

Dear Parents & Guardians of PSD,

I just wanted to take a moment to offer my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible support you have provided your children during this pandemic so far, and to congratulate you on making it through the 2019-2020 school year!

As previously communicated in the June 10th release of the provincial [Fall Re-Entry Plan Scenarios](#) announcement, the government will be choosing the scenarios that school jurisdictions will follow (scenarios may vary by region) and the decision will be made **no later than August 1, 2020**. Of course that decision will depend on advice from the Chief Medical Officer of Health based on how the pandemic is trending at that time.

To recap, those scenarios are:

Scenario 1: In-school classes resume with near-normal school operations along with some health measures.

Scenario 2: In-school classes resume partially with additional health measures. This would include a modified schedule with students attending on alternating days.

Scenario 3: At-home learning continues, in-school classes are cancelled.

Parkland School Division [2020-2021 Plan for School Re-Entry](#)

The majority of our planning is to be ready for a return with Scenario 1. The Minister of Education confirmed on Thursday, June 25th that they are still confident that students will return in the fall under Scenario 1.

On June 10th, the province also released guidance for schools to plan for scenarios 1 and 2. Parkland School Division's [2020-2021 Plan for School Re-Entry](#) is based on the provincial guidelines and we will have to be prepared to be flexible once school resumes in the fall. It's important to note that many of the measures in the plan will be incorporated to the greatest extent possible. As described in the June 10th announcement, school jurisdictions should continue to prepare for all three possibilities and be ready to transition from one scenario to another at any point given the unpredictable nature of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Your feedback](#) has informed our plan and will continue to be considered as we move forward. Our Fall Re-launch Survey alone was open for a total of 9 days and generated 5,271 responses.

Once again, we will need your help to carry out this plan. Highlights of the plan include:

- Parents/guardians play an integral role in the screening process for the student's daily involvement in school.
- All parents, students and staff will be expected to fill out the [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#) at the start of the school year.

- Ensure students are taught and reminded about the importance of physical distancing, coughing and sneezing technique.
- Encourage the use of face masks where appropriate and instruct and remind students on the proper use, especially in situations where physical distancing is difficult.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting.
- Classroom configurations will be adjusted to achieve better physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- In situations where physical distancing is not possible (e.g., buses, classrooms and some sporting activities.), there will be extra emphasis on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, not participating when sick and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting on a regular basis before and after activities.
- Masks will not be mandatory. However, the plan will call for a recommended use of masks for students or staff when physical distancing is not possible (where appropriate).
- Staff members, parents, and students must not enter the school if they have symptoms of COVID-19. They will be allowed to return once test results confirm they do not have COVID-19.
- Gymnasiums will be open for use during re-entry to deliver physical education, extracurricular or other educational programs. Administrators and teachers will be choosing those activities or sports that support physical distancing (e.g. volleyball over wrestling).

We continue to be thankful for your support, patience and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters. Please check our website and social media for updates throughout the summer. We will also email all parents and guardians once we have confirmation from Alberta Education as to which scenario we are to begin with for the 2020-2021 school year.

On behalf of all of us in Parkland School Division, we hope you have a wonderful summer!

Shauna Boyce
Superintendent