



Georges Vanier Elementary

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January 7, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are looking forward to welcoming our students safely back to school on Monday, January 10th. We are committed to ensuring our students can continue to learn as safely as possible in-person by closely following all the measures put forth in the [updated provincial guidance for schools](#) that were issued in late December and our district's [communicable disease plan](#). These measures include continued mask wearing, [daily health checks](#), staying home when sick, a continued focus on hand washing, daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols, limiting visitors to schools, and not having spectators at our events.

Over the past year and a half, we have safely kept our school open for face-to-face instruction, and we are grateful for your continued support and vigilance in following our health and safety protocols.

Our district will also continue to engage with our local and provincial partners at Fraser Health and the Ministry of Education to monitor what is happening in schools. We will continue to follow their guidance.

Over the past week we have been reviewing our health and safety measures. We have also been planning for the possibility of a functional closure. A functional closure is when we cannot adequately supervise or instruct children. We often direct children home during snow days, power outages, water main breaks, and other unique circumstances. In this case, the situation could arise that due to staff illness, we have insufficient staff to provide safe supervision of children, or to provide instruction for an extended duration.

If this happens, students will need to move to a period of learning from home. This period is intended to be 7 days and materials and support for this time will be provided by the classroom teacher. We will also continue to safely offer our meal programs in a way that respects this period of home learning.

We recognize that any closure is stressful for our school community, and we appreciate the fact that any change in routines will cause disruption and inconvenience for many. We will aim to communicate the potential for a move to home learning as quickly as we can so families can plan accordingly.

Our hope is that we do not need to move to a place where students need to be learning from home, but we want to be prepared. Please ensure that we have your updated contact information, including your phone and email to ensure you receive all communications.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Lianne McBride
Principal | Georges Vanier