



Regina Huda School

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www.huda.ca

Gaining the Best of Canadian Culture While Preserving the Islamic Identity



December 7, 2020

Dear Parents:

In consultation with public health, Regina Huda School along with all Regina Public Schools will be moving to temporary remote learning in December and January for all students. Effective December 14, 2020, all Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 students in all elementary and high school classes will move from in-class learning to remote learning, and will return to in-class learning on January 11, 2021.

Regina Huda School will be open and Regina Huda School staff will continue to work safely in schools and offices. Teachers and school-based staff will provide on-going online learning coursework and resources for all students to continue their learning for the weeks of December 14th and January 4th, with the scheduled holiday break taking place December 21, 2020 to January 1, 2021.

The decision, locally-made by Regina Public Schools and Regina Huda School, to move to remote learning for all students, is a proactive intervention to ensure safe continued learning for students, for the health of all student and employee families, and for the ongoing business continuity of the School Division and its schools. Regina Huda School and Regina Public Schools hopes to avoid a prolonged move to Level 4 remote learning across the Division and in all schools by taking this proactive intervention, by adding one week of remote learning to either side of the scheduled holiday break. Provisions have been made for all students to continue their learning during that period.

As of December 7, 2020 Regina Public Schools has seen:

- 63 student and 26 staff COVID-19 positive cases.
- 39 (out of 57) schools affected.
- 56 classrooms closed.
- 8 elementary schools closed, 1 collegiate closed.
- More than 8,422 employee absence days so far this year, (a 24% increase more than at this point in a typical year).
- More than 1,100 employee absence days due to quarantine leave.
- Chronic shortfall of replacement staff due to more employee absences and a reduced pool of available substitute staff.

- Growing anxiety and other mental health challenges to all employees and students.

Safe operation of schools requires an appropriate number of adults in the buildings. Teachers, support staff, administrators and facilities staff are all essential to student safety. Increased employee absenteeism due to COVID-19 and our inability to fill those absences is challenging school staffs' ability to keep students safe.

Business continuity is an important element of this proactive intervention. By reducing the number of people in all schools and buildings and allowing for more physical distancing, the fear and anxiety of becoming exposed to COVID-19 at work may be minimized. Taking these temporary measures will ensure that students will continue with uninterrupted learning. The following key benefits were also weighed in the decision:

- Teachers and all employees can continue to teach and work without disruption. Currently, the impact of one school-based student or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19 can affect multiple people in a school. This proactive intervention can help ensure that a single case will not disrupt and affect the learning and working of many others.

- Students can learn from home, without the fear of exposure to COVID-19 at school, or of exposing others.

- As a measured action to reduce in-school risk, this proactive intervention may allow all schools and buildings to reopen and in-class learning to resume on January 11.

- Attempt to reduce possibility of a long-term School Division-wide move to Level 4 described in COVID-19 Response Plan.

The Regina Board of Education and the Regina Huda Board supports this move to a proactive intervention. All our families have had to plan, overnight, for their children to learn from home when a classroom or school is closed.

It is hoped that this plan provides families the peace of mind that students will continue their learning and will not get sick at school, or identified as a close contact and have to be quarantined from their loved ones over the vacation period.

Thank you for your continued support of public education.

Dr. Aboguddah
President

Starla Nistor
Principal

Pam Spock
Vice Principal

This is a summary of the schedule for all students of Regina Huda School:

- Monday, December 14, 2020 to Monday, January 11, 2021:
- December 7 to 11, 2020 - In-class learning

- December 14 to 18, 2020 - Remote learning –students will learn from home and staff will work in schools
- December 21, 2020 to January 1, 2021 - Scheduled December break
No school for students
- January 4 to 8, 2021 - Remote learning –students will learn from home and staff will work in schools
- January 11, 2021 - In-class learning resumes