

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

## **ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools Barbara Ross, C.P.A., C.G.A., Secretary Treasurer

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## May 25, 2020

Dear School District No. 58 Parents/Guardians:

Thank you to those of you who responded to our survey and indicated your current plan for your child's return to school, as of June 1, 2020. We are looking forward to having many of you back in our schools! At this point if you have indicated NO or MAYBE to us via the survey or other medium, your children are still welcome in the month of June.

If you would like to attend please provide your school with notice a week prior of your child's return to school in Week 2, 3 or 4 for the month of June.

We want to reassure you that Health and Safety are our first priorities for all our students and staff, both in and out of our buildings. We have worked using provincial guidelines to have established and structured protocols in place.

These protocols will include:

- 1. Designated and controlled entries and exits for students and staff members specific to each school.
- 2. A daily Health Check/Screening completed for everyone who enters our buildings.
- 3. Every classroom having either a sink and soap for regular handwashing OR hand sanitizer in place for disinfecting.
- 4. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of classroom and washrooms during the day and a deep cleaning of all spaces every evening.
- 5. Students and staff having limited and structured movement within our buildings to ensure limited and safe contact with one another.
- 6. Staggered breaks and lunch times to ensure we minimize congestion in outdoor areas and larger spaces.
- 7. Signage placed throughout the building to provide instructions re Health and Safety protocols.
- 8. Directional arrows placed on floors to manage the movement and directions of students and staff in the buildings.
- 9. Classrooms set up with minimal furniture and materials to assist in maintaining appropriate physical distancing, support cleaning and reduce temptation of students to touch materials.
- 10. Enhanced supervision of students to assist them in maintaining safe behaviors.
- 11. Explicit teaching and support for students in learning and remembering safe practices.

We are focused on ensuring that the return to school is as smooth and comfortable for all students and staff as is possible and therefore will be following the attached exposure plans as well as the guidelines in the link below.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-education-restart-plan.pdf

Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow

For the month of June your child/student's day will be a blend of in-class instruction as well as learning opportunities provided from a distance. Mondays will be an Online Instructional Day for K-12 classes, followed by days of Instruction Tuesday through Friday.

- Kindergarten to Grade 5 students will be scheduled two days a week (Tuesday/Wednesday or Thursday/Friday).
- Grade 6-12 students, students will be scheduled one day a week (Tuesday through Friday).

Schools will be contacting families with their designated days and will work to keep family groupings on the same schedule.

At this time, we do not know if busses will be running to pick up and drop off students as we are waiting for further Health and Safety information from both Provincial and Federal agencies. For the month of June, we encourage parents of bus students to use private transportation. As soon as we have more information regarding the availability of busing, we will provide you with an update.

We want you to feel confident in having your children back in class. We know that we will be ready to care for your children and will be pleased and happy to see them back. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your school principal if you have any questions or concerns at any time.

Respectfully,

Stephen McNiven Superintendent of Schools

Jameel Aziz Assistant Superintendent