



New Norway School

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Welcome Back!

After our extended winter break it is good to see all the smiling faces back in the building today and students reconnecting with friends and staff members. We anticipate that many of you are wondering about how things will unfold in the coming days, and hopefully this letter will address some of the questions you may have.

- First of all we wish to reassure you that having a safe environment in which to learn is the priority in Battle River School Division. All BRSD schools have received a thorough cleaning over the break and our air filtration systems meet the provincial criteria.
- Safety measures remain in place at schools. Kindergarten to Grade 6 students remain in cohorts. Hand sanitizing and distancing measures continue. Mask rules have not changed, and the need for visitors to provide proof of vaccination or a photo of a negative rapid test result is still in place. This also continues to apply to spectators at sporting and performance events.
- The Daily Self-Assessment Checklist is still in effect and has been updated. Please use the following link to access the latest version of the document:
<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/56c020ed-1782-4c6c-bfdd-5af36754471f/resource/58957831-a4ab-45ff-9a8e-3c6af7c1622e/download/covid-19-information-alberta-health-daily-checklist-2022-01.pdf>
- Anyone who isn't well should stay home. Please continue to let the school know if students are going to be away so we can accurately track absences.
- AHS has let us know that, at this time, they will not be providing contact notifications to schools, so we will not be sharing news of individual COVID cases.
- It is possible a class or grade could be shifted to remote learning for a 10-day period of time if there is a significant level of illness.
- Medical-grade masks and rapid test kits are on their way, supplied by the Alberta Government. The masks are packaged in a 2-week supply for each person and the rapid tests are in packages of 5. If a person was testing twice per week that would last them 2.5 weeks. No tests will be done at school — families can make their own decisions about whether to test regularly or use the tests if someone becomes symptomatic. **If your family does not wish to receive the test kits, please advise the school as soon as possible so they are not sent home.**

As these turbulent times continue, we are committed to doing our best to keep our focus on teaching and learning in as stable and safe an environment for students and staff as possible. We will continue to keep you apprised of developments as they occur, and we appreciate the continued support of our families as we work together to navigate the uncertainty.

Thank you.