

RED RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION DIVISION SCOLAIRE VALLÉE de la RIVIÈRE-ROUGE

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Date: November 24, 2021

To: RRVSD Community

From: Brad Curtis, Superintendent & CEO

Re: COVID-19 UPDATE #24

All resources and further updates for the RRVSD Community will be posted on our website: www.rrvsd.ca

Due to rising COVID-19 cases, increased community transmission and a growing strain on the healthcare system, Manitoba Health has announced new restrictions to help curb the spread of the virus in the fourth wave of the pandemic. As per Public Health, the following new order applies to all indoor recreational (extra-curricular) school sports effective Dec 6, 2021.

Proof of at least one dose of vaccination or a recent (within 72 hours) negative test result will be required for 12 to 17 year olds for indoor recreational sports. There will be a grace period until Dec. 5 to allow individuals who are not yet fully immunized to comply, with the order to be in effect at 12:01 a.m. on Dec. 6.

Proof of vaccination is voluntary. Negative tests need to come from a participating pharmacy as provincial testing sites should only be accessed by symptomatic individuals or those who are required to take a PCR test by public health.

The order applies to sports at public or independent school gymnasiums and other sporting facilities, sports with any portion played indoors (practice or competition), dance and martial arts. Excluded from this order are Physical Education classes and any other physical activity that is part of the instructional school day.

As a school division, we recognize that these new restrictions will require parents/caregivers to make difficult decisions regarding their child's participation in extra-curricular sports. However, we have a responsibility to follow all public health orders to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

Verification Process

Red River Valley School Division will provide parents/caregivers with the opportunity to declare vaccination status for their children voluntarily.

Vaccination status of your children can be verified by sending proof of immunization (either a QR code, copy of a shared health letter or photo of a vaccination card) by email to: apneufeld@rrvsd.ca or via text to: (431) 350-0138. Please also indicate which school your child is attending.

Proof of Vaccination guidelines: https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/

Proof of one dose of vaccine will be the print out from Shared Health: https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/test-results/

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Parents/Caregivers may choose to have their child tested if their child is unvaccinated or they decide not to disclose their child's vaccination status. Testing must take place within 72 hours of the activity/event. As noted in the order, testing must be completed at a participating pharmacy. Fees will apply (approx. \$20-\$40), and parents/caregivers are fully responsible for payment to the service provider. Fee rates may vary between pharmacies. Please check with your child's school regarding the notification process for completed tests.

We appreciate your cooperation, patience and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Our goal is to keep children in school, offering as many activities as possible while following all public health orders.

Sincerely,

Brad Curtis