

# CELEBRATE VALENTINES DAY SAFELY IN CLASSROOMS

Valentine's Day is a day to show you care about your friends, but this February 14th, it's important we make sure kindness – and not COVID – is in the air. As we celebrate under the latest health and safety protocols, the district would like to share some recommendations for having a safe and sweet Valentine's Day!

## VALENTINE DO'S & DON'TS

- ♥ **DO** wash hands regularly, especially before and after activities.
- ♥ **DO** ensure each student uses their own set of supplies like glue, scissors, and markers during craft time.
- ♥ **DO** maintain personal distance whenever possible.
- ♥ **DO** go outside whenever possible.
- ♥ **DO** dress up! Wear Valentine themed clothing or a pajama party!
- ♥ **DO** share paper Valentine's cards.
- ♥ **DO** share gift and treats. Ensure food items are purchased, pre-packaged, and individually wrapped (no home-made treats permitted). Ensure a distribution plan is in place to avoid crowding.
- ♥ **DON'T** host student dances.
- ♥ **DON'T** organize baking classes– even if prepared by the teacher and students are provided with individual kits.
- ♥ **DON'T** have activities where students face each other unless personal distance can be maintained.

## STUDENTS AND STAFF MAY EXCHANGE VALENTINES CARDS.

Be mindful not to have students congregate in one area during card exchanges. Maintain personal space whenever possible.

## VALENTINE'S DAY MAY BE SWEET, BUT LET'S NOT SHARE OUR TREATS!

- ♥ No communal sharing of food such as donuts, chocolates and cookies.
- ♥ Pancake breakfasts can occur if done in a teaching kitchen.
- ♥ No staff potlucks.
- ♥ Activities involving baking and creating of edible items can only take place in foods labs or teaching kitchens at secondary schools, not in classrooms.



## ACTIVITY IDEAS

Here are some tips to make your Valentine's Day activities fun and safe for everyone!

Take part in 'heart healthy' outdoor activities by organizing outdoor games and activities that minimize physical contact and maximize space.



Make Valentine cards and find a special place to mail them to – like a senior's care facility or a homeless shelter. Please call the site in advance to ensure they are accepting cards and follow all safety protocols outlined by organizations.



Have an outdoor scavenger hunt and have each student find items that they love/appreciate or hide clues that will help them solve a problem or riddle!



Kindness Rocks!  
Have students paint rocks with messages of support and friendship. These can be placed in areas where the whole school community can enjoy!



There are so many great books about friendship, kindness and sharing. Ask your librarian to recommend a few and organize a Valentine's Day reading party!

