

December 1, 2020

Dear Parents, teachers, staff and students,

We wanted to make you aware that we are seeing increased COVID-19 activity within Northern Saskatchewan. We are asking everyone to be extra vigilant. Protect yourself and your family at all times during the pandemic by following all public health recommendations and ensuring you do your part to stop the spread.

As of November 27, Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer <u>released updated guidelines</u> stating that <u>masks will be</u> <u>required for all students, employee and visitors in schools</u>, with the exception of while they are consuming food or beverages. This will apply to all children aged three and up, who are able to wear a mask.

Please refer to the Guidance on Cloth and Non-medical Masks.

As the public health situation across Saskatchewan continues to evolve, the one constant is the need to maintain a united effort of parents, students, and school staff to keep our communities safe. We are all doing our part, and it is truly remarkable to see the work that can be accomplished when we work together to prevent COVID-19 infections within our daily bubbles at school and home.

With that, we are asking that you keep a close eye on how big your bubble has actually become as you have increased your activities. As the risk of local transmission increases, now is the time to reset your household and reduce the risk to those who matter most to you.

It is also important to continue self-screening; enhanced hand hygiene for students and staff; masking; cohorting (or grouping) of students to reduce interaction outside of class; enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of school facilities and buses; and, restrictions on visitors within schools.

From the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak, every action we have taken has been based on the principle of keeping your children safe, and by extension the safety of yourselves and your communities as well.

Clearly, we all have an important role to play. Please keep yourself personally informed by regularly visiting the Government of Saskatchewan's website for the latest information on COVID, including safety guidelines at www.Saskatchewan.ca/COVID19.

Thank-you for all you are doing to keep our schools and our communities safe.

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Jason Young Director of Education