

### Harrison Hot Springs Elementary 501 Hot Springs Road Harrison Hot Springs, BC VOM 1K0 604 796-2838

August 21, 2020

As you know, all schools in British Columbia will open to in-person instruction this September 10, 2020. The Ministry of Education's Five Stage Framework for K-12 includes a comprehensive COVID-19 health and safety measure plan. The five stages may be viewed on the following link:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school/five-stages-framework

Supporting this framework are the detailed guidelines from WorkSafeBC outlining COVID-19 Education (K-12): Protocols for returning to operation located at the following link:

https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-returning-safeoperation/education

Public Health provides detailed school info (see link below).

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID\_public\_guidance/Guidance-k-12schools.pdf

Superintendent Balan Moorthy's welcoming update letter is linked here (<u>Parent and Student</u> <u>Letter for Reopening</u>). He emphasized some of the primary reasons for students to be back in school: support emotional health, loss of learning, lack of social connection, economic stress, pressure on parents, lack of access to technology and inactivity.

#### **Start Dates:**

The September start will be supported by the new measures for a safe return to school including:

- New learning groups to keep everyone safe small cohort learning groups to reduce the possibility of transmission
- New healthy and safety measures for all students, families, teachers, and staff
- Increased funding for protective equipment.

As September approaches, we will be sending you a short Survey Monkey about your child's enrollment at Harrison Hot Springs Elementary, bussing requirements, supports, etc.

All staff will be provided with face masks and face shields. For staff who will function outside the specific cohort group, they are attached to, masks/shields will be required if the 2m/6ft separation cannot be maintained.



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Appendix A will address questions parents and students have about the September start-up at Harrison Hot Springs Elementary.

While the information may not be specific to your child, the depth of this plan should give you some comfort as we plan to return to school.

I am confident we will be able to effectively manage the SD78 Health and Safety guidelines so that the school will be cleaned/disinfected regularly and that the small cohort groups will keep students safe.

If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>tammy.nazarchuk@sd78.bc.ca</u>. The office will be re-open August 31, 2020 and we will return phone calls at that time.

Sincerely,

Tammy Nazarchuk, Principal



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#### Health and Safety Measures Appendix A

#### Daily Health Assessments

**Staff**: all staff are required to do daily health assessments. If they have symptoms of a cold, flu, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory issues, they must stay home. In rare events, they have symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain or diarrhea). They are required to be assessed for COVID-19 and are required to stay home until the assessment clears them back to school. If they are positive for COVID-19, they are required to contact Public Health and the school principal. Public Health will direct contact with tracing and protocols.

**Students/Parents**: parents are required to do daily health assessments of their child(ren) and if they have symptoms of a cold, flu, COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain or diarrhea) they are required to stay home until the assessment clears them to return to school. As above in the rare event, a person/student is positive for COVID-19, they must contact Public Health and the school principal.

Public Health will direct with contact tracing and protocols.

#### Hand Washing, Hygiene, Masks & School Entry

**Staff:** all staff are required to wash or disinfect their hands upon entering the school at the main entrance and sign in to confirm their daily health assessment. Staff are encouraged to wear masks and face shields and maintain the two meters/6 feet of separation from others. Staff are limited in small areas (photocopy room, staff room) to keep the 2m/6ft separation.

**Students**: All classrooms have sinks and handwashing supplies, and all students are required to enter through main entrance of the school. Students are to go directly to their classroom and wash their hands under the teacher's supervision.

Students will wash their hands on each transition (recess, lunch, going home, etc.). Classrooms will be assigned exit doors and re-enter their classes from the south entrance door.

#### Learning Cohort Arrangements

We will have 2-3 cohorts of students at Harrison Hot Springs Elementary. These may be subject to change depending on enrollment.

#### Support for Vulnerable learners

We will arrange individual supports and arrangements for students who require extra support.

#### Support for Indigenous Learners

We will provide support from our First Nations Support Workers to provide additional support for Indigenous students.



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#### Altered Bell Schedules and Staggered Recesses and Breaks

At this time, we do not anticipate the need to change our bell schedule or breaks. We will separate playgrounds into 2-3 areas and rotate cohorts through these areas. This will permit the separation of students by cohort.

#### **Supervisory Arrangements**

Supervision schedules will ensure that there is supervision for each cohort on breaks.

#### **Transportation Arrangements**

Transportation is making arrangements for the physical separation of students on the bus when possible. Students in the same family may sit with each other, and whenever possible, there will be a physical separation of non-family students on the bus. Once we know the requirements for bus transportation, there will be a finalized schedule and arrangements determined.

#### **Onsite Daycare**

Harrison Preschool and Childcare, Melissa Weed, harrisonpreschoolandchildcare@shaw.ca

#### **Technology Support**

Should the Ministry revert to Stage 3, technology (and support) will be provided on an "as needed" basis.

#### Switching from In-Person to Remote Learning if Necessary

If the Ministry of Education moves from full "in-class" instruction to remote learning or a modified system of partial "in-class" and partial remote learning. In that case, we will adapt and deliver instruction and instructional programs to meet our students' needs.