## KATZIE ELEMENTARY

6887 - 194A Street, Surrey, BC V4N 1N2 Principal: Mr. Sol Lee Vice Principal: Ms. Carin Porcellato



Phone: (778) 571-4080 Fax: (778) 571-4089 Courier #201

Wednesday, November 17th, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In recent weeks, our school has experienced several COVID-19 exposures, with Fraser Health contacting individuals who may have been exposed via a letter or phone call. All COVID-19 exposure dates can also be viewed by our school community on the <u>Fraser Health website</u>.

To date, Fraser Health has confirmed one known cluster of cases at our school. A cluster of cases is defined by Fraser Health as two or more cases associated with the same location, group, or event around the same time. As a result of this cluster, Fraser Health did isolate one class earlier this week.

I appreciate that families may be feeling anxious. Please be assured that the health and safety of our staff and students is always our first priority, and we will continue to work closely with public health to limit the spread of illness and ensure our school is safe.

We are following all of the <u>measures</u> set out by the BCCDC and Ministry of Education to limit the spread of illness and we will continue to encourage our staff and students to remain vigilant. These protocols include:

- **Daily Health Check**: Everyone <u>must</u> continue to do a <u>daily health check</u> to determine if they should come into the building that day. This includes students, staff and all visitors. If you do not pass the daily health check, do not come to school. It is critical that we all follow this guidance as health checks are our school's first and most important line of defense against COVID-19.
- **Masks**: All K-12 staff, students and visitors are required to wear a mask while indoors at school. Masks are available in our office for any students that need them.
- **Hand Hygiene**: Students are encouraged to frequently wash their hands. Hand sanitizer is also available on site for situations where soap and water are not available.
- **Physical Distancing**: Even though public health is no longer recommending strict physical distancing of two metres; our school is implementing strategies to respect personal space and maximize distance.

Where it does not unreasonably interfere with learning, we are also implementing temporary, targeted measures that will further enhance our school safety protocols. These measures offer additional layers of protection and each measure will be deployed in relation to classroom context and specific educational activity. They include:

- Keeping classes separated while indoors. This means no team teaching or grouping of classes inside.
- Carefully reviewing classroom seating plans to ensure space is being efficiently utilized while maximizing distance between students.
- Having specialized classes like French and Music occur in each classroom and not in a shared French or Music room.
- No inter-school sports and teams are limited to students from the same class.

- No singing.
- Implementing grade-specific play zones outside during recess/lunch.
- No unnecessary visitors this includes parents for noisy reading and parent/teacher conferences.
- Encouraging students and parents to leave the school grounds immediately after pick up.

Our school will continue to safely remain open for instruction. We will also continue to monitor the situation and are working closely with Fraser Health. The safety of our school community is of utmost importance, and we appreciate your patience and understanding.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school. Or if you have questions specific to a COVID-19 exposure at the school, please contact the Fraser Health COVID-19 Call Centre at 778-368-0123.

Sincerely,

Sol Lee Principal Katzie Elementary