



Board of Education

School District No. 22 (Vernon)

1401 – 15th Street, Vernon, BC V1T 8S8

December 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Students:

Let us begin by thanking you for following the School District Safety Plans and keeping the COVID-19 infection rate low, both in the community and in our schools. I would also like to recognize and thank our teachers, administrators and support staff for the outstanding service they provide our students. COVID-19 has presented many challenges that our staff have faced with resilience and professionalism.

Our first priority continues to be the health and safety of our students, staff and families. Please note the following School District Exposure Control Plan measures:

- Each parent/caregiver needs to do their child's health check each morning. The form can be found on page 62-63 of the ECP ([link to ECP](#))
- Please do not send a child with symptoms or illness to school – call 811 or your health care provider and arrange for a COVID test if recommended
- Masks for K-12 are required on buses
- COVID-19 bus riding procedures/videos are available on the district website [link](#)
- Masks for grades 6-12 are required in common areas, hallways, and areas where physical distancing cannot be maintained
- Mask use is encouraged in classes and cohorts
- Students need to wash/disinfect their hands throughout the day
- Our custodial staff and enhanced cleaners are sanitizing high touch areas throughout the day
- Buses are cleaned after each route
- Access to schools is limited to staff and students
- Parent visitor access is by appointment
- Drop off and pick-up – parents are asked to remain in their vehicle unless it is necessary to assist your child into or out of the vehicle. If parents must exit their vehicles during pick-up and drop-off times, please adhere to the School District protocol: wear a mask and maintain physical distancing
- Parents are asked not to socialize with other parents while waiting for their child or after dropping off their children. Please leave the school site if you need to meet with other parents

On December 7, 2020, Dr. Bonnie Henry created new orders and directions for all of us. These directions are in effect until midnight on January 8, 2021. Please adhere to the following restrictions from the Province-wide restrictions [link](#):

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(250) 542-3331 www.sd22.bc.ca



- No social gatherings of any size at your home with anyone other than your household or core bubble
- Do not have play dates for children
- Do not host gatherings outdoors
- All adult team sports are suspended
- School and youth sports can continue to practice and build skills but all games are suspended
- All non-essential travel should be avoided. Do not travel to visit family or friends outside your bubble

By following our school safety plans and the new Provincial Health Order we will keep the community and school COVID cases low. We have had 5 confirmed COVID-19 cases since September in our schools and we hope, through our collective efforts, to continue to keep case numbers low within the schools and the community.

Please note there are virtual supports available should you wish to access counselling or supportive groups on a variety of topics:

The Foundry - call 236-420-2803 or visit <https://foundrybc.ca/>
Vernon Canadian Mental Health Association - call 1-888-353-2273
For counselling, food or shelter - visit <http://www.bc211.ca/home>

Let us finish by wishing each of you a happy holiday season. We know that our celebrations will be different but still meaningful.

As a COVID-19 vaccine becomes available we need to continue to work together to reduce the risk.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gen Acton".

Gen Acton
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Joe Rogers".

Joe Rogers
Superintendent