



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 87

P.O. BOX 190
DEASE LAKE, B.C. V0C 1L0
Tel. (250) 771-4440
Fax (250) 771-4441

SD87 Update

New Amendments: COVID-19 School Safety Protocols

To: All Employees / Parents / Guardians / Students
From: Tracey MacMillan, Superintendent
Date: March 30, 2021
RE: New Amendments: COVID-19 School Safety Protocols

On March 29th, 2021, the Ministry of Education announced new amendments that will be incorporated into all SD87 School Safety Protocols.

The public health guidance for schools will be amended to support and encourage students from Grade 4 – Grade 12 to wear masks while at school. Therefore, we are asking for staff, students and families to implement this new measure.

As a result of the recent announcement, the *BCCDC's Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools* and the *Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings* documents will be updated to reflect this change, including related exemptions. Once SD87 has received the updated documents, details pertaining to supporting and encouraging students from Grade 4- Grade 12 will be shared with you.

Please note that the use of masks should not reduce or replace other more effective infection prevention and exposure control measures in schools, such as: completing a daily health check; staying home when sick; frequently washing your hands; maintaining physical distance; working within learning groups.

This Fall, and in February, SD87 provided re-usable (washable) masks to students and staff. We will continue to support our school communities by providing masks and other PPE as required. Please follow the BCCDC's guidelines for washing and disposal of masks: [Masks \(bccdc.ca\)](https://bccdc.ca)

We thank all staff, students, parents, guardians and our school communities for your efforts to follow school safety protocols. It is due to your support that we have maintained safe learning environments for our children. Again, your support is appreciated!

More information on recent COVID-19 Safety Protocols can be found in this [news release](https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0023-000578).
(<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0023-000578>)

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/gov2/education/schools/COVID-19_safe_schools_-_Province_of_British_Columbia_(gov.bc.ca))

Sincerely,

Tracey MacMillan
Superintendent of Schools

We 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.