

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
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**Date:** March 20, 2020  
**To:** Parents and Guardians  
**From:** George Daley, Deputy Minister  
**Subject:** COVID – 19 – school system closure

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

New Brunswick's K-12 school system will be closed until further notice. As we heard from Dr. Jennifer Russell, Chief Medical Officer of Health, "*COVID-19 is a pandemic and New Brunswick is not immune.*" This closure status will be reassessed during the first week of April, in collaboration with Public Health.

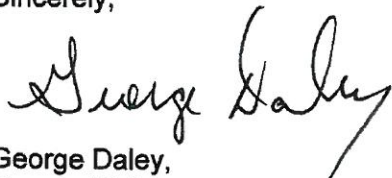
Leaders across our school system have been working tirelessly to protect student and staff safety and to provide childcare services to essential workers. I want to thank them.

We recognize parents and students have many questions around the continuity of learning and the impact on graduation. In the coming weeks, the anglophone and francophone sectors of EECD, in conjunction with schools, districts, and professional associations, will pursue learning options for students and answers to key questions.

Parents and students should not expect home learning options until April at the earliest. This coming week, we encourage parents and students to focus on your own physical and mental well-being. Resources are being assembled to share early next week to help guide and support your efforts.

Please ensure that you are setting the example for your families by closely following the directives from public health. We all have a role to play in flattening the curve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Daley".

George Daley,  
Deputy Minister