



March 17, 2020

Dear NFSB Families,

Following the directives issued by the Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge, which closed schools from March 16-27, we wanted to take this moment to communicate how these closures may impact your child.

As stated on the [Official website of the Gouvernement du Québec regarding COVID-19](#): “For the time being, lost days will not be repeated. The Québec government is asking teachers to make the necessary adjustments in their schedules. Additional directives will be issued in due course.” In Minister Roberge’s press conference, he indicated that teachers will not be providing course materials during this time. For your children, the important takeaway is that they are not expected to make pedagogical advancements during the current school closure. The school board’s Educational Services Department is staying up to date with current government regulations and is prepared to adapt as the situation changes.

Even though the Minister has asked that teachers not provide specific course materials, this time may be enriching for your children. Keep in mind continuing to read daily (in French or English) and playing board or card games. Should you wish to organize pedagogical activities at home, the Lester B. Pearson School Board has taken a lead role in gathering resources, many of which are free, and categorizing them by subject and grade level. The site is <https://sites.google.com/lbpearson.ca/esdresources/home>. We would like to reiterate that it is not a requirement nor an expectation to pursue these academic activities and that they are available simply as a resource.

In addition, if you have concerns that your child required remedial work prior to the school closures, LEARN Quebec is continuing to offer online tutorials which are free of charge. The information is available on their website (<https://www.learnquebec.ca/information-about-online-tutoring>).

Lastly, during this time we also recognize that children will handle things differently. Some of our students may be fearful of the impact of this virus on themselves, friends, and family. We recommend taking a moment to review the attached article as it provides helpful tips about talking to your child about COVID19.

In summary:

- This school closure period is a highly exceptional situation that we are all in together.
- Please know that **staff will adapt accordingly once school resumes, and students will not be penalized.**
- If you are concerned that your child requires remedial work, LEARN Quebec is continuing to offer free online tutoring at <https://www.learnquebec.ca/information-about-online-tutoring>.
- If you would like a bank of educational resources, Lester B. Pearson School Board has taken the lead on the creation of a website where many of the resources are readily available to the public. <https://sites.google.com/lbpearson.ca/esdresources/home>
- We are encouraging parents to read an article which provides guidance how to discuss this situation with their children.
- If you are looking for ideas of things to do at home with your child, see this link: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KCFnWreu4v7VoO3NbgP-Qcq2LyE1FvliYSoiTLRY7Qg/htmlview?usp=sharing&sle=true&fbclid=IwAR1uHpAJQqR2P\\_-6kIObxoXcnXkue2yJAb-VtifNew6vpdQwPBFT1WCq8\\_I](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KCFnWreu4v7VoO3NbgP-Qcq2LyE1FvliYSoiTLRY7Qg/htmlview?usp=sharing&sle=true&fbclid=IwAR1uHpAJQqR2P_-6kIObxoXcnXkue2yJAb-VtifNew6vpdQwPBFT1WCq8_I)

We look forward to continuing to work with your children upon their return.

Regards,

James Walker  
Director of Educational Services