



Seine River School Division • 475-A Senez St. • Lorette MB • R5K 1E3 • 204 878-4713 • 204 878-4717(fax) • www.srsd.ca

September 1, 2021

Dear Seine River School Division Families:

Re: September 2021 Re-Opening Plans

We are excited to welcome students and staff back into schools next week in a more normal environment than the past 18 months. We also are aware that there are many different viewpoints on several issues and want to assure parents/caregivers that the health and safety of our school communities is our number one priority. This school year we will be focusing on Wellness and Accelerating learning for all our K-12 students. We are also posting our full “Yellow Re-Opening Plan” on our website and are providing all of you with the executive summary of our planning.

Students and staff will be required to **stay home when ill** or displaying symptoms and to consult with Public Health to determine if testing is required. We are asking all parents to follow the self-screening process each day before sending your kids to school.

All students will be able to attend full days in their regular classroom. This means that blended learning will not occur to start the year as each classroom will distance the students to the greatest extent possible in the classroom.

Schools will continue to designate specific entrance and exit doors for cohorts or grade groupings to limit congestion to the greatest extent possible.

Students **in K-6 will be placed into cohorts** for the start of the school year to assist with contact tracing and limiting contact amongst the entire school population.

Masks: Manitoba Public Health orders requires all K-12 students and staff to wear masks while indoors. This applies to school transportation and all classrooms. School staff will be planning for mask breaks and this will remain in place as long as the Public Health order is in effect.

School Visitors: Parents are being asked to make appointments to visit the school. Schools may have modified forms of parent/teacher events where specific times for different parents will be assigned. This is to ensure that we manage congestion and still allow more normal activities to occur. We are asking parents to make appointments to visit the school in other circumstances to assist the school in managing the number of people in the building at one time. All visitors will be required to self-screen and sign in at the school when visiting.

Extra-Curricular Programs will resume to normal activities with the exception that overnight trips will not be permitted at this time. We are very pleased that students will be able to be active and resume normal activities in this regard.

Immunocompromised Students will be able to access remote learning through the Manitoba Remote Learning Center (K-8) or Informnet (9-12) and will need to contact their school principal to ensure that they qualify and fill out the appropriate forms.



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Community Use of Schools will resume providing the school has available staff and the community user groups comply with all public health orders.

Strong Beginnings will resume on Friday, September 24 and Monday, September 27 for K to 8 students. It will follow a different format than previous years allowing students to get assessed in reading, writing and math by attending a full day on one of the two days. Transportation will be provided, and we believe that this change will assist families to plan for their children. Your child will attend only one of those two days and their schedule will be communicated with you by your school principal.

Vaccination of Staff: The division is still waiting for direction on the mandatory vaccination of staff from the provincial government. Staff that are not vaccinated will be required to be tested up to three times per week. At this time we can not provide specifics as to implementation of this health order but are planning for several scenarios.

We thank you for your patience, support and we look forward to a positive 2021-2022 school year.

Please remember to ensure that your child:

- Stays home when ill
- Continues to use Proper Hand Hygiene (either approved sanitizer or soap and water)
- Utilizes Physical Distancing as much as reasonably possible
- Wears masks on school buses and in school when physical distancing is not possible

We also want to remind everyone that changes in public health orders and that Covid-19 could impact specific classrooms or school communities requiring the school division to make changes to schooling. We will strive to communicate to the best of our abilities and are prepared for any possible change.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Michael Borgfjord
Superintendent