



RDPSD Alternative Programs
#202, 5214 47 Ave
Red Deer, AB Canada T4N 3P7

Phone: 403 343 1354
asc@rdpsd.ab.ca
www.asc.rdpsd.ab.ca

Students, Parents, and Guardians,

I hope everyone is doing well and families are staying safe during these unprecedented and challenging times. I would like to update families on how the recent provincial announcement will affect the Alternative School Centre, North Cottage and our students.

On Tuesday, November 24, the government announced that all 7-12 students would be moved into Temporary Online Learning until January 11, 2021. We have since learned that we qualify for an exemption which allows us to have a limited number of students access our building daily. This is fantastic news as it means that our students will continue to have the opportunity to get in-person supports over the next three weeks. Students will be required to book appointments in advance and will be limited to two bookings of 1.5 hours per week. Bookings can be made through their teachers or by calling Tammy at our main desk (403) 343-1354. We hope that students will take advantage of this opportunity but if students choose to work from home instead, they will be able to access their teacher through email, telephone or to schedule a videoconference meeting. Unlike the emergency online learning that happened in March, the expectation is that students will continue to meet all curriculum outcomes and commit to three hours of learning per day. **Students will not be awarded credit for courses that are not completed** so please encourage your child to continue their daily learning over these next three weeks. It is unclear at this time whether students will be able to access our building in the first week following the holiday break (Jan 4-Jan 8) but I will update you once this determination has been made.

Chromebooks & Textbooks

Teachers have already begun signing out textbooks to students. We will require an equipment loan form signed by a parent if a student is in need of a Chromebook so that everyone is aware that any damage to these materials will be at the cost to the family. Please call our main desk to set up an appointment for next week to come in and complete this process. (403) 343-1354. Students who are signing out textbooks and Chromebooks for the next three weeks will be expected to return them on January 11, 2021.

Diploma Exams

One of the recent important announcements by the government was the decision to make diploma exams for the remainder of the school year optional. Our teachers will be reaching out to students in diploma courses over the next few days to determine whether or not they will be choosing to opt-out of their January diploma exam(s). When discussing this decision with your child, please take into consideration that diploma exam marks are traditionally lower than school awarded marks, and result in lowering their overall grade. This could potentially put them at a disadvantage to those students in the province who are choosing to opt out of diploma exams. Please contact me if you have any questions about diploma examinations.

Principal: Stephen Pottage
Vice-Principal: Shelley Lower





RDPSD Alternative Programs
#202, 5214 47 Ave
Red Deer, AB Canada T4N 3P7

Phone: 403 343 1354
asc@rdpsd.ab.ca
www.asc.rdpsd.ab.ca

Please remember you can check your child's progress through the PowerSchool Parent Portal and/or PowerSchool app. If you have any questions or concerns I also strongly encourage you to reach out to our teachers for an update. Thank you for your continued support and for helping your child be as successful as possible in these less than ideal times. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Stay safe and stay home.

Sincerely,

Stephen Pottage
District Principal - Alternative Programs and Support Services
Red Deer Public Schools

Principal: Stephen Pottage
Vice-Principal: Shelley Lower

