



# New Norway School

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Principal: Mr. R. Payne Assistant Principal: Mr. S. Searle

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September 16, 2021

## **Re: Update for families regarding recently announced provincial Covid-19 health restrictions**

Dear New Norway Parents and Guardians:

We know that many of you are wondering what last night's announcement about health restrictions by the province means for our school. Below are some of the key points as they apply to us:

- Provincial mask mandate for all grades 4-12 students and all staff. Masks can be removed once students are situated in their classrooms.
- The provincial mask mandate supersedes the previous BRSD mask mandate for students in K-3. Students in these grades are no longer required to wear masks. Students will be kept spaced-apart in classrooms as much as possible.
- All riders on school buses must wear masks.
- The only mask exemptions that are acceptable are from medical personnel. Previous medical exemptions from last year are still accepted, please provide a copy to the office.
- Students in K-6 are required to cohort, but we anticipate this will require minimal change as the timetable was constructed with this possibility in mind. Staff are able to work with more than one cohort. K-6 recess play areas will be adjusted to maintain cohorts and maximize the use of the space available.
- Indoor sports activities (games) can proceed with a 1/3 capacity for spectators. Spectators are limited to family members who must sit in family cohorts and distance from others.
- People (Gr 4 and older) are not to enter the building if not masked.
- Outdoor sports activities may continue, but we are seeking clarification about spectators.
- There are no other new measures (restrictions) for secondary students.
- BRSD is not moving to a more defined "at home learning" option for students at this time. BRSD Home Education is the recommendation for families who may not be able to meet the provincial health directives. Please note that parents are responsible for providing the educational program in this instance.
- The province has stated that contact tracing will not occur, and close contacts are not required to isolate.
- BRSD will be modifying and reposting the "Back to School Plan" shortly.

As stated above, these are the key points, and we will continue to keep you apprised of further details as they are clarified. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us at the school.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these challenging times together.

Mr. Payne

Mr. Searle