

Families of Grades 9-12 ASD-W Students,

On April 2, 2020 Education and Early Childhood Development Minister, Dominic Cardy released the provincial “Continuity of Learning Plan” which outlined a plan for education during this time of school closures as a result of COVID-19. The goal of the plan was to ensure no student is disadvantaged or penalized by the school closure, while at the same time encouraging any available opportunities for continued learning.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in consultation with Districts and a group of Principals have developed a list of common questions and answers about learning at high school and many of these are shared with you below. We realize that for all our students, and uniquely for our grade 11-12 students and their families this is a particularly challenging time, given the diversity and complexity of student courses and the requirements for graduation and post-secondary education.

I encourage you to connect with your Principal/VP if you have questions which have not been answered below. We understand that family situations are very different for both students and teachers, and we do not wish to add any additional anxiety at this time. During this state of emergency in NB, our Principals/VPs and teachers will do their best to remain connected to your student and offer them support in their learning.

Thank you for your patience as we work through these next few months together. We appreciate your on-going support.

David McTimoney, Superintendent

### **High School Information for Families**

#### **1. What should my student be doing at home to continue learning?**

Different grade levels have suggestions and teachers will be checking in with you and/or your child to offer support. Additional suggested learning activities are available on the ASD-W website <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx> and the Department of Education and Early Childhood [Learning at Home](#) page.

#### **Grades 9 to 10: Average of 2.5 hours per day (12.5 hours per week)**

Subject Areas of Focus: Literacy, numeracy, science, social studies, and personal skill development

In addition to 2.5 hours/day of areas of focus, families are encouraged to have children participate in:

- 30 minutes reading and 30 minutes physical activity
- age-appropriate life skills, along with activities for physical and mental wellbeing

#### **Grades 11 to 12: Average of 2.5 hours per day (12.5 hours per week)**

Subject Areas of Focus: Math, English, Second Language, Science/Technology, History/Social Studies.

Where possible, schools may offer students learning opportunities for courses beyond the areas of focus.

In addition to 2.5 hours/day of areas of focus, families are encouraged to have children participate in:

- 30 minutes reading and 30 minutes physical activity
- age-appropriate life skills, along with activities for physical and mental wellbeing

**CNBA Note:** Learning plans are emailed to all parents/guardians and students each week on Sunday evening or early Monday morning.

**2. At Grades 11-12 what is the difference between receiving “Enrolled” in a course on my transcript, versus receiving “Credit”?**

- Enrolled: This notation ENR will appear on the transcript denoting that the student was enrolled in a course second semester and the student chose or was not able to do further learning to obtain a Credit and/or the school was unable to provide the course for Credit. All courses listed as enrolled count toward the total number of required graduation courses. There will be **no mark assigned** for the course. The credit notation on the transcript will be 0.
- Credit: This notation CR will appear on the transcript indicating that a student, as determined by their principal and subject teacher, has met the core curricular components of that course through assigned work and feedback from the teacher. There will be **no mark assigned** for the course. The credit notation on the transcript will be 1.

**3. At Grades 11 and 12, who decides if a Credit option is offered for a course and is there a maximum number of Credits I can earn this semester?**

Teachers, in conjunction with their principal, will decide if a Credit option is offered. Teachers will need to determine if it is practical to attempt a Credit option, and principals must determine what options work best for their school’s situation. The opportunity to earn CR may not be available in all courses depending on the capacity of the teacher and the particulars of the course. Although students may want to attempt additional credit where available, it is recommended that students aim for only 2 or 3 Credit options.

**CNBA Note:** Co-operative Education 120 (Virtual Co-op course will continue), Framing & Sheathing 110, Mill & Cabinet Work 120, Sociology 120, Growth, Goals & Grit 120 will not be offered as part of home learning. All other grade 11 & 12 courses, including Distance Education courses, are offered with the potential of a credit earned. Canadian Geography 120 and Media Studies 120 will be starting this week.

**4. What is the criteria for a student to be awarded a Credit in Grade 11 or 12?**

It is at the discretion of the teacher and Principal to determine the core curricular components and if the student has demonstrated competency through assigned work and teacher feedback.

**CNBA Note:**

For a student to earn a Credit, he/she must demonstrate competency in the essential curricular outcomes through the completion and submission of assigned work followed by teacher feedback for the duration of home learning. Students who do not meet the criteria established, will remain as Enrolled.

**5. Will Grade 11 or 12 students seeking Credit receive different work than what is offered to everyone in the course?**

Teachers who are offering students a Credit option for their courses will provide instruction beyond the regular home learning options. Teachers will have the flexibility to determine what is the most appropriate form. Students will also have to demonstrate their competency in the subject area as determined by the teacher. Students can be expected to work on the Credit course beyond the recommended weekly 2.5 hours of other home learning options.

**CNBA Note:** In some cases, students may be offered the opportunity to attain more than 2-3 Credit Options. We realize that this may be a heavy course load; however, we leave the discretion to determine the number of manageable courses to the students and parents. If at any time a student's workload needs to be reviewed, please reach out to a teacher to discuss.

