Community News Flash #29 April 1st, 2021



Important Dates:

Friday, April 2nd - Good Friday - School Closed Monday, April 5th - Easter Monday - School Closed

Welcome back! Staying safe heading into spring

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



Image via BCCDC

Spring break may be over, but spring is here and we're happy to have students and teachers back in class!

With the increasing trend in community incidence of COVID-19 in the Surrey region and the corresponding likelihood of an increase of exposures in our schools, it's important that we all continue to follow the district's <u>health & safety protocols</u>, including <u>daily health checks</u> and following <u>the new mask mandate for K-12 staff and</u> <u>Grade 4-12 students</u>.

"Our schools have had a number of exposures that are community acquired, and that have not resulted in schoolbased transmission," explains Laurie Larsen, Chair of the Surrey Board of Education. "This is a testament to the fact that our staff and students are protecting each other and following protocols consistent with public health guidelines and recommendations. It's important that we continue to stay vigilant as our teachers and support staff begin to get vaccinated, and we remind everyone to keep up the good work." On March 18, the provincial health officer announced the decision to prioritize vaccinations for B.C.'s <u>frontline</u> <u>workers</u>, and soon after, Fraser Health provided access to <u>vaccines for our K-12 school-based staff</u>. This week, the PHO strengthened provincewide restrictions, including closing indoor dining at restaurants, cancelling indoor group exercise classes and temporarily suspending indoor religious gatherings and worship services.

While provincial restrictions allow physically distanced outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people at a park, beach or backyard, **indoor and household restrictions remain in place**. It is as important as ever that students limit social interactions to their cohort and immediate family, maintain physical distance from others outside their cohort and family, and frequently wash or sanitize their hands.

Surrey Schools has numerous resources on its <u>COVID-19 information page</u>, including regular video messages from Superintendent Jordan Tinney, health and safety resources, frequently asked questions, a recent <u>video Q&A with</u> <u>Fraser Health's Medical Health Officer Dr. Ariella Zbar</u> and an up-to-date tracker of <u>active exposures</u> at every school in the district.

Fraser Health's guidelines stress that it is important we all:

- Stay home from school if you feel sick or have any sign of illness
- Get tested immediately if you or anyone in your family is experiencing <u>symptoms</u>
- Limit indoor social gatherings to household contacts
- Maintain physical distance of two metres from others where possible
- Practice good hand hygiene and appropriate cough etiquette
- Wear a mask in public indoor settings
- Only travel for essential purposes (work, medical appointments)

The district has also developed a quick and easy way to remind students on ways to stay safe:

- **Check Up:** do your daily health check before going to school and work
- Back Up: keep your distance
- Wash Up: wash your hands often
- Mask Up: wear a mask when on the move. For more information on how to safely wear a mask, watch this <u>video</u>

We urge parents and students to continue to do <u>daily health checks</u>. Students should not attend school if they are sick, have travelled internationally in the last 14 days, or have been in contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19.

Outside of school, we continue to urge students to keep their social interactions to their immediate family and cohort. At this time, connecting virtually or by phone is the safest way to catch up with other friends and family members.

For more information and additional resources, visit surreyschools.ca/covid19 and fraserhealth.ca/covid19.

by Jacob Zinn at 10:00 AM

Grade 6 Immunizations

You can take your child to your local pharmacy or make an appointment at your health unit for your child's grade 6 immunizations. Our school Nurse is also hoping to do catch up on grade 6 immunizations next year.





DAILY HEALTH CHECK

WHAT TO DO
If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms:
Stay home and get a health assessment.
Contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
WHAT TO DO
If yes to 1 symptom:
Stay home until you feel better.
If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms:
Stay home for 24 hours.
If symptoms don't get better or get worse, get a health assessment; contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
WHAT TO DO
If yes: All students and staff who have travelled outside of Canada are required to <u>self-quarantine</u> for 14 days after arrival under both provincial and federal orders.
This includes students who are attending school from abroad. Students from outside of Canada should plan to arrive in Canada at least two weeks before they are scheduled to attend school to adhere to the selfquarantine orders. Additional information is available <u>here.</u>
WHAT TO DO
If yes: Please follow the instructions provided by Public Health. You can call 8-1-1 anytime to get advice about how you are feeling and what to do next. Pay attention to how you are feeling. If it becomes harder to breathe, you can't drink anything or feel much worse, seek urgent medical care at an urgent care clinic or emergency department.

Check your symptoms with the <u>K-12 Health Check.</u> If you have any questions, or the symptoms get worse, contact your healthcare provider, or call 8-1-1. For more information on COVID-19, please go to <u>www.bccdc.ca.</u> If you develop severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing (e.g. struggling to breathe or speaking in single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Please check BCCDC's <u>Symptoms of COVID-19</u> regularly to ensure the list is up to date.



SURREY SCHOOLS Spread the word! We need...



SUPERVISION AIDES NEEDED NOW

Can you, or someone you know, help to provide supervision for children?

Supervision Aides work one hour per day (5 days per week, preferably) to provide supervision to elementary and secondary students during their lunch break. Pay rate is \$22.21 per hour.

Ideal for those retired individuals or adults who relate well to children, and youth, and are seeking part-time employment.

Preference given to those individuals available daily (Monday to Friday).

For more information, and to apply online, please visit <u>www.surreyschools.ca/careers</u>