



Date: Friday, October 1, 2021

Topic: **Update to parents, guardians, and staff**

Community Use of Schools:

- The pause on community use of schools has been extended to November 1. We will reevaluate this prior to the end of the month.
- This pause on community use is consistent with current divisional restrictions on nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations.

New Mask Guidance from the Province:

- Manitoba Education and Public Health have updated the mask requirement for schools with clarification when masks may be removed.
- Effective Monday, October 4, masks must be worn full-time including when students are separated by 2 metres.
- It was confirmed at a meeting for school divisions on Wednesday that physical distancing no longer means automatic mask removal. The statement from the province regarding this is shown below:
 - *Masks may be removed indoors where there is physical distancing of 2 metres for the purpose of eating, drinking, and for short, infrequent masks breaks. Masks may be removed when outside - (<https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/>).*