



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57(PRINCE GEORGE)

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April 6, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

We would like to thank you for your patience as we work through the new safety guidelines provided to us from the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Officer. The announcement made last week resulted in changes to our safety practices in our schools.

Our revised restart plan is posted on our website for you to review. The most significant change to our plan is the mask guidelines. It is now expected that students in grades 4-12 will wear masks indoors at all times, other than when eating or drinking. Within the mask guidelines are exceptions which include:

- to a person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioral reasons;
- to a person who is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- if the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;
- if the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask(e.g. playing a wind instrument, high-intensity PE etc...);
- if a person is eating or drinking;
- if a person is behind a barrier; or
- while providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (including but not limited to a hearing impairment) where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements is important.

If you believe your child meets one of the exceptions, please contact your child's principal to discuss.

It is important to emphasize that schools must not require a health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) to confirm if staff, students or visitors cannot wear a mask and no student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask.

In addition to wearing masks, schools will be reviewing the important measures of proper hand hygiene, physical distancing, cleaning and disinfecting and staying home when you feel ill with students and staff. These measures are most effective in our strategies to keeping our buildings safe.

For additional information, please visit our School District 57 website to review our DRAFT revised Restart Safety Plan and a Frequently Asked Questions Document. For all other inquiries, please contact your school principal.

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Cindy Heitman
Acting Superintendent of Schools