

## FAQs for Return to School - January 2022

### Who will return on January 4<sup>th</sup>?

- Students who are children of essential workers and students who have diverse learning abilities or additional learning needs may return on January 4<sup>th</sup>. All other students will return to school on January 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Families who are essential workers or families with students of diverse learning abilities or students that require additional learning supports should contact their principal prior to Tuesday, January 4, 2021.
- All staff will return as per their regular schedule on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Who is considered an essential worker?

- All families that require child support to continue their employment are considered essential workers. It is especially important that we support the health care sector as this will be important to our communities.

### Will buses run beginning January 4<sup>th</sup>?

- Yes, bus routes will run as scheduled to ensure those students that need support at school can be transported to school.

### How will staff support students during the first week?

- School staff will work with school administration to ensure effective schedules for students. This planning will begin on Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

### What will school staff be doing next week if there are limited numbers of students attending?

- School staff will be using this time to prepare their classrooms and schools for a safe return to school for students. Health and safety planning will occur. Staff will be supporting those students that have essential worker families or students with diverse learning abilities.

### What is the expectation for students not attending? Will teachers be reaching out virtually?

- Students will not have academic requirements during the week of January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- School staff will not be providing instruction or instructional materials to students not at school during this week.

### **Will afterschool programs be running?**

- Afterschool programs may be running. Please contact the afterschool program provider directly to inquire if these programs are available.

### **Will daycares that operate within schools be open next week?**

- Yes, they will be open if there is available staffing to operate. Please contact your child care provider directly.

### **Will StrongStarts operate next week?**

- No, StrongStarts will not be available until January 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Community Rentals**

- School rentals in schools will be paused for community use until further notice. There will be exceptions for afterschool programming for youth. Community rental groups should contact the principal for any questions.

### **School Sports**

- Extracurricular sports tournaments will be paused
- Sports tournaments are a single or multi-day gathering of three or more sports teams, who come together outside regular league play for the purpose of teams playing against multiple other teams, but does not include:
  - A gathering where team members compete on an individual basis against members of other teams, or
  - A gathering where the result will decide if a team will advance to play in a national or international competition.
- Spectators will not be able to attend school sports

### **Visitors in Schools**

- Visitors will be limited to those that are supporting activities that are of direct benefit to student learning and wellbeing, such as teacher candidates or program volunteers.

### **Mask Use**

- The PHO Order - Face Coverings requires all students, staff, and visitors to wear a mask indoors at school. Everyone who is able to (i.e., does not have a mask exemption) must wear a mask.
- Proper fit is a key factor in mask effectiveness. Masks worn at school should fit well.

- Masks are most effective when everyone who is able to is wearing one.
- Those with mask exemptions continue to follow any strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures.
  - Those not able to wear a mask all day continue to be encouraged to wear one as much as they're able to.
  - For those with mask exemptions, administrators and staff support other strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures.

### **Field Trips**

- Field trips will be cancelled or postponed during the week of January 4 - 10, 2022
- Other field trips will be evaluated given current public health orders.