



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 87

P.O. BOX 190
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January 7, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are looking forward to seeing your children in classes on Monday, January 10.

This past week schools have re-visited their learning plans and will be emphasizing health protocols in keeping with the most up to date guidelines, such as:

- Spacing re-configurations (e.g. different desk and table formations);
- Holding gatherings and events virtually;
- Visitor access to schools has been limited;
- Extra-curricular activities have been paused.

Existing safety measures remain in place. This includes mask wearing; washing hands regularly; everyone eligible getting fully vaccinated, cleaning and disinfecting at least once a day; and please continue to carry out the daily health check with your children and staying home when sick.

Schools have also been working to develop contingency plans for potential staff shortages. If necessary, a **Functional Closure** of a specific grade(s), class(es) or school(s) may be announced if the lack of available staff does not allow for the safe operation of the school(s).

School principals, under the direction of the Superintendent, will notify you of a Functional Closure if one should occur. In the event there is insufficient supervision in the morning, parents and guardians will be contacted and students sent home. Every effort will be made to communicate with you the day before a closure. The duration of the closure will depend on the local school context and guidance provided by the Northern Health Authority. Similarly, to the Spring of 2020, students will stay home during Functional Closures and learning will take place remotely. Teachers will be in contact with students and families the day after, if a functional closure is announced. It is also important to note that some bus routes may be cancelled from time to time because of the lack of replacement drivers.

In the event of a Functional School Closure, arrangements for children of essential health workers and children with special needs, will be addressed. Please contact your school administrator to confirm your child's attendance.

We will update parents and guardians as new information becomes available. Communication platforms will include school social media pages, district websites, and email.

We appreciate your ongoing patience, understanding and support as we all navigate moving forward in a positive way. The continuation of learning and the safety of students and staff in SD87 remains our highest priority.

Helpful Links:

Please visit the Ministry of Education website regularly for up to date information about COVID-19 Protocols for schools: [COVID-19 safe schools - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/schools/covid-19/safe-schools)

Daily Health Check App: [K-12 Health Check \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/schools/covid-19/health-check)

ImmunizeBC: [COVID-19 | Immunize BC \(immunizebc.ca/covid-19\)](https://www.immunizebc.ca/covid-19)

BCCDC's guidelines for washing and disposal of masks: [Masks \(bccdc.ca\)](https://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/masks)

BCCDC Guidelines for Self Isolation: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/self-isolation>

Northern Health Authority: <https://www.northernhealth.ca>

Your support is appreciated!

Sincerely,



Tracey MacMillan
Superintendent of Schools

SD87 would like to acknowledge that the lands on which we live, work and learn are the unceded traditional territories of the Tāltān, Kaska and Taku River Tlingit First Nations.