



### Greetings Parents

We are looking forward to welcoming students back to school this fall! We wanted to provide you with information about what our schools will look like, some of the health and safety precautions in place, and what the first week timelines will be. Please carefully read through all this important information.

Before Leaving Home

- Students must **stay home when sick**; please notify the school office if your child will be absent 250-754-2722.
  - Use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) and check your child **each day** for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease. Please stay home until symptoms subside and consult your health care provider. Parents will be required to sign a form indicating that they will facilitate a daily health check with their child(ren) each day before school.
- Students who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days, or were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers who are ill.

### Drop off and Pick up

- Only staff and students are permitted in the building—*parents must remain OUTSIDE and maintain physical distancing at all times.*
- Please adhere to the drop-off and pick-up times for your school. Please plan to drop your child(ren) off and pick them up *as close to the bell as possible* to minimize traffic on the school grounds.

### Come Prepared

- Send your child with a full water bottle(s)—*water fountains have been disabled, refill stations remain open.*
- Send snacks and a lunch each day.
- No food sharing or preparation onsite.
  - Please do not send any birthday cakes/cupcakes as we will not be sharing food.
- Students should bring in/take home their own personal items each day (ie. lunch, snacks, etc).
- School supplies/materials will be stored in student desks or separate bins and can stay at school – *no sharing permitted*
- Please ensure all student belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name or initials.

- We will be outside as much as possible during class time and recess, so please dress appropriately. Ensure wet weather gear is available everyday.

#### Classroom Assignments/Learning Groups

- Children will be arranged into home-room classrooms from the first day of school. To ensure that we maintain our learning groups right from the start, there will be no/very limited changes for students once they are assigned to their classes. Please know that staff work closely together when making class placements.
- Where possible, each classroom will have a “partner” class, which will make up the learning group. These groupings, including the adults who regularly interact with them, will form a learning group, of no more than 60 people.

#### Personal Protective Equipment

- The school district will provide two reusable masks for each staff member and student.
- Staff and students are not required to wear masks or other PPE within their own learning groupings. Individuals who choose to wear them will be permitted to do so.
- Adults will adhere to physical distancing measures, and wear masks or establish a physical barrier when interacting with individuals outside their learning groupings.
- Students will need to refrain from physical contact when playing outside. They are not required to wear masks or maintain learning groupings when outdoors, however, most schools will have assigned play areas to decrease cross-over of learning groups, depending on number of students and size of school property.

#### Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Frequently touched surfaces like doorknobs, chairs, desks and washrooms will be disinfected twice a day.
- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises happens once a day.
- Disinfectant spray cleaner is provided for staff use in every classroom.

#### If a child becomes sick

- Sick children will be supervised in an isolated area.
- Parents will be notified and are expected to pick up their child as soon as possible.
- Where and when needed, the rest of the class will be moved to an alternate location until the room the child was in is cleaned.
- Any areas used by the student will be cleaned/disinfected.

#### School Buses

- Students will continue to be seated 1 per seat (students from the same family can share a seat).
- Buses will receive a wipe down of high touch surfaces between passenger loads.
- Students need to maintain physical distancing at bus line up areas.
- Where possible, private vehicle use and active transportation (eg. biking, walking, etc.) is encouraged.

#### First Week of School

- Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> – On these first two days, only staff will return to school to ensure they have an opportunity to review all our health and safety protocols and to do other preparations for return of students during COVID-19 times. **Students are not in attendance on these two days.**
- September 10<sup>th</sup> – regular start of school day, for two hours ***845am-1045am.***

- half of the students will come to school and be assigned to their class, **Students with the last names that begin with A -Mc are invited back this day.**
- during this time teacher's will go over the health and safety protocols, where class line ups will be, and explain many of the new procedures in place.
- a short 'recess break' will be part of this time to have students practice what this will look like this year.
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>** – regular start of school day, for two hours **845am-1045am**
  - Second half of the students will come to school and be assigned to their class, **Students with the last names beginning with the letters Mc-Z are invited back this day.**
  - during this time teachers will go over the health and safety protocols, where class line ups will be, and explain many of the new procedures in place.
  - a short 'recess break' will be part of this time to have students practice what this will look like this year.

We want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through all the new procedures and systems in place to keep our students and staff healthy. We appreciate you taking the time to read through all the information, specific details will come from your child's school in the coming days.