

May 13, 2020

To: Principals and Resource Teachers
MFNERC Member / MFNSS First Nations Schools
MFNERC Partner First Nations Schools (Jordan's Principle Services)

Please be advised that the Special Education/Clinical Support Services Department is reaching out to students and their parents to continue to provide clinical services during the travel ban due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Clinical services staff have completed community-specific (internal) case conferences, and our staff has started reaching out directly to families in a coordinated manner. Staff have also been in contact with as many school staff as we have been able to reach.

Please be advised that we can continue to provide clinical services/consultation via telephone and/or video therapy using a secure network, provided children and their families have access to the necessary hardware/software in their homes. An alternative could be if resource teachers were able (while respecting social distancing), to see students and their parents in the school and provide the Internet connection and computer to facilitate an interaction between the clinician and family.

Our clinicians are also busy creating homework/therapy packages so that children can continue working on therapy goals with their parents at home. All clinical disciplines are contributing to the MFNERC Remote Learning Hub and are working on school-wide, family-based, and individual intervention plans for First Nations students with additional learning needs. The remote learning hub is collection of resources and activities that can be accessed by teachers, support staff, parents and students and is accessible on the MFNERC homepage at www.mfnerc.org.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Don Shackel, Assistant Director of Special Education, and main contact for Clinical Services at (204) 791-3139. If you or the parents would like to request help at this time in specific areas, please contact the leads in the following areas toll free at 1-866-319-4857:

- Rachel North Wavey, Area Team Lead, SLP and Literacy Coaches, racheln@mfnerc.com, ext. 2079
- Christy Hemmerling, Area Team Lead OT, PT, and URIS Nurse, christyh@mfnerc.com ext. 2119

- Adeline Mercredi, Area Team Lead School Psych, DHH, and Student Wellness Support, adelinem@mfnerc.com, ext. 2087
- Marlene Lenton, Literacy Coaches Discipline Lead, marlenel@mfnerc.com, ext. 2103
- Chantal Wiebe, School Psychology Discipline Lead, chantalw@mfnerc.com, ext. 2214

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please note that MFNERC is here to continue to support you, your staff, students and parents of your First Nation school.

Sincerely,



Lorne C. Keeper
Executive Director

- Cc. Virginia Arthurson, Associate Executive Director
Dr. Margaret Scott, Director of Special Education
Dr. Don Shackel, Assistant Director of Special Education
Education Directors, MFNERC Member / MFNSS First Nations Schools
MFNERC Partner First Nations Schools (Jordan's Principle Services)

