



August 30, 2021

PSSD's Re-Opening August Information & Reminders for Families

After our last year together, we have all learned to be flexible as we follow the guidance of those in Health to ensure that our school is as safe as possible for all of our Elementary-aged students and staff.

As we know, things eb and flow, and we will continue to do our best to communicate changes as they come. As things come up, we will use our school newsletters and classroom teacher communication to keep everyone informed and will sort through them as the year progresses.

We recognize that some of these practices will take some time to get used to again after being away all summer and will work together as we navigate through the fall.

Here are a few things imminent to our students and staff (Elementary) as we return this fall.

Take care everyone and thank all of your hard work in keeping us all safe at EWES again this year! We are all in this together!!

Illness (in general):

- Staff, students, and parents: If not feeling well, or presenting with COVID-like symptoms, **must stay home**.
- Parents: if your child presents with illness symptoms at school, you must have a plan to pick your child up **promptly**.
- In addition, parents should contact HealthLine/**811** for direction.
- Students can return once they are symptom free for **24 hours**. (This means that if a student is sent home from school because they are displaying COVID-like symptoms, they no longer need to be symptom free for 48 hours before returning, but instead need to be symptom free for 24 hours (even with a negative COVID test). This is following the direction from SHA.)

Parents/Visitors in the School:

- We encourage **pick up and drop off** of students *outside* the school to keep hallway congestion to a minimum.
- Teachers will be sending out **welcome letters and videos** so their class knows where to meet outside on their first day. Staff will continue to meet students and help them get to their regular **meeting spots** for the first week back.
- *If needed*, arrangements can be made for a parent/guardian to accompany their child into the school. Please call ahead to make an appointment whenever possible (306-933-2066).
- All visitors will enter through the front door, check in at the office, complete a personal symptom screener and provided they wear a mask (unless they have their own).
- At this time, parents are *not able* to act as volunteers.

Masks:

- At this time, masks will be *required* for elementary students (those students born in 2010 and later) and elementary staff in all Prairie Spirit schools.
- Health Canada still recommends using a medical grade or cloth mask (that is 2-3 layers thick), although staff and students may choose to wear a medical grade or a mask of their choosing.
- ****Note:** *Gaiters* and *bandanas* continue to NOT be allowed as masks. In addition, a face shield cannot be substituted for a mask.
- Masks must be worn on the bus at all times by staff and students.

Field Trips:

- At this time, we are able to book field trips for the year. Masks will be worn on the bus and all guidelines will be followed according to locations we attend. As always, individual classroom communication will be sent home from the classroom teacher prior to field trips.

Baking and Hot Lunches:

- At this time, we will not be sharing any baking or food.

Library:

- At this time, we are able to use our school library including book exchanges. We will be limiting cohorts to minimize congestion and practice proper hand hygiene before and after entering the library as a classroom.