



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

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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November 29, 2021

Good evening Princeton families,

In our weekend email communication, we indicated we hoped to have further information today that would support our decision-making process around the reopening of Vermillion Forks Elementary (VFE).

At this point, we are pleased to report that fire protection has been confirmed by the Town of Princeton and our goal is to work towards reopening VFE by the end of the week. We are, however, closely monitoring the incoming weather warnings and related alerts and orders to see how and if this will impact our return-to-learning schedule.

As mentioned on the weekend, we have been advised by Interior Health not to open schools that are located in areas under a Do Not Consume order for drinking water. This has not changed. As a result, John Allison Elementary, Princeton Secondary and The Bridge, which are located in these areas, will remain closed until the order has either been rescinded or downgraded to a Boil Water advisory by Interior Health.

Although VFE remains under a Boil Water advisory, it can still reopen for in-person learning as the School District will ensure that all WorkSafe BC requirements for occupancy are in place.

VFE will be the first school to reopen in the community and the School District is determining if and how the school's resources can be shared with other students. Princeton principals are jointly working on a return-to-learning plan that includes a combination of remote learning and face-to-face learning opportunities whenever possible for students.

We appreciate your continued patience and flexibility as we work through this process. Your principal will provide you with further information as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephen McNiven,
Superintendent of Schools