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October 7, 2021

Re: Alberta Education and AHS Guidelines

Dear Parents/Guardians of BTPS Students:

October 5, 2021, school divisions received information from the government about updated guidelines for our schools. Details about these guidelines will be shared from AHS and Alberta Education to school divisions next week. For now, this is the information that we know:

- AHS will notify schools when a student or staff tests positive for COVID-19.
- Outbreak Status will be in place when there are 10 positive COVID-19 cases in schools.
- There will be contact tracing in schools.
- Communications will be developed by AHS to send to the school community and specific students when someone is a close contact.
- AHS will be public reporting School Alerts (2-4 and 5-9 cases) and Outbreaks (10 or more cases) on their website. You can access the information here.
- If there are three or more COVID-19 cases in a class over a five-day period in K-6 schools a shift to at-home learning for that class will be required.
- In late October, K-6 Outbreak Schools will be provided with rapid testing kits and the program is voluntary.
- The Ministers of Education and Health have sent all boards a letter strongly encouraging all school authorities, as employers, and operators of school facilities, to develop policies that require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test for teachers, staff and any adult who enters a school.

We do have schools that are on Alert Status with 2-4 active COVID-19 Cases:

- JR Robson School Vermilion
- Wainwright Elementary School Wainwright
- Wainwright High School Wainwright

We do have schools that are on Alert Status with 5-9 active COVID-19 Cases:

- Mannville School
- Kitscoty Elementary School
- Kitscoty Junior Senior High School
- E.H. Walter Paradise Valley

October 5, 2021, the government updated the private gathering restrictions. You can find them here.

Also, attached to this email is a news release about our Student Day on September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We hope your students came home and shared their learning with you. October 8th, the Board granted as a day in lieu for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. We have prepared our students to reflect and remember those impacted by residential schools.

BTPS wishes you each a safe Thanksgiving. May you and your family have a day filled with smiles, joys, and blessings.

Sincerely,

Rhae-Ann Holoien