

ORANGE – RESTRICTED

October 23, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As of noon, on October 22nd Dr. Roussin, Chief Public Health Officer in Manitoba indicated that we would be moving to a restricted level orange as part of the pandemic response system. This includes the northern regions.

Public Health is stating that schools continue to be safe places for children. There has been minimal school-level transmission among the K–12 schools with confirmed cases. Cohorts and other public health measures have been effective in mitigating the risk of transmission and informing contact tracing.

Schools staff, support staff and administrative teams have implemented public health measures consistently since our September start. Our goal is to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all of our students. We know that maintaining our programs and services is important. Having students in school helps them in many ways: access to learning and resources, support with their learning/ academics needs, establishing routines, allowing for social interaction and focussing on mental wellness.

The Kelsey School Division will continue to focus on safety and health plans as directed by the mandates and guidelines provided by the Department of Education and Public Health. We are ensuring that all reasonable measures are in place to minimize the risk of transmission and exposure to the virus in our school settings.

As of Monday, October 26th we will be adjusting school protocols to align to new requirements and guidelines for schools in the north. Our plans are designed with students, staff and the community in mind and take in to account our needs within the Division, staffing and resource capacity and access to supports.

We will continue to work with the Department of Education, Public Health and northern Divisions in our planning efforts. If there are additional needs identified while in the Level Orange - Restricted, or we are advised to adjust our plans, the Division may be required to implement further changes. We will ensure that families are contacted if further changes occur. We will also post any changes to the school and Division websites and urge parents to use these sites to access accurate information.

The upcoming plans are listed on the next page.

Selena Mell

KSD Superintendent

ORANGE – RESTRICTED

Monday October 26, 2020

KSD PLANS

Learning Programs

- Priority will be for in-class learning for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students and students with special needs.
- Grade 9-12 will prioritize in class learning and continue to offer alternate programming and schedules as was established in September.
- Alternate school programs will continue to deliver their programs and services according to past practice.
- Remote learning options are provided to immune compromised students/families with a medical certificate.

Masks

- Mask wearing is mandated on buses for all students.
- Mask wearing is mandated in schools for Grades 4-12 and with all staff.
- Teachers and Division staff who move across cohorts will be provided with medical (disposable) masks.

School Procedures

- Schools will continue to follow the same hours.
- We will ensure 2m of physical distancing in classes, to the best of our ability.
- Where possible, additional furniture will be removed from classes to allow for greater distancing between desks.
- Sanitization and hand washing routines will continue.
- Cohorts (student groups) will be maintained.
- The use of cohort entry/ exit doors will continue.
- Out of class activities or sports activities will continue to follow previous guidelines for social distancing, mask wearing, hand sanitizing and sanitization of equipment.
- All field trips are postponed. However, outdoor nature walks or body breaks will continue.
- Recess and lunch breaks will continue with cohort schedules.
- Choirs (singing) and wind instruments (i.e. recorders, flutes, oboes, trumpets, trombones, tubas) would not be permitted at this time.

Visitors

- Parent meetings would be held through phone or zoom calls. If separate entrances allow for parents to access the meeting room without meeting cohorts, then meeting can be held at the school. Mask requirements are in place for all meetings.
- Visitors and groups not affiliate with the Division and its' programs would be restricted from visiting or presenting at this time.
- Schools will continue keep detailed logs of attendance information, for contact tracing purposes.

Bussing

- Bus times remain the same.

- Bussing is not be provided for any in town students due to the restrictions required. This is the same plan which began in September.
- Busses will continue to be washed down after bus runs.

DRAFT