



## SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 87

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### MEMORANDUM

## COVID-19 Isolation Requirements

**To: All Employees / Parents / Guardians / Students**

**From: Tracey MacMillan, Superintendent**

**Date: November 27, 2020**

**RE: Isolation Requirements**

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the isolation requirements for School District No. 87 (Stikine) employees and students:

School District 87 (Stikine) cannot impose a 14 day isolation requirement for School District No. 87 (Stikine) employees and students on return to communities as we are mandated to adhere to Provincial Guidelines.

However, in an effort to address local recommendations, Union Collective Agreements, and Community Emergency Management Committee's guidelines, we strongly encourage those traveling and returning to their home community to implement the following:

1. **Essential travel only** to and from their home community (i.e. medical appointments)
2. **Wear a mask** while at school/work for 14 days upon return to your home community.
3. **Social distance**, at all times, from staff and students for 14 days upon return to your work/school environment.
4. **Self monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 on a daily basis.** The following is a list of symptoms as presented on page 23 in [Appendix C: Daily Health Check Example in the COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings \(Updated September 11, 2020\)](#):
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Cough or worsening of chronic cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
5. **Stay home when sick:**

The BCCDC guidelines for schools are firm. If a student, staff member or any other adult has any symptoms of a cold, influenza, COVID-19, or any other infectious respiratory disease, **they must not enter the school.** Students, staff members and any other adult must stay home and self-quarantine if they have:

  - Symptoms of COVID-19
  - Travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days
  - Identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak

This includes the children of essential service workers.

### **Additional Information for Staff / Parents / Guardians:**

#### **Confirmed case of COVID-19 in a learning group or at a school:**

If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19 and were potentially infectious while they were at school:

- Public Health will perform an investigation to determine if there were any potential close contacts within the school
  - Learning groups and staff who have interacted with the learning group may be asked to stay home while public health completes their investigation

If it is determined that there are close contacts within the school, Public Health will:

- Notify the school administrators and request class and bus lists to assist with contact tracing
- Provide guidance on what steps should be taken

Public Health may then:

- Recommend 14-day quarantine if necessary (for confirmed close contacts)
- Recommend monitoring for symptoms if necessary
- Provide follow-up recommendations if necessary
- Schools will provide learning support to students required to self-quarantine
- Together, schools and public health officials will determine if any other actions are necessary

**You will be notified by public health if your child has been in contact with a COVID-positive person. If that happens, your child is required to self-quarantine.**

\*Attached is a flow chart illustrating the above safety actions that would be taken if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the school setting.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

School **Medical Officers (Northern Health) will take the lead role** in determining **if, when and how to communicate** out information regarding a confirmed case of COVID-19 to the school community.

**The School Medical Officers will advise SD87 and schools if additional prevention measures are needed (for example, if a school closure is required).** In the event SD87 is advised to close a school, we are prepared to provide learning supports from home.

We want to thank you for your continued support to School District 87 during this time. These have been unfamiliar times for us all, and we can't say thank you enough for the patience, support and determination in keeping everyone safe. Our students, teachers, support staff and administrators have been diligent in adhering to Ministry of Education prescribed safety protocols. We will all continue to work together to ensure safety for our students. Let's keep our children safe and on a continuous learning path!

