



December 31, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Re: Information Bulletin

I hope you all had a restful and meaningful winter break with your families. I look forward to taking on my new role as the superintendent and working with our parent community through this challenging time. As we approach the new year, we are sharing an important update regarding COVID-19 and expectations for the next two weeks.

The COVID-19 landscape is evolving, and as seen in the recent rise in cases across the province, we are learning the Omicron variant is more transmissible. We expect there will be more cases in the community and in our schools, but we will continue to do what we can as a system to prevent spread and reduce severe illness. The District is working closely with the Ministry of Education and Fraser Health on this fluid situation.

As you may know, the province announced on Wednesday enhanced measures and a delayed start to the return of school for K-12 students on **Monday, January 10, 2022**. As announced, schools will be open beginning January 4, 2022, to staff and **only** children of Essential Service Workers, diverse learners, and learners that require additional supports. If you have any questions, please contact your school principal. The news release can be found [here](#).

*What will January 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> look like for students physically in school?*

Teachers and staff will be on site caring for your child and providing literacy, numeracy, and social emotional learning-based activities. As per Ministry Direction, no new curriculum is expected to be delivered during this week. All COVID-19 health and safety guidelines prior to winter break such as mask wearing will remain in place.

School staff will be working this week to implement plans and transition to enhanced measures as outlined in the updated health and safety guidelines [here](#). Schools offering food programs or additional supports will remain in place but at limited capacity.

*What will January 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> look like for students at home?*

Students at home during this week will not receive any instruction or remote learning activities from the school. Students will be able to return on Monday, January 10th with enhanced measures in place as outlined in the updated health and safety guidelines [here](#).

*Will transportation be available during January 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>?*

District bussing will continue for riders who normally use the service and are expecting to attend school, based on the criteria mentioned above. With recent weather conditions, riders are advised to review their pick-up and drop-off locations/times as usual. COVID-19 protocols such as mask wearing remain in place.

*Will on-site childcare operators such as daycare and before and after school care be open?*

Families have been asked to get in touch with their childcare provider to confirm. School District personnel are not responsible for the operations of on-site childcare services.

*Are there any other District program and scheduling changes?*

StrongStart and Early Learning programming such as the Welcome Centre at Donna Gabriel Robins Elementary will also have a delayed start, with programs beginning January 10, 2022. The School Board Office will remain open to the public with regular hours in effect and COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place.

The District will be working with administrators and staff next week to implement enhanced measures. Many of these measures have been in place before. We are continuing to work closely with the Ministry of Education and Fraser Health. We will be receiving additional information from our health and education partners next week. We plan to share more information with families around expectations for the start of school on January 10th before the end of next week.

As we transition to enhanced measures, we are reminding families to continue with existing protocols: stay home when sick, conduct a **daily health check**, wear masks, and practice proper hand washing. We know that these measures are helping keep our staff, students, and community members healthy and safe. We also want to encourage everyone who is eligible for a vaccine to get immunized. Vaccines are a key layer of protection and reducing severe illness. Instructions to register can be found [here](#). For those returning from international trips, please adhere to current federal travel guidelines which you can find [here](#).

The District understands how difficult these changes related to the enhanced measures and a delayed start will be on our staff, students, and families. As always, we are taking direction from the Ministry and the Provincial Health Office and doing our part to support public health efforts in keeping everyone safe. We recognize that the delayed start disrupts family work/life schedules and student learning. We can assure that the District is committed to following the guidance of health experts and balancing that with the goal of delivering the best education possible for all students. We appreciate your patience and support as we work through these changes. As a learning community prioritizing care and connection during this pandemic, please get in contact with your school administrator if you have any questions or concerns. Our staff are dedicated and working diligently to support your child.

Sincerely,

Mal Gill  
Superintendent of Schools

Cette notification est importante. S'il vous plaît demandez à quelqu'un pour la traduire afin d'être bien informé(e) à propos de l'école.

هذه الرسالة مهمة، الرجاء ان تطلب من احد الأشخاص ترجمتها لك لأنها تحتوي على معلومات مهمة من المدرسة

这是一个很重要的通知。请找人翻译它的内容，这样你就可以及时知道学校的情况。

ਇਹ ਇੱਕ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੁਣੀ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਅਨਿ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਵਾਓ ਤਾਂ ਅੰਤਰਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਸਥਿਤੀ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕੇ।

이것은 중요한 공지사항입니다. 이것을 번역할 수 있는 분에게 부탁해서 여러분이 학교에서 공지하는 것에 대하여 정확하게 인지할 수 있기 바랍니다.

Đây là một thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người dịch để bạn có thể biết thêm những thông tin về trường học.

Este es un aviso importante. Por favor consiga que alguien se lo traduzca para que usted pueda mantenerse bien informado sobre la información de su escuela.

Ito ay isang mahalagang notisya. Mangyari po lamang ay magkaroon ng taong tagasalin ng wika upang ikaw ay maging batid tungkol sa impormasyon ng paaralan.