

September 2, 2021



Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are looking forward to seeing students back next week, September 7, 2021. Our staff have been working and learning together this week in anticipation of the energy and excitement that always comes as we head into a new year.

On August 24th, the Provincial Health Office (PHO) and the Ministry of Education announced updates to our [K-12 School Safety Guidelines](#). All of the documents are located on our [district website](#). We have updated and revised our safety plans to ensure that we are creating the safe, welcoming spaces we value so much in Revelstoke.

Highlights of the updates include our continued focus in several key areas:

- Staff and students in grade 4-12 will continue to use non-medical masks in all indoor areas, and on school buses (exceptions are listed in the guidelines).
- The use of masks at kindergarten to Grade 3 is *supported but not required*.
- Increasing physical distancing to the greatest extend possible.
- Following careful handwashing/hygiene practices.
- Staying home when unwell/sick.

The K-12 guidelines also have some new areas of focus including:

- Expanded extra-curricular sports opportunities
- Further guidance for school districts to ensure ventilation systems are operating optimally
- Updates to guidance on field trips, school gathering, music programs, and physical and health education programs

Please continue to support your children and our safe school environment by:

- Completing a daily health check and not sending children to school with any signs or symptoms of illness. (See the new app available at [Daily Health Check](#))
- Talk to your children about the guidelines in their school and how they are working to meet them.
- Talk to a medical practitioner if you have any questions regarding the importance of vaccinations for everyone who is able and eligible.

As always please connect with your school principal or me directly (mhooker@sd19.bc.ca) with ideas, questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mike Hooker
Superintendent of Schools