

September 1, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Further to the communication and subsequent Public Health orders regarding the [mask requirement in River East Transcona School Division](#) for all K–12 students, staff and visitors, we remind you that RETSD continues to work closely with Public Health to minimize the impact of COVID-19 in our community. We are working diligently to help ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, staff and families across the division.

We are committed to keeping our schools safe and open by following Public Health guidelines. These guidelines include requiring mask use, hand washing, sanitizing stations, cohorting K–8 students, physical distancing and urging all students and staff to stay home if they feel unwell.

We are pleased to share the divisional re-opening plan with our community. It can be found on our [website](#) along with [other information regarding our response to COVID-19](#). Each school is developing a school-specific plan which will be shared with parents in the coming week prior to the start of school. Last year, we learned the importance of keeping all our plans dynamic and responsive—which will be the case this year as well. As the plans or the Pandemic Response System change, we remain committed to keeping you updated.

We continue to be focused on the safety of students and staff in our schools, buildings and buses and are working very hard to ensure the fundamentals are being followed. As parents, we ask that you help to communicate the importance of students following the fundamentals such as hand washing, physical distancing and wearing a mask both at school, and in our community.

Working together, we can keep the risk of transmission low in our schools and community which will help keep our schools open for in-class learning.

Sincerely,



Kelly Barkman
Superintendent/CEO