



Park West School Division

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Stephen David
Superintendent/CEO

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Secretary-Treasurer

Date: Friday, January 07, 2022

Topic: Update for Parents, Guardians, and Staff

Planning for remote learning:

- Schools will be communicating their specific plans to parents/guardians for next week's remote learning by the end of day today.

Mask requirement:

- All staff is required to wear medical masks effective today and until further notice. This includes bus drivers.
- The new mask guidance is emphasizing mask fit and multi-layered cloth masks for students. We are encouraging students to wear medical masks. Masks are available for students who require them.
- Masks will be required in Phys Ed classes going forward.
- We are still awaiting direction on mask requirements for extracurricular sports.

Children of critical service workers:

- Bus transportation will be provided next week for those students whose parents were approved as critical service workers, should they require it.

Test kits for K-6 students:

- The test kits for K-6 students arrived this morning.
- Divisional staff is working quickly to repackage the kits and get them to schools.
- They will be available in all schools by Monday.
- Any families who want them may pick up one kit of 5 tests for each child in K-6.
- The kits include instructions on use. There is also an instructional video available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wMgGuTMnTo>

Sports and community use next week:

- The division will be pausing all extracurricular sports and community use of schools, effective immediately, continuing until the return of students from remote learning on January 17.

Restricted Level Orange:

- We are awaiting direction from the province regarding what the return to school for students will look like in the restricted level orange on January 17. We will update you quickly once information is available
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Isolation requirements:

- The province has changed the isolation requirements for COVID-19. We will update our divisional infographic on this early next week. However, students and staff are still asked to stay home when they first become symptomatic.
- The changes in the isolation requirements include:
 - Requiring all people who have tested positive for COVID-19 to isolate including those who completed a rapid antigen test.
 - Changing isolation requirements to five days from 10 days since the date of the test for fully-vaccinated people who are not showing symptoms.
 - Changing isolation requirements to five days from 10 days since the date symptoms started appearing or the date of the test, whichever is later, for fully-vaccinated people as long as their symptoms are improving and they do not have a fever.
 - Requiring individuals who have only isolated for five days due to the changes above to wear medical-grade mask while in a public setting for the five days immediately following their self-isolation.
 - Requiring isolation for people who have tested positive who are not fully vaccinated for 10 days after the date of their test as long as their symptoms are improving and they do not have a fever.
- Consistent with previous orders, the order continues to include a requirement that close contacts that are not exempt from self-isolation requirements to self-isolate for 10 days.

Case and contact management:

- The province is updating the COVID Toolkit for schools. This Toolkit provides direction on how public health and schools respond to positive cases. It is uncertain what the update will mean for case management and contact tracing at a school level.
- There will be a provincial meeting scheduled next week for divisional and school leaders regarding this.

Biweekly meeting:

- Our next biweekly Zoom meeting for parents, guardians, and staff is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18. By that time, we will have detailed information regarding the plans for restricted level orange.
 - Topic: Meeting for Parents, Guardians, and Staff
 - Time: Tuesday, Jan 18, 2022 @ 6:00 PM
 - Join Zoom Meeting
 - <https://zoom.us/j/91655469422?pwd=Sy9hSjFaOUhqNEp1Wi95S2QwQ3pRdz09>
 - Meeting ID: 916 5546 9422
 - Passcode: 983092

We will keep you updated of any further developments. As always, thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our students, staff, schools, and communities safe.