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**To:** Horizon Families and Staff  
**From:** Kevin C. Garinger, Director of Education  
Jim Hack, Board of Education Chair  
**Date:** May 27, 2020  
**Re:** June 16 Final Day for Teacher-Directed Supplemental Learning

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Good evening, Horizon families and staff.

I trust you are staying safe and healthy during these challenging times. We are completing our sixth week of Supplemental Learning, with all the successes and the difficulties that have come with shifting our learning processes to an online environment. There has been a great deal of added responsibility placed upon our students, and each of you, as we try to address learning from a distance. Our students, families, teachers, support staff, and Horizon personnel have done a commendable job working and learning through these historic challenges. This difficult situation has affected every family in unique ways. And yet, we have faced these challenges and ensured our students, your children, continue to have access to opportunities for learning and other supports. I want to thank each of you, including your children, for putting forward a tremendous effort to make this a successful experience.

We are writing to inform you that **Tuesday, June 16**, will be the final day for teacher-directed Supplemental Learning in Horizon School Division. The decision to bring Supplemental Learning to a close comes from guidelines prepared by the Provincial Education Sector's Response Planning Team (RPT), which includes representatives from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF), the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), the Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials (SASBO), the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents (LEADS), and the Ministry of Education.

Students will have until **Tuesday, June 23**, to complete any remaining assignments and submit their work for grading. They will be able to continue to connect with their teachers and support staff on an individual basis up to and including June 23. We encourage students and families to continue their engagement with teacher-directed Supplemental Learning right up to June 16, and complete any and all requirements from their teachers up to June 23.

We do not yet know how this pandemic will develop in the weeks and months ahead. We do not yet know exactly how this will affect our educational services in the fall. We expect that one of three scenarios will exist: a full return, a partial or modified return, or no return, which equates to fully online learning. After June 16, the work of our teachers, support staff, and other personnel will see a shift in focus toward completing the grading responsibilities to bring closure to the 2019-20 school year. They will also begin planning and preparing for the three possible scenarios for the 2020-2021 school year. We appreciate your understanding related to the time that will be needed to plan for delivering PreK to 12 education.

As we review the lessons we have learned since Supplemental Learning began, we will be carrying these understandings forward into our future work. However, we also need to hear from our students, families, and staff at a deeper level. As such, we will be sending out a "[Thoughtexchange](#)" in the next couple of weeks. "Thoughtexchange" is an effective electronic process for gathering information from stakeholders such as students, families, and staff. The tool will allow you to provide your ideas related to Supplemental Learning and the direction for learning in the 2020-21 school year. We expect the "Thoughtexchange" will highlight the obstacles that you encountered and provide us with useful information as we strive to implement the most effective learning opportunities for your children and students. The thoughts of our young people, families, and staff will be paramount in guiding our educational plans, so I thank you for your anticipated involvement in this process.

Through the sharing of our stakeholders and the expertise and collaboration of our staff, we will build a solid foundation to guide our system in the model necessary to ensure the learning and health needs of all involved. By shifting from teacher-directed Supplemental Learning before the summer break, we allow our teachers and other staff to be fully engaged in this planning, and to be as prepared as possible to start the coming school year. Staff can expect further communication and specific information from their direct supervisors and my office as we move this work forward.

[Phase 3 of the Provincial Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan](#) is scheduled to begin on June 8. Horizon is finalizing detailed processes to allow for staff to begin returning to their workplaces – on a voluntary basis – with strict adherence to all current Health guidelines regarding COVID-19. Our first priority in this planning is to ensure the safety of our staff and their families. **This will be a gradual and cautious return to work sites for only Horizon staff, so students will not be part of this Phase of "Re-entering Horizon"**. The details of this plan will be shared with all staff by June 3, 2020.

As always, for questions or concerns, please continue to use Horizon School Division's Communications Centre Hotline at **1-306-682-2558** (please ask for the Communications Centre). Please continue to visit [www.horizonsd.ca](http://www.horizonsd.ca) for regular updates. We remind you all of the resources available at [www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19) and the provincial HealthLine that can be reached by dialing **811**. On behalf of our Board of Education, thank you for your ongoing efforts, patience, support, and understanding. Take care and stay safe!

Thank you,



Kevin C. Garinger, B. Ed, M.A. Ed  
Director of Education/CEO  
Horizon School Division No. 205



Jim Hack,  
Board of Education Chair  
Horizon School Division No. 205