 **School District 5 Southeast Kootenay – Back to School 2021-2022**

**Version 2.0 – Jan 2022**

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| Safety is our Priority | Guidelines |
| Students and staff can safely participate in full-time, in-class instruction in accordance with current public guidelines for schools. All members of our School District 5 Southeast Kootenay (SD5) community have a shared responsibility to protect themselves and others from the spread of COVID-19, or any other communicable disease. A detailed [*Communicable Disease Plan*](https://www.sd5.bc.ca/COVID2020-2021/Info2021/Pages/default.aspx#/=)is part of SD5’s commitment to promote the health and safety of all employees, students, and visitors by providing information that can be used to prevent the contraction and spread of communicable diseases, and to guide appropriate responses.Our plans are based on current guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control [(BCCDC).](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf)Supportive Environments* Supporting the health and well-being of students, staff and families continues to be our top priority.
* Addressing pandemic impacts on student learning and well-being, with a focus on the “whole child” including literacy, numeracy, social-emotional development and mental health.
* Providing inclusive and compassionate learning environments through trauma-informed practices.
* Implementing strategies to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures.
 | To Continue:* All K -12 staff, visitors, and Gr. 4 -12 students required to wear masks - indoors and on buses
* K - Gr. 3 students encouraged to wear masks - personal/family choice
* [**Daily health check** - K-12 Health Check App, Self- Assessment Tool, or BCCDC's "](https://bc.thrive.health/)[When to get Tested](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/When_to_get_tested.pdf)"
* Don't come to school when sick - seek guidance
* Daily attendance management
* Daily cleaning & disinfecting - 1x/day
* Hand hygiene & respiratory etiquette - be diligent!
* Ventilation & air exchange
* Case & contact management - directed by public health
* Health and safety orientation - for staff & students

New:* Vaccinations - the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Available for ages 12 and older
* Full operation of all school spaces - gyms, libraries, washrooms, water fountains etc.
* Extra-curricular activities & sports - resume
* Regional health measures - as needed
* Gathering & events - resume in alignment with PHO orders
* Visitors are welcome - following safety guidelines; appointments encouraged

No longer:* Cohorts/Learning Groups
* Physical Distancing of 2m
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| **January 2022 – Modifications/Changes****Entrances/Exits*** **Strategies in place to avoid congestion during transition times and start/end of the day**
* **Emphasis on mask wearing, keeping congestion down and having people moving to their assigned places**
* **Early dismissal for 50% of the students each day to limit the congestion in the hallways**

**Gatherings/Events*** **Events will be held virtually or scaled back/postponed**
* **50% capacity without spectators**

**Extra Curricular Activities*** **Sports Tournaments are paused. Single games and practices can continue.**

**Hand Hygiene** * **Hand Hygiene station in hallways, classrooms and school spaces will continue to be maintained and used**

**Bus Transportation*** **Masks continue being mandatory with enhanced cleaning procedures**
* **Spread out passengers with hand hygiene procedures before and after the bus trip**
 | **Masks*** **Wearing masks in school is required under a public health order unless they have a mask exemption. Students may have their mask off when eating and they are seated at the designated lunch space. Eating in the hallways is no longer supported**
* **Students and staff are encouraged to bring their own mask each day and wear that mask properly while they are in the building.**
* **Masks are provided to students and staff who have forgotten their mask. They are kept in the office**

**Visitor Access*** **Visitors will be limited to those that are supporting activities that are direct benefit to student learning**
* **Student teachers, EA practicum, immunizers, meal program volunteers etc.**
* **Visitors must report to the office and sign in.**

**Daily Health Checks*** **Staff and students are required to complete their own daily health check each day to ensure they are not entering the building sick**
* **Use of the K-12 Health Check App is encouraged**
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