

School District 81
 Stage 2 - Health and Safety Plan
 Updated September 14, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES

Cleaning and Disinfection

Cleaning below will be done with Virox 5 or Oxivir TB. If other cleaners/disinfectants are added, they will also be on Health Canada’s list of hard-surface disinfectants for use against coronavirus.

Items to be cleaned	Frequency	Responsibility
General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises	Nightly	Contracted janitors
Garbage cans emptied	Nightly	Contracted janitors
Doorknobs, light switches, emergency door handles, railings	Twice Daily	Contracted janitors
Surface that is visibly dirty	As needed	Staff members
Bathrooms; toilet handles, faucets, floors	Twice Daily	Contracted janitors
Tables, desks, chairs	Twice Daily	Contracted janitors
FNSS weight room equipment	Between classes	Teacher to turn on sanitizing mister.

Additional Measures taken

- Water fountains will remain disabled and hydration station will be cleaned twice daily by contracted janitors.
- Keyboards and toys used by multiple students will be cleaned at least twice in 24 hours by contracted janitors, staff, or by students after use.
- Limit frequently-touched items by assigning items for individual student use.
- Learning carpets and fabric covered seating have been removed from classrooms.
- Students to wash hands before and after computer use.
- Students to wash hands before and after gym equipment use.
- Portable sinks to be available for areas with no sinks.
- Blow dryers in washrooms will be disabled and paper towels available.
- All furnace filters changed on a regular basis which includes filter change before September.
- All in-town schools have heating monitored and adjusted remotely by the Director of Facilities for as much fresh air exchange as possible, depending on the weather.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES

Physical Distancing and Minimizing Physical Contact

Please note: The Provincial Health Officer has advised to prioritize Physical Distancing, Hand Hygiene, and Respiratory Etiquette before Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in stopping the transmission of disease. Non-medical masks are not a replacement for the need for physical distancing for in-class instruction delivered to more than one cohort.

The following has been implemented:

- Plexiglass barrier and signage in office to allow for safe distance around administrative assistant's desk area,
- Adults have been instructed to avoid close greetings such as hugs or handshakes
- Explicitly teach and regularly remind students about keeping "hands to yourself"
- Each classroom teacher has carefully considered flow and spacing. Furniture has been rearranged and removed as necessary.
- Assigned student seating where practical.
- Instructional Release teachers, Student Services Resource Teachers, and other staff may provide service in classrooms or arrange areas for physical distancing to reduce student movement in hallways.
- Staff outside of a cohort should practice physical distancing when interacting with the cohort. Physical distancing of 1 to 2 meters of space between staff and students is recommended.
- Staff who work with different cohorts and cannot physically distance, will have masks, face shields, and plexiglass barriers.
- Staff who work between sites have been scheduled to reduce movement between sites as much as possible.
- Elementary students will be assigned to classes as usual but have been grouped into cohorts for outside time and for In Days.
- The Secondary School timetable has been switched to a Term system where courses will be 10 weeks long. There are three learning groups: Grades 8/9, Grade 10 and Grades 11/12. Grade 8/9 students are assigned to a classroom with assigned seating for academic courses and move to elective courses only with physical distancing. Grades 10 and 11/12 learning groups have been assigned classrooms designated for academic courses with assigned seating. There will be some student movement with physical distancing but this has been kept to a minimum. The majority of students are scheduled to receive the same courses they chose in June.
- Students from different cohorts may be required to be together to receive beneficial social supports, programs, or services. Within these supports or services, it is expected that cohorts are maintained and physical distancing is practiced as much as possible..
- Student Services will continue in all schools for students with diverse learning needs/disabilities including in-class support, Leveled Literacy Intervention, Great Leaps, Youth & Family support, Counseling, and Aboriginal support.

- Band/Music classes will have 2-meter physical distancing in place surrounding each student. No music stands will be shared.
- Bathroom use has been limited to two students at a time where possible or washrooms have been assigned to cohorts.
- Teachers have been asked to send only one student at a time to the washrooms.
- Cohorts will be assigned to specific playground areas and supervised to avoid mingling with other cohort groups.
- Cohorts will be assigned to specific areas of the school during In Days to avoid mingling with other cohort groups.
- Students will be physically distanced entering and exiting school and in hallways.
- Front doors are locked, with a doorbell system for visitors.

Learning outside

Teachers are encouraged to plan learning activities outside including snack time, P.E., place-based learning and unstructured time.

Flow of people in common areas

Hallways to be divided with tape and arrows denoting flow of traffic. Emergency exit doors will be used. Assemblies and school-wide activities have been cancelled but may occur using Zoom. Cohort groups have been segregated into pods or wings of schools to minimize hallway flow.

Separate Entrances and Line Ups

Students are divided into cohorts with designated entrances being assigned. Adult supervision will be present at each entrance to ensure students physical distance, use hand sanitizer and do a wellness check (“How are you feeling today?”).

Students will enter the classroom upon arrival to school. (soft start) to avoid line ups.

Students will follow physical distancing when lining up.

