



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

2100 Ferry Avenue, Prince George, B.C. V2L 4R5

Phone: (250) 561-6800 Fax: (250) 561-6801
www.sd57.bc.ca

May 22, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians,

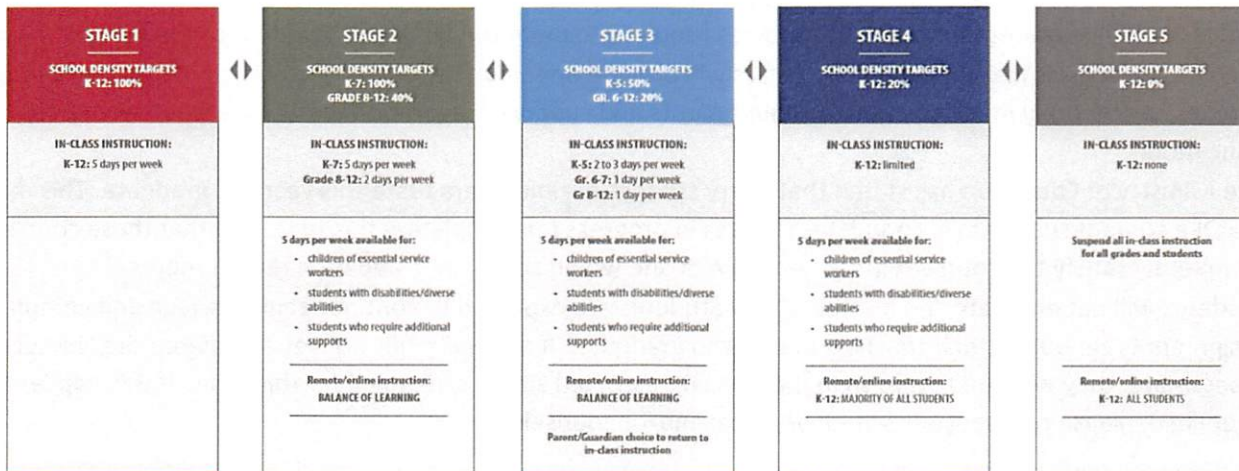
As the Province of British Columbia follows its Restart Plan, beginning the week of June 1, more students in School District No. 57 will return to in-class instruction by parent/guardian choice. A return to in-person instruction has been identified as integral to the Restart Plan which involves a gradual resumption of social and economic activity while continuing to employ preventative measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. As such, the plan includes a five-stage return to full in-class instruction in K-12 schools, guided by strict health and safety standards determined by the Provincial Health Officer, BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafeBC.

All school districts and independent school authorities in B.C. are expected to be in Stage 3 on June 1 (see graphic below).

You should have already been contacted by your school(s) to find out whether or not you plan on sending your child(ren) to school on a part-time schedule beginning the week of June 1st. Schools are also asking any families that normally take the bus, if they will need to use this service. A recommended option is to transport students yourselves, if possible.

Specific attendance plans will vary according to grade levels and you will receive further information from your school as to how this will be organized next week. In general terms, elementary students in grades K-5 will be able to attend in-person for two days of the week while students in grades 6-12 will be able to attend in-person one day per week. The learning arrangements will ensure that groupings do not exceed the Ministry density targets for our school populations. In all cases, we ask that parents and guardians do not enter the school site so that we can keep the number of persons on site to the targets set by the Ministry of Education. Meetings over the phone may be arranged in advance by contacting the school.

FIVE STAGES FOR K-12 EDUCATION



As the transition to Stage 3 occurs, the health and safety of students, staff and families is the highest priority.

Safety measures will include:

- Limiting the number of students in schools at one time to support physical distancing and/or reduce physical contact
- Staggering lunch breaks, recess, pick-up and drop-off times
- A review of available spaces in schools to adjust things like hallway flow and the number and sizes of groups congregating in common areas
- Rigorous cleaning schedules for high-contact surfaces and a daily deep cleaning of school buildings
- An increase in the number of hand sanitizing and cleaning stations
- A requirement for parents, students and staff members to do a daily self-assessment for symptoms of COVID-19, influenza and the common cold and to stay home if any symptoms, however mild, are identified
- Ensuring bus transportation is safe by having one child per seat unless children are from the same household, and maintaining a safe physical distance between the driver and passengers, which in some cases, may include a barrier.

Provincially, and in School District No. 57, educators are committed to ensuring continuity of learning for all students.

In School District No. 57, Stage 3 will consist of the following options for K-12:

- Some students will attend in-person classes a day or two a week and also engage in remote or online learning when not at school.
- Children of Essential Services Workers, students with disabilities/diverse abilities and students who require additional supports) will have the option to attend in-person for parts of every day.
- Other students will continue to engage in remote or online learning full-time. To meet the needs of all students, teachers will continue to prioritize areas of learning. The focus will be maintained on literacy, numeracy, Core Competencies (Communication, Thinking, Personal and Social) as well as First Peoples Principles of Learning. Teachers will use their professional judgement to determine whether or not sufficient learning has been achieved and all students will receive final report cards based on their standing at spring break, plus work completed through to the end of June, whether at home or on site. Given the understanding that learning is occurring within a context of diverse circumstances, assessment and reporting practices will take into account the unique challenges students are facing.

For students in Grades 10-12:

- In grades 10 and 11, the focus will be maintained on the key components of the courses required for graduation.
- Students in Grades 10-12 will receive letter grades and percentages on their final report cards.

For our students in Grade 12 and on track to graduate this year:

- The focus will be on the completion of courses required to meet the 80 credits needed for graduation.
- Specifically, in-class instruction for Grade 12s will provide opportunities to achieve sufficient learning in required courses, successfully meet graduation requirements and support preparation for work or post-secondary education.
- The Ministry of Education has stated that every student eligible to graduate this year will graduate. This means that if a student successfully completes courses in progress for completion this June, and that these courses will completely satisfy the course requirements, he or she would satisfy all graduation requirements.
- Students will not graduate “no matter what.” Students are expected to continue their learning and complete the assignments set out by their teachers in order to graduate. If a student has not yet completed the Numeracy 10 assessment, they will need to do so in the special, restricted sitting scheduled for this June. If this applies to your child, please contact your school principal and/or counselor.

Other details:

- As per the Ministry of Education directive, StrongStart programs will remain closed at this time
- Supports will continue to be in place for the social and emotional well-being of all students and staff
- Our centralized meals program will continue to operate
- Our playgrounds will be re-opening over the next few weeks under the guidance of our Provincial Health Officer
- We will continue to post updates on our website: <https://www.sd57.bc.ca>

Please see the links below for additional information.

[B.C.'s Restart Plan](#)

[COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings](#)

[Safe & Healthy Schools](#)

[WorkSafeBC COVID-19 Information and Resources](#)

[List of COVID-19 Essential Services](#)

[First Nations Education Steering Committee COVID-19 Resources and Response](#)

[Metis Nation British Columbia COVID-19 Response](#)

[COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your children, delivering the highest-quality educational experience possible.

We greatly respect the knowledge and guidance of our Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry and her team and are excited to welcome your children back to our schools in larger numbers now that it is safe to do so.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation in ensuring we can effectively and safely do our part to support learning, the economy and the containment of the pandemic.

Sincerely,



Anita Richardson
Superintendent of Schools

/jc