



Bluewater District School Board

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you are aware, the spread of COVID-19 continues to be a concern in our province and throughout the world. While Grey and Bruce counties have a very low active case rate compared to some districts thus far, there is always potential for closures due to outbreaks. If we must close a class, school, or the district, Bluewater District School Board (BWDSB) is working to ensure this transition is as seamless as possible.

In the event of a school/classroom/district closure, students would learn through a blend of online learning with their teacher and through teacher assigned activities that are worked on independently. Most teachers and students are familiar with Brightspace and/or Office 365 suite platforms and have had some experience interacting in these formats. It would be proactive to ensure students are able to log into their Brightspace account from home. Instructions for accessing Brightspace can be found at [Brightspace Parent Questions and Answers](#). Teachers will continue to support students in the use of Brightspace/Office 365 and BWDSB will continue to support teachers in effective instruction for the online environment.

In order to pivot to remote learning quickly and with the least amount of disruption for students, BWDSB will need to ensure all students have access to technology and reliable internet.

Please see the list below to help prepare you and your child(ren) in the event of a closure.

- Ensure you are familiar with your child's online learning environment (Office 365 suite, Brightspace) and can access it/them from home.
- **Know your child's Active Directory login and password. Write it down somewhere at home.**
- Ensure you have the resources required to continue learning at home readily available to retrieve on short notice (e.g., notebooks, texts, technology).
- Once communicated by your child's teacher(s), review the expectations for submitting work online.
- Limit the number of personal items you bring to school and be sure to take all of them home in the event of a closure.
- Ensure your teacher/school has your up-to-date contact information (e.g., phone number, email).
- Contact your child's school if your family does not have access to a device and/or reliable internet at home.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation as we continue our learning together in these unique times.

Sincerely,

Lori Wilder
Director of Education