**6. What if a course I wish to receive a Credit in is not being offered for Credit?**

Every school in NB and across Canada will face challenges with respect to course offerings during this pandemic. All Grade 12 students with 12 Credits and on track to graduate as of the end of January 2020 will graduate this year. Providing a Credit option, where available, gives students the opportunity to show completion of the core outcomes for that course. It is not intended to disadvantage those students who cannot at this time.

**7. Do all students receive "Enrolled" on their transcript whether they were "on track to graduate" or not?**

On-Track refers to any grade 12 students who had at least 12 Credits at the end of the first semester, January 2020. An exception would be a student who had 11 Credits in January but was taking six courses second semester to achieve 17 Credits.

All Grade 11 and 12 students who were in classes this semester when schools closed will receive an Enrolled and move on to the next level, whether it be graduation or to the next level in the upcoming school year. Schools will work with students to help close any existing gaps in the next school year.

**8. Will graduates get French Immersion certificates?**

If students were on track to meet the required number of hours based on previous courses and those enrolled this semester, then yes, they will still receive the French Immersion Certificate. Likewise, the 5 French courses for Grade 11 French Immersion students will be waived next year as some students may want to take courses they need for content for university and not be able to take FI classes.

**9. Will Adult High School Diploma be able to get a pass on their requirements like the other students?**

Students who are enrolled in the Adult High School Diploma will have the same options for their courses. Transcripts will indicate the student was "Enrolled" in current semester courses. If a student continues in their learning and demonstrates the competencies in the core areas of the course, at the discretion of the teacher and principal, "Credit" can be assigned on the student's transcript. Post Secondary Education Training and Labour has indicated that they will accept either "Enrolled" or "Credit."

**10. Are students working toward their Adult High School Diploma able to have their courses that were scheduled for this semester count towards their Adult High School Diploma?**

Yes, our Department has partnered with Post Secondary Education Training and Labour and they will honour courses that are marked Enrolled or Credit.

**11. What about graduation for Alternative Education students?**

Students in Alternative Learning Environments who were on track to graduate in June 2020 should still be considered eligible. Many students in Alternative Learning Environments are working on individualized plans and alternative pathways to graduation. These pathways will be honored at this time.

**12. How will this affect Scholarships and Awards?**

Schools will determine their own methods of awarding scholarships and class standing. External scholarships, including post-secondary awards, will be determined by the organizations that award the scholarships.

**CNBA Note:** Scholarships and/or resources for scholarships can be found on the school website under Quick Links in the Guidance section.

**13. How will this affect the graduation requirements for 2021?**

The same as those graduating this year, students graduating in June 2021 will require minimally 12 Credits, with all required courses either a Credit or Enrolled designation.

**CNBA Note:** Just to clarify this, 17 credits are required to graduate (10 compulsories and 7 electives); therefore, 12 of these must be designated as a Credit. The remaining requirements can consist of ENR (Enrolled) or CR (Credit Earned) options.

**14. How will my full year courses be marked?**

Grade 11 full year courses will be split by a numerical mark from semester 1 and Enrolled or Credit in semester 2.

**15. Will I have to repeat prerequisites courses for Grade 12 classes?**

Students who have prerequisite courses listed as Enrolled will not be asked to repeat them. Schools will work to accommodate for gaps during the next school year.

**16. What if I failed Semester 1 of a full year Grade 11 course, such as English 11?**

If a student was not successful first semester, teachers and principals will determine if the student can be provided material to recover that mark and Credit. If that is not possible, students may be asked to repeat the Semester 1 portion of that course. The second half will not need to be repeated since they will have it listed as Enrolled on their transcript.

**17. What if a student chooses to take a course next year in which they received “Enrolled” this year?**

Where possible, we will examine the option of students being permitted to re-take an Enrolled course next school year.

**18. Can students who get “Credit” in a course take the exam the next year to get a mark?**

Those students who receive “Credit” for a course must re-take the course if they wish to pursue a numerical mark on their transcript.

**19. How will this affect Grade 12 dual Credits and AP courses?**

For those already enrolled in AP classes, dual Credit courses and online courses, you can continue where home circumstances permit. Students who are continuing their learning through dual Credit opportunities with an instructor from a post-secondary institution will be awarded a Credit on their transcript. Post-secondary institutions will be asked to submit a “Credit” to districts for students’ transcripts but may keep a numerical mark for their own records.

**20. Will there be a Graduation Ceremony?**

There has been no decision yet on graduation ceremonies or events related to graduation. Decisions on such activities will be made based on direction from Public Health. All schools will celebrate their graduates, unfortunately at this time we do not know when that will be.

**Online Learning and Technology**

**21. I have no Internet access and/or no computer. How can I continue my education at home?**

At this time, teachers are contacting every student’s home in order to determine the best way to communicate with each family and student. Once this data has been gathered each family’s situation will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We understand that some families do not have internet, others live in areas where wi-fi is limited and for some there is not a device to use.

**CNBA Note:** The survey many completed prior to the beginning of home learning gave us valuable information to determine connection status and the devices available to students. Students have reached out to teachers looking for technology support and solutions to continue with learning. We are working on a resolution to these situations and hope to have more information this week.