

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

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Date: August 26, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m.

To: RRVSD Community

From: Brad Curtis, Superintendent & CEO

Re: COVID-19 UPDATE #22

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

We are writing to update you about the Government of Manitoba's announcement for September 2021 school reopening. Our staff have been busy working to make appropriate plans to allow the safe return of students in response to this next phase. The Chief Provincial Public Health Officer has provided direction and guidelines in order to have students return safely to school. We want to assure everyone that the Red River Valley School Division is making plans based upon the recommendations from Manitoba Health. Our divisional and school staff are planning for the return of students to the school with the priority remaining the safety and well-being of staff and students. We deeply appreciate the patience, co-operation and support that families have provided as we navigate these changing conditions. Listed below are reopening conditions for September 2021. These conditions may change as required.

K - 12 Students

- a. All K 12 students will be able to attend school on a daily basis beginning September 8th. Schools will notify families of their child's schedule before school starts.
- b. Classroom configurations and bus seating plans will be configured to comply with Manitoba Health's current guidelines.
- c. Entrances and exits to and from school will be communicated clearly to students. School staff will manage student traffic in the school.
- d. Parents and caregivers will be expected to screen their children before boarding the bus or dropping off at school. Students and staff who are experiencing any symptoms are expected to stay home.
- e. There will be enhanced cleaning protocols in all of our schools and buses. Students and staff are expected to cooperate and follow health guidelines appropriately.
- f. K 6 students will be cohorted until Public Health deems it is not required.
- g. Students will follow required seating plans at school and while on the bus.

Mandatory Masks

On August 24, 2021 the province updated the requirement for mandatory mask wearing in schools. All students and staff are required to wear masks at school and while on our buses, including all visitors to the school. Schools and buses will be equipped with disposable masks for students if they forget to bring one.

At this time, we are requesting that any parents that intend on homeschooling their children to please inform their local school.

All RRVSD staff will be required to provide proof of vaccination for COVID-19 or undergo regular testing for COVID-19.

Remote Learning for Students with Medical Accommodation

For students who are medically advised not to return to in-class learning due to COVID-19 related factors - this option can be available if health care providers have concern for immediate family members in a shared household that can not physically distance. Parents and caregivers must consult with health care providers on the need for an accommodation. A medical note/short form is required by the school division. Please contact your local school if medical accommodation is required.

Resumption of Activities

The following activities and/or access will resume for September 2021 following all public health recommendations and orders at the time:

Canteen/Breakfast/Lunch Programs, Preschool Programs, Community Use of Schools, Band, Music, Field Trips, School Athletics, Extracurricular Busing, Driver's Education.

Schools will be providing families with information regarding instructions that are site specific prior to students attending school in September. This information will be available after September 1st. The transportation department will be providing families with scheduled pickup and drop off times before the start of school. The school division will continue to follow Public Health's guidance for the use of PPE (personal protective equipment such as masks, shields, gloves).

We will continue to update our website and share information as it becomes available.

Please see the attached link for more information:

Restoring Safe Schools August 2021