

SAB Frequently Asked Questions - for Students and Parents

Continuity of Learning in High School

Question #1: How much time will I be expected to be learning or completing school work each week?

Answer: A 5-credit course or a Grade 9 core would be an average of 3 hours per week, a 3-credit course or Grade 9 Religion, PE, or option course would be an average of 1 - 1.5 hours per week.

Question #2: What is the difference between Canvas and Google Classroom?

Answer: Canvas allows teachers to better monitor and guide student activities in their particular course. This will assist with assessments and reporting grades. Google Classroom is an excellent tool for sharing information and posting assignments, instructions, videos, etc and is part of all EICS students G-Suite for Education. Teachers are able to use both programs depending on their courses and needs.

Question #3: If I was passing all of my classes on March 13th (the last day students were in school), will I get a passing grade no matter what I do the rest of the semester?

Answer: Each student is responsible for completing their courses to the best of their abilities with the support of their teacher and other school staff. Our school is committed to ensuring all students pass to their next grade level, but it will depend on individual circumstances and effort.

Question #4: How are credits with options, CTS, and Fine Arts classes going to work?

Answer: Regarding CTS, credit will automatically be granted for individual 1-credit courses (all CTS courses are offered as a bundle of individual 1-credit courses) that were completed or worked on before March 13 that the student was passing. In most cases, this will be 1-2 credits. If a student wishes to earn more than these credits for the course, they will have to continue to complete the work their teacher is pushing out. For example, a Foods 10 class is a bundle of 5-6 individual CTS courses. Students have completed 2 of these as of March 13 and all students who passed these will get credit for

these. Students who wish not to be behind on their credits in grade 11, will want to complete the other 3-4 credits by the end of June.

Regarding Grade 9 and high school options that are not CTS courses such as fine arts, SAB is committed to ensuring all students pass but it will depend on individual circumstances and effort. If a student wishes to have a higher mark for purposes of post-secondary applications, honours standing, scholarships, etc, the student will be required to complete more work in the course over the remainder of this semester.

Question #5: How will students be graded in each course?

Answer: With the limits of instructional time, teachers will not be able to teach their courses the same way they would normally have done so. This also means that teachers will assess students differently. Teachers will determine the best way for students to demonstrate their understanding of outcomes through varied assessments.

Question #6: Do I have to attend “office hours” that my teacher may be offering?

Answer: Most teachers will offer “office hours” for students to ask questions and review concepts that were taught. Teachers are encouraged to record and post their office hours as well to support students. It is not mandatory for students to attend.

Question #7: Can my teacher assign me readings outside of the 3 hours per week?

Answer: Yes, especially for courses where this would be common practice normally, such as English Language Arts.

Question #8: If I need assistance with a course, how do I access support?

Answer: Sending an email to your teacher is a great start. If appropriate, teachers will access other school staff to assist students as well.

Question #9: I am feeling stressed and overwhelmed by all of this change, who should I turn to for help?

*Answer: It would be great to connect with Student Services staff. Our counsellor, Youth Worker, and admin are all here to help students navigate this new normal.
nicolel@eics.ab.ca, lee.dube@eics.ab.ca, stevet@eics.ab.ca, fiona.wimmer@eics.ab.ca*

Question #10: In my class, I received the support of an Educational Assistant (EA). Will I continue to receive the same level of support?

Answer: Just as teachers have moved online to delivering curriculum, so too have Educational Assistants moved online to support students or classes of students. This, of course, will look different from class to class and depending on the level of need in each class. If you have questions about support, please contact our Collaborative Response Coordinators (CRCs): Elean Zaleschuk (elaanz@eics.ab.ca), Pawel Romanowski (pawelr@eics.ab.ca)

Question #11: Will teachers be assigning items during spring break?

Answer: No, spring break is a break from school for all school staff and students. While students have been away from the school, staff have been working very hard over the past two weeks getting learning activities prepared for online classrooms.

Question #12: Will unused fees be returned to families at this time?

Answer: We are still waiting for guidance from Alberta Education on this question. When we hear from them, we will pass this on to families.

Question #13: What has changed with regards to provincial testing?

Answer: All provincial testing is cancelled in semester 2. This means Diploma exams in April and June and Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in May/June. Grade 9 students who wrote a PAT in January had their exams marked by their teachers and recorded as part of their semester 1 final grades. However, usually these exams are also marked along with the semester 2 exams by Alberta Education in July. This will not be done this year. Regarding Diploma exams, the April sitting has been cancelled for students wishing to do a rewrite. Students still wanting to do a rewrite in June should contact school admin in late April to see if permission will be granted for this from AB Ed.