

Rock City School

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Sept 4/2020

Dear Rock City Community,

We are looking forward to welcoming students back to school Thursday or Friday next week. We wanted to provide you one last time 😊 with a little more information about what our school will look like, some of the health and safety precautions in place, and what the first week timelines will be. Please carefully read through all this important information.

Before Leaving Home

- Students must **stay home when sick**; please notify the school office if your child will be absent
 - Use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) and check your child **each day** for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease. Please stay home until symptoms subside and consult your health care provider. Parents will be required to sign a form indicating that they will facilitate a daily health check with their child(ren) each day before school.
- Students who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days or were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers who are ill.

Drop off and Pick up

- Only staff and students are permitted in the building—*parents, please remain OUTSIDE and maintain physical distancing.*
- Please adhere to the drop-off and pick-up times. Please plan to drop your child(ren) off and pick them up *as close to the bell as possible* to minimize traffic. Staff will dismiss students at 2:25 each day and naturally this will lead to high traffic areas. We want to keep everyone safe. This will require our entire community to practice and model safe social distancing. Remember, children are always looking to adults as a model of how to behave appropriately. Our staff will do everything they can to educate students about safe social distancing after school. Additionally, you will receive this information from your classroom teacher via e-mail. Please arrange a safe pick-up plan with your child and re-iterate the importance of keeping a safe distance.

Come Prepared

- Send your child with a full water bottle(s)—*water fountains have been disabled; refill stations remain open.*
- Send snacks and a lunch each day.
- No food sharing or preparation onsite.
- Please ensure all student belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name or initials.
- We will be outside as much as possible during class time and recess, so please dress appropriately. Ensure wet weather gear is available every day.

Classroom Assignments/Learning Groups

- When you arrive Thursday or Friday morning, you will see class lists on the walls and windows. Please do not crowd around the lists. **Maintain social distancing.** There will be lots of copies to refer to. Grade 1 and 2, you will find your lists at the front of the school. Grade 3 and 4, you will find your list on the lower field side of the school. Grades 5-7, you will find your lists on the portables. Find your child's name and then find your teacher. He/She will be holding a bright orange sign with their name. Follow teacher instructions at that point.
- Where possible, each classroom will have a "partner" class, which will make up the learning group. These groupings, including the adults who regularly interact with them, will form a learning group, of no more than 60 people.

Personal Protective Equipment

- Staff and students are not required to wear masks or other PPE within their own learning groupings. Individuals who choose to wear them will be permitted to do so.
- Adults will adhere to physical distancing measures, and wear masks or establish a physical barrier when interacting with individuals outside their learning groupings.
- Students will need to refrain from physical contact when playing outside. They are not required to wear masks or maintain learning groupings when outdoors.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Frequently touched surfaces like doorknobs, chairs, desks and washrooms will be disinfected twice a day.
- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises happens once a day.
- Disinfectant spray cleaner is provided for staff use in every classroom.

If a child becomes sick

- Sick children will be supervised in an isolated area.
- Parents will be notified and are expected to pick up their child as soon as possible.
- Where and when needed, the rest of the class will be moved to an alternate location until the room the child was in is cleaned.
- Any areas used by the student will be cleaned/disinfected.

First Week of School

- Sept. 8th & 9th – On these first two days, only staff will return to school to ensure we have an opportunity to review all our health and safety protocols and to do other preparations for return of students during COVID-19 times. **Students are not in attendance on these two days.**
- September 10th and 11th – regular start of school day, for two hours **8:45-10:45**
 - Last name A-M Thursday. N-Z Friday
 - during this time teachers will go over the health and safety protocols, where class line ups will be, and explain many of the new procedures in place.
 - a short 'recess break' will be part of this time to have students practice what this will look like this year.

As always, if we have missed anything or you have questions about any aspect of back to school, please call the office at any time. Please keep an eye on our [website](#) for news and updates.

Have a great long weekend,

**Mike Lundine
Principal**