



Education

Student Achievement and Inclusion Division
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To: Superintendents of School Divisions
Principals of First Nations Schools
Principals of Funded Independent Schools

Dear Colleagues:

Keeping schools open and safe for students, staff, and families is at the forefront of Manitoba Education's COVID-19 planning.

As a result of the challenges posed in delivering education during the pandemic, in October 2020, a decision was made to suspend the Grade 12 provincial tests for the January 2021 administration. Further to this, a subsequent decision has been made to suspend the Grade 12 provincial tests for the June 2021 administration.

While Manitoba Education remains committed to students continuing to learn in classrooms face-to-face, the reality of the pandemic means that remote learning is also an essential component of delivering education to our students. Because of the pandemic, many students will continue with blended learning that may also include further transitions to full-time remote learning in some schools and /or school divisions. The implementation of a provincial test in this context raises questions around the fairness to students and the validity of the data if the tests were to proceed. The suspension of the tests in June 2021 will allow teachers to continue to focus on the COVID-19 learning and teaching response, and the mental health and well-being of students.

Furthermore, the time normally spent on provincial assessment administration can be used to move forward with the required curricular outcomes. Teachers will continue with ongoing local evaluation of curricular outcomes and assign grades as per school and school division direction, thus ensuring support to students in their post-secondary endeavours.

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Should you have any further questions about the provincial assessment program, please contact:

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Thank you for your support and commitment to learning.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Christina Moody
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Achievement and Inclusion Division

- c. Chairs of School Boards
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
Manitoba Teachers' Society
Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools
Manitoba School Boards Association
Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre
Jennifer Maw, Acting Coordinator, Manitoba Education