



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

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools  
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February 4, 2021

Dear SD58 Parents, Guardians & Families:

We are reaching out to let you know that as of today, February 4, 2021, the Provincial Health Officer and the Ministry of Education has made changes to some of the guidelines around protocols for schools related to Health and Safety. The District will be reviewing and implementing these changes as quickly as possible. Two changes in the protocol that we would like to support students with immediately include the new support tool for daily health checks (K-12 Students) and the updated mask protocol for secondary students.

**Effective tomorrow, February 5<sup>th</sup>**, the following guidelines will be in place and enforced at all schools and SD58 sites:

**All Students in Grades 8-12:** will be required to wear their mask in **ALL** indoor settings except when they are working at their desk or workspace individually, eating; or have a physical barrier around them.

Please note that at the elementary school level (students K-7) mask wearing remains a family and personal choice as to whether to have a child wear a mask in the school setting.

**All Students K-12:** are asked to complete the updated daily health check with the support of the BC K-12 Health Check site / App or by referencing the attached health check form.

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

These new guidelines plus additional changes to other protocols are being put in place to continue to enhance the safety of our school environments, as the school year continues. For further information on these upcoming changes please refer to the following news release and related links.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021EDUC0011-000201>

We would like to assure you that our schools will continue their adherence to the Health and Safety protocols. This will include maintaining cleaned and disinfected spaces, and the regular supervision and adherence to all Public Health policies and mandates.

We will communicate again with you shortly, with the goal of updating you on the implementation of further changes, as well as providing you with a link to our updated safety plans.

We know that this is an incredibly challenging time for many, and anxiety levels can heighten with each change or announcement. To help alleviate this stress and answer any questions you may have we encourage you to contact your school principal or the board office for the most up to date information.

We wish you our absolute best in safety and continued good health.

Sincerely,

Jameel Aziz, Assistant Superintendent

*Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow*