Hello Everyone,

We are getting a lot of questions about computers for students – currently all our Education computers are already out on loan, so we do not have any in the department to loan out at this time.

I have spoken with both the Bluewater District School Board and the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board and both indicated that they would take the lead on providing students with the necessary technology in order to access the online resources.

Both school boards are requesting parents fill out a survey to help them know what your students need, I have included the links below.

Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board https://bgcdsb.org/community_health

As you know from previous communication, during this Phase 1, we have been preparing for teacher-led distance learning in the eventuality that this announcement would be made. Part of our initial work was finding out the needs of our families in relation to technology and we greatly appreciate those who have completed our survey. If you have not already done so, please complete the survey now using the attached link (<u>bit.ly/bgcdsbsurvey</u>). If you do not have internet to complete it, please contact your school and leave your name and a number where someone can reach you as soon as possible.

Bluewater District School Board

NEW Continuous Learning Plan/Technology Survey

As part of the roll-out of Bluewater District School Board's plan for continuous student learning, a new web page has been developed with access to our virtual learning portal, videos on getting started, the provincial government's Learn at Home portal, and other resources. The web page includes a link to our Technology Survey for those requiring support with technology and internet access. Click on the Continuous Learning link in the sidebar on the left or access the new web page and Technology Survey here.

https://www.bwdsb.on.ca/Parents/Continuous Learning

St. Joseph's and St. Mary's have already been distributing technology – if your student still needs a computer, please contact their school to let them know.

SDSS and GC Huston were only able to gain access to their buildings today – so they will be distributing technology this week. If your student needs a computer, please contact their school to let them know.

All computers are on loan from the school boards.

Ontario Works has arranged to assist families with students living at home on Saugeen with the costs of internet for the month of April. I have provided IT with the addresses we have on file for students, if a student has moved since October 2019, please let us know their current address.

GC Huston and SDSS have indicated that if you are having trouble accessing the online resources, they can prepare hard copies of the lessons. If your student needs to use hard copies, please let their school know so they can prepare a package for them.

Wishing everyone health and wellness.