 309 – McCreary, MB R0J 1B0  
Telephone: (204) 835-2067 – Fax: (204) 835-2426  
Website: [trsd.ca](http://trsd.ca)

Beverly Szymesko  
Superintendent of Schools

Shannon Desjardins  
Secretary Treasurer

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## Remote Learning for Grade 7 to 12 students during January 4<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians & Caregivers;

Education Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 that schools in Manitoba will move all students in Grades 7 to 12 to mandatory full-time remote learning for a “two-week” period following the regularly scheduled holiday break from *January 4<sup>th</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021*. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will continue to have in-school learning with support provided to those families who choose learning from home during that same period. Additionally, students in grades 7 to 12 with special needs or students at risk that must be accommodated in the school or classroom setting are also permitted to attend school. This decision was made as part of the province’s efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Turtle River School Division, along with Manitoba Education, strongly believe that our schools are safe and the best place for students to learn. We have implemented numerous safety initiatives as guided by public health in order to ensure that our buildings and busses are safe for students and staff members. While the mandated remote learning for Grades 7 to 12 students is being done as a “*preventative measure*” in order to help keep schools safe, our schools will still remain open with all staff members and Kindergarten to Grade 6 students in our buildings. Transportation will not change and our bus routes will continue to operate as normal. Students that are learning remotely will be required to follow the outlined expectations listed on the following pages as well as complete an intent form and submit by December 14<sup>th</sup> (for children who are in Grades K-6).

As we continue to respond to the emerging direction from public health and Manitoba Education, I appreciate the continued support from parents and the community. Our dedicated staff members have responded with professionalism and creativity in order to ensure that your child’s classroom learning environment is safe and the students’ learning programming is meaningful. Whether in person or online, our schools are here to help you. Please note that there will be **No School on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021** as it will remain as a P.D. Day (Professional Development Day) as previously scheduled to support teacher learning. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact your school or myself for more information.

Sincerely,

Bev Szymesko,  
Superintendent

## **Manitoba Education Remote Learning Standards & Expectations**

These expectations have been set by Manitoba Education regarding Remote Learning Standards and Expectations of students. Manitoba Education has made it very clear that students must continue to engage in their learning so they will stay on track with their education. Students who do meet these expectations by engaging remotely and completing their assigned work will be marked as “Attending school remotely” (which will not impact days absent). Please see the Remote Learning Expectations from Manitoba Education listed below:

### **Remote Learning for Grade 7-12 Students**

- ✓ **Devices** (computer or iPad), and access to high speed internet will be required for remote learning. Schools will be in touch with you regarding access to a device and internet. The division has a limited number of devices that are available to be signed out to students who need them.

**Grade 7 & 8 Students** – During the learning at home block, students will be required to log-in at assigned times for whole class teaching, learning, and interaction. When not online, students will have time for independent learning.

- ✓ **Real-time online instruction**
  - Real-time online instruction will be provided for 7–8 hours per week for students in Grades 7–8.
- ✓ **Independent work at home:**
  - Grades 7-8: Three hours per day

**High School Students** – During the learning at home block, students will follow their regular classroom timetable, logging in at the beginning of each period for attendance, instruction, and interaction. This will be followed by time for independent learning.

- ✓ **Real-time online instruction**
  - Grades 9–12: Two hours per course (synchronous) per week
- ✓ **Independent work at home:**
  - Grades 9–12: One hour per course per day

### **Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students**

- ✓ In class learning will continue and we expect most, if not ALL students to continue attending school.
- ✓ **Real-time online instruction**
  - Kindergarten teachers will connect with each student, along with parents/caregivers, a minimum of once per week to facilitate connection and provide support and play-based learning ideas. Kindergarten students will not receive real-time online instruction.
  - Real-time online instruction will be provided for 5–6 hours per week for students in Grades 1–4.
  - Real-time online instruction will be provided for 7–8 hours per week for students in Grades 5–6.
- ✓ **Independent work at home:**
  - Kindergarten students should engage in independent work and play to complete the weekly activities.
  - Grades 1–4: Two and a half hours per day
  - Grades 5-6: Three hours per day

Families that choose the option of learning from home will require adult support. There will be a mixture of assigned independent tasks, paper packages, and connection to the teacher. Connections for online learning and the availability of a device would also be helpful so that students can connect with their teachers and classes.

**The attached form is required to be completed Only if this is the option your family is selecting.**

**Kindergarten to Grade 6 Student – Intention to Learn Remotely**

*During January 4, 2021 to January 14, 2021*

**This Form is ONLY required to be completed if your family is selecting the option for your child to “Remote Learn” during January 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**One form should be completed for each individual child.**

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I am selecting the option for my child to “Learn Remotely” during January 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Does your child have access to a computer/tablet device and internet access so they can connect with their classroom? \_\_\_\_\_

a. I have high speed internet? YES  NO

b. I have a  LAPTOP  TABLET  PHONE  COMPUTER

c. I require a device and would like to borrow one if available   
*(Please note these are limited and may not be available)*

2. Does your child have access to adult support during this time remote learning in order to support their learning, connecting to online classes, and completing their assigned work?

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*Please return this form to your school office not later than **December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020** so that schools can plan and prepare for this learning option. Schools will be working over the next week on implementing remote learning plans so that everything is in place and ready for your child(ren) come January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Thank you in advance for your help completing this form.*