



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

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March 22, 2020

Good Morning,

We are writing today to inform you that a member of our operations department has tested positive for COVID-19. Our first message is one of support for this individual and their family and hope for a quick recovery. This will be a difficult time for them, and we want them to know that we hope that they regain their health quickly. The health and safety of our staff, students and community is our first priority.

To the best of our knowledge, the staff member's work, during first signs of illness, was limited and did not involve schools or classrooms; and therefore, the scope of contact at that time for the School District was also limited. We are working closely with Interior Health and following all appropriate protocols. This includes their first step which is contact tracing and the notification process. Interior Health will notify anyone exposed to the worker. With that said, we would like to remind all students, parents, staff and the community about the importance of monitoring their own health, staying home when sick, social distancing, rigorous hand washing and coughing or sneezing into the bend of the arm.

The school district is working very closely with Interior Health and the Ministry of Education on all aspects of planning and COVID-19 protocols. Our school district is taking every precaution to ensure the health and safety of our employees, students and community as it is our top priority. This includes suspending all-in class instruction, increased cleaning, maintaining social distancing and increased communication.

We will continue to share all direction from the Provincial Health Officer with our employees regarding washing hands, social distancing and staying home when appropriate. I would like to thank Interior Health for its continued support of our school community.

For more information on the virus please refer to <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/covid-19/>.

Sincerely,

Stephen McNiven  
Superintendent of Schools