PERSONAL MEASURES

Stay Home When Sick

- Parents and caregivers will be instructed to assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school. A checklist will be sent home.
- School Administrator will ensure school staff is aware of their personal responsibility to assess themselves daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before entering the school.
- Staff will assess themselves daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before entering the school.
- If the staff or student (or their parent) indicates that the symptoms are consistent with a

previously diagnosed health condition and are not unusual for that individual, they may return to school. No assessment or note is required from a health care provider.

- For mild symptoms of illness, without fever, students and staff can monitor at home for 24 hours. If symptoms improve, they can return to school without further assessment.
- If symptoms include fever or if after 24 hours, symptoms remain unchanged or worsen, seek a health assessment. A health assessment can include calling 8-1-1 or a primary care provider.
- If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, the student/staff can return to school when symptoms have improved and they feel well enough.
- If a COVID-19 test is negative, the student/staff can return to school once symptoms have improved and they feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless the person develops a new illness.
- Students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household develops symptoms of illness, provided the student/staff has no symptoms themselves.
- If a COVID-19 is positive, the student/staff should stay home until they are told by public health to end their self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will advise those who have had close contact regarding next steps.
- Parents/Community Members will be asked to assess themselves for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before entering the school. A health/wellness checklist will be displayed at front entrances and a written sign in sheet indicating that they have completed the wellness check will be at front entrances.
- School Administrator will: Clearly communicate through a letter to parents and caregivers their responsibility to assess their children daily before sending them to school or sending them on the bus.

Hand Hygiene

- Prior to entering the school students, each time, will be assisted with using an alcohol-based hand rub with a minimum of 60% alcohol or using soap and water. Students will use hand sanitizer or soap and water prior to exiting school.
- Staff will model and teachers will explicitly teach students hand washing procedures based on BCCD'S hand washing poster.
- Posters to promote the importance of appropriate hand hygiene will be displayed at entrance to school, washrooms and in classrooms.
- Classrooms equipped with a sink, soap dispenser and paper towels.
- School areas not equipped with sinks or not in an area close to a sink, will have portable sinks with soap and paper towels available or hand sanitizer.
- Students will be directed by teacher or support staff to wash hands as needed throughout the day but specifically: before eating, after eating, after using a tissue, after washroom use and before and after going outside.
- Students will be directed by teacher or support staff to wash hands before and after using in-class centres, math manipulatives, computers and tablets, and gym equipment except if objects are individual-use items.

- Staff will assist students with hand hygiene as needed.

Respiratory Etiquette

Students in Grades 5 to 12 are asked to wear non-medical masks when on the bus. Two re-useable non-medical masks will be provided to students and staff. All staff on buses will wear masks and/or plexiglass face shields.

Staff working with more than one cohort or Learning Group will have a mask, plexiglass face shield, or a plexiglass barrier for when they need them or when they cannot physically distance.

Staff will model and teachers will explicitly teach students to:

- Cough or sneeze into their elbow sleeve or a tissue. Throw away tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene
- Refrain from touching their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- Refrain from sharing any food, drinks, and unwashed utensils
- How to put on and remove and store masks for grades 5 to 12 or as necessary as on the [BCCDC](#) website and the [Government of Canada](#) website.

Managing students/staff with illness or possible COVID-19

All students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19, OR traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, OR were identified by Public Health as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate.

If a student or staff member who is self-monitoring (i.e. has been directed by public health to self-monitor for symptoms but not self-isolate) or begins to experience symptoms of COVID-19 while attending school, it is recommended that:

- All staff be advised to let the Principal know if they are showing symptoms or if a student is showing symptoms.
- Schools should promptly, but showing awareness for confidentiality concerns, separate the student or staff who display symptoms (e.g. fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue, headache, muscle aches). The student should be put in an area separate from others, with adequate supervision, until they can go home. The staff should leave the building and follow health procedures. Notify the Superintendent.
- To help prevent transmission, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene practices are recommended, as well as, to the extent possible, having the ill student or staff stay two meters away from others. The student should be placed in a separate room from other students with a closed or partially closed door. The person monitoring the student should wear gloves and a mask.
- The student should be instructed to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Schools should notify parents/guardians if their child begins to show symptoms of illness

or COVID-19 while at school, including the need for immediate pick up. They should not go home on the bus.

- Advise parents/guardians that they can phone 8-1-1 for a health assessment if their child has symptoms compatible with COVID-19 while at school.
- Notify the Director of Facilities to have any rooms where the student was symptomatic be cleaned and disinfected. This is best done at break times or after school if practical.
- For mild symptoms of illness, without fever, students and staff can monitor at home for 24 hours. If symptoms improve, they can return to school without further assessment.
- If symptoms include fever or if after 24 hours, symptoms remain unchanged or worsen, seek a health assessment. A health assessment can include calling 8-1-1 or a primary care provider.
- If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, the student/staff can return to school when symptoms have improved and they feel well enough.
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- Students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household develops symptoms of illness, provided the student/staff has no symptoms themselves.
- If a COVID-19 is positive, the student/staff should stay home until they are told by public health to end their self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms.
- Public Health Officials will identify individuals who may have had contact with a COVID-19 infected person and alert school administrators to actions that need to be taken. Public Health will contact close contacts of a confirmed case and advise them if self-isolation is needed.
- Try to maintain familiar routines and activities.
- Listen to students and provide age-appropriate information to their questions.