

COMMUNITY UPDATE

ANMORE, BELCARRA



Trustee: Kerri Palmer Isaak , KPalmerIsaak@sd43.bc.ca August 29, 2021

Good Afternoon Villagers

Return to school is coming fast. Many families and community members have reached out to share concerns as Covid numbers rise. I wanted to send out a brief update with some helpful information and links.

This isn't the "back to school" that I had anticipated when school went out in June. I can appreciate that many families are feeling frustrated and stressed. As your school trustee I am here to listen and support your family, my email and phone number are below. Our school board continues to work closely with Fraser Health and with the Ministry of Education to continue to provide a safe learning environment for our students, staff and families.

Below is the information that has been sent home to families through their schools and a link to the letter from our Superintendent of Schools.

[https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=574&ListID=ed550773-e9ff-4e20-9964-4e1b213f518c&TemplateID=Announcement_Item#/="](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=574&ListID=ed550773-e9ff-4e20-9964-4e1b213f518c&TemplateID=Announcement_Item#/=)

- Schools continue to be considered low-risk settings for COVID-19 transmission.
- Vaccines are the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in schools. Everyone eligible is strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated (i.e. receive 2 doses) against COVID-19. School exposures are more likely in communities with lower vaccination uptake.
- Local Medical Health Officers may recommend regional prevention measures during times of increased community risk.
- Masks will be required for all staff. Students in grades 4-12 require masks while indoors. In K - grade 3 classrooms, masks will be optional. Exemptions will be implemented, in special circumstances.
- Daily health checks for students and staff will be required before arriving at school each day and those with symptoms are expected to stay home and follow the guidance of health authorities.
- Hand hygiene measures will continue, including frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.
- No 2m physical distancing will be required but maximizing indoor 'spacing' and continued 'traffic flow' measures will be implemented to further protect students. This may include staggered start times, break times and/or assigned entry and exit doors. Outdoor spaces will be used frequently, as weather allows.
- No cohorts or learning groups will be in place and school schedules and course offerings will mostly return to normal.

- There will be no Gradual Transition option for families. Please discuss learning options with your school principal regarding District Distributed Learning (Apex, COL) opportunities or access to the Hospital Homebound program (there are strict requirements for access to the Hospital Homebound program).
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols will continue based on Ministry of Education guidance.
- Parents are asked to remain outside of the school building, make an appointment to visit a staff member (whenever possible) and following all entrance requirements – including completing a daily health check before arrival, signing in at the office if you are entering the building, and travelling only to the area within the school that they have been directed.
- For the latest information please visit our website at www.sd43.bc.ca.

Helpful Links

Fraser Health

<https://www.fraserhealth.ca>

Daily Health Check / SD43 Covid Updates

[https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

New Student Registration

[https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Schools/Registration/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Schools/Registration/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

I wanted to share with Villagers that schools will be closed September 30 this year in recognition of the new federal statutory day called Truth and Reconciliation Day . The Ministry of Education has informed BC school districts that on September 30th, 2021, schools will be closed to honour this day and recognize indigenous survivors, families and communities who continue to grieve, as a result of the residential school system in Canada.

If you have a new student that you are registering please visit your school to register. Schools will be open for new registrations on August 30th.

I hope that you have an opportunity to get out and enjoy the last few days of great weather this summer in our beautiful Villages.



Please remember that your school principal and your classroom teacher are the best place to start with questions and concerns. The www.sd43.bc.ca website is updated regularly with announcements from the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Authority. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with questions and concerns.

Take Care of Each Other and Be Safe , Kerri Palmer Isaak School Trustee Anmore Belcarra
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