

COVID-19 STAFF UPDATE #7

October 30, 2020

Today, Manitoba's chief provincial public health officer announced the Winnipeg Metro region will be moved to Critical (RED) in the pandemic response system starting on Monday, November 2, 2020. This change will not impact our schools as we will continue to operate in Restricted Orange as we have been for the last week.

With this announcement, there may be additional K-8 families in our division who will now want temporary remote learning. We will prepare a memo/survey to go out to families on Monday.

We are sending a letter home to families today to let them know that there are no changes to school; schools will remain in the Restricted (Orange) Level in the pandemic response system. While in-class learning remains in place in our schools, temporary remote learning continues to be an option for students in K-8.

You already will have many of these restrictions in place; however, all our schools must implement the following measures to be in effect as of Monday:

- Schools must ensure two metres of physical distancing to the greatest extent possible, and adjust classroom space as necessary; excess furniture must be removed from classrooms to create additional space; other spaces within schools must be repurposed to accommodate more distancing (e.g., multipurpose rooms, empty rooms, shared spaces, common areas, and libraries)
- Extracurricular activities are cancelled
- Teachers and staff who move across cohorts of students, including substitute teachers, are required to wear medical masks. Medical-grade disposable masks have been issued to all schools. N95 masks are not required
- Indoor choir and the use of wind instruments are not permitted
- All field trips must be postponed or cancelled
- Blended learning (in-class and online) for grades 9–12 where distancing cannot be achieved will continue as per status quo
- Temporary remote learning option for K - 8 for the duration of the Restricted (Orange) level
- All other public health measures are still in effect

We are in daily contact with Manitoba Education and Manitoba Health and will keep you informed of any changes to the above. Thank you for all you do, every day.

Best regards,