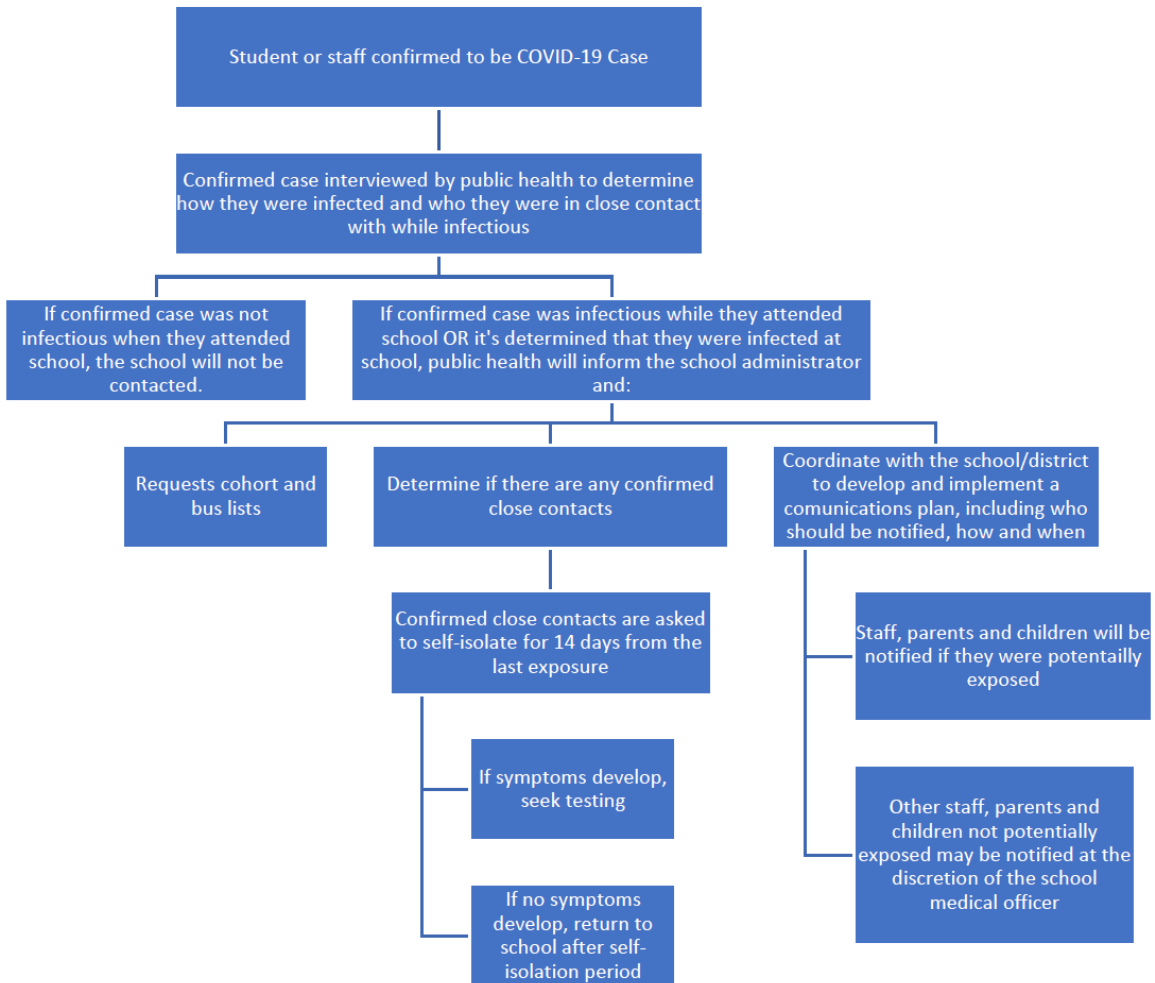
*"School supports children in developing their potential and acquiring the knowledge, skills and abilities they need for lifelong success. In-person learning, as part of a child's education, provides the opportunity for peer engagement, which supports social and emotional development as well as overall wellness. It also provides many children access to programs and services that are integral to their overall health and wellbeing."* (Ministry of Health / BC Centre for Disease Control)

Sincerely,



Tracey MacMillan  
Superintendent of Schools

## Appendix B: Public Health Actions if a Staff, Student or Other Person Who Has Been in the School is a Confirmed COVID-19 Case



Confirmed close contacts are determined based on the length of time of exposure and nature of the interaction. Only public health can determine who is a close contact.

**Source:**

Page 23 in *Appendix C: Daily Health Check Example* in the *COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings*

Please visit the Ministry of Education website regularly for up to date information about COVID-19 Protocols for schools:

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school?bcgovtm=20200506\\_GCPE\\_AM\\_COVID\\_9\\_NOTIFICATION\\_BCGOV\\_BCGOV\\_EN\\_BC\\_NOTIFICATION#protocols](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school?bcgovtm=20200506_GCPE_AM_COVID_9_NOTIFICATION_BCGOV_BCGOV_EN_BC_NOTIFICATION#protocols)