media advisory

June 22, 2013

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CBE schools closed Monday except for diploma exams

The safety of our students, employees and schools continues to be our first priority. In light of continuing emergency conditions in the city of Calgary and surrounding area, all Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) schools will be closed on Monday, June 24. Only high schools in non-evacuated areas will remain open for students writing diploma exams for the week of June 24. Decisions regarding schools for the remainder of the week will be made as quickly as possible in consultation with the <u>Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA)</u>. Updates will be provided as soon they become available.

All Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests will be cancelled and students will receive their teacher-awarded mark.

We know that students across the city are experiencing additional stress, anxiety and uncertainty this weekend about examinations. We want to reassure students that they have options when it comes to diploma exams.

The CBE, CCSD and Alberta Education are working together and we have agreed that full exemptions for all remaining diplomas will be provided for all students. We know that some students may still wish to write the exams, so we will provide students with the opportunity to do so. If students opt not to write the exam, their teacher-awarded mark will be their final grade. No paperwork or action is required by the student to receive an exemption for any remaining diploma exams. Students and families are urged to make the decision that is best for them and not take unnecessary risks to get to their exam writing location.

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Students who opt to write the diploma exams should proceed to their home high school in non-evacuated areas at the regularly scheduled exam time. Students writing diplomas and attending the following flood-affected schools have been assigned an alternative writing location and should proceed to the exam at the regularly scheduled exam time This will apply to all diploma exams scheduled for the rest of the week:

Western Canada High School students will write at Henry Wise Wood High School. Bowness High School students will write at Sir Winston Churchill High School. Queen Elizabeth High School students will write at William Aberhart High School. Louise Dean School students will write at William Aberhart High School. Discovering Choices (Bowness and Downtown) students will write at Discovering Choices Westbrook (2nd floor-#3, 1002-37 Street S.W.). George Wood Learning Centre students will write at Sir Winston Churchill High School.

Exams will proceed as scheduled at Chinook Learning Services Viscount Bennett location.

All remaining diploma exams are scheduled to start at 9:00 am. Students should bring their school ID or other photo ID (if they do not have their school ID with them) to the exam.

Remaining diploma exams: Chemistry 30, Monday, June 24 Math 30-1, 30-2, Tuesday, June 25 Physics 30, Wednesday, June 26 Science 30, Thursday, June 27

All remaining non-diploma exams for all students from Grades 7 through 12 will be cancelled and students will receive their teacher awarded grade.

The CBE and the CCSD are active members of CEMA and we are working together to determine the action necessary to keep our schools and students as safe as possible.

Please continue to check the <u>CBE website</u> for updates. Thank you for your patience.

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