

MARGARET WARD
Superintendent/CEO



AL LEIMAN
Secretary-Treasurer

TYLER MORAN
Assistant Superintendent

“Preparing Today’s Learner for Tomorrow”

January 5, 2022

Dear Interlake School Division Families,

In response to the Manitoba Government’s January 4th news release, all K-12 students will learn remotely for the week of January 10-14, 2022 and will return to in-class instruction on Monday, January 17. Upon the return to in-class instruction, schools will operate in the [Restricted Level \(Orange\)](#) of Manitoba’s Pandemic Response System.

During the period of remote learning from January 10-14, the following will apply in ISD:

- School(s) will be closed to students, with the exception of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students who are children of critical service workers (CSWs) who cannot make alternative care arrangements.
- School(s) will accommodate children over age 12 if their parent is a CSW and the child has a disability that precludes them from being able to stay at home independently.
- Learning materials provided by each teacher for K-6 students in their class will be the same regardless of whether students are learning remotely or attending in-person.
- Students of CSWs who are transport eligible will have continued access to school bus transportation.

We require information from families to help ISD schools prepare for the children of CSWs to attend school for the week of January 10-14. We ask that each family please [click here](#) to provide information as requested by **9:00 am on Friday, January 7**. We recognize the tight timeline, but also need to act quickly in order to be prepared for students who will be in attendance next week.

For those families unable to provide CSW information online, we ask that you please contact your child’s school by phone beginning Thursday, January 6 to provide the information directly to the office staff. All information gathered is confidential. More information from Manitoba Education about CSWs is attached to this letter in *Appendix A: Critical Service Workers (CSWs)*.

The period of remote learning from January 10-14 and the return to in-class instruction on January 17 will look different in each of ISD's schools based on the grades and communities they serve. ISD schools will be contacting families in the coming days to share details of their school-specific plans.

Further information about Manitoba Education's COVID-19 Education plan can be found online within their [Restoring Safe Schools](#) document. Please contact your child's school directly with specific questions as needed. Thank you for your ongoing support, patience, and trust as we plan for teaching and learning in the Interlake School Division.

Sincerely,

Margaret Ward

Margaret Ward
ISD Superintendent/CEO

Appendix A: Critical Service Workers (CSWs)

Schools will accommodate K-6 children of critical service workers who cannot make alternative care arrangements if they are not required to self-isolate. In addition, schools will also accommodate K-12 high-risk students and those with special needs.

Manitoba Education considers the following to be critical services workers:

- Health/health services workers
- K to 12 education providers (all teachers, administrators, and support staff)
- Child care workers
- Law enforcement
- Corrections workers
- Fire and paramedic first responders
- Direct social services and child protection workers

Additional critical services workers may include people who provide critical services to Manitobans, such as front-line natural resource workers, essential supply chain staff (e.g., truck drivers delivering food, medications and other essential goods; food industry staff working in food processing plants, etc.) gas station attendants, and grocery store staff.

Note: Schools and school divisions may also use their discretion to accommodate high-risk students in order to address serious concerns of disengagement.