November 3, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As per the revised Alberta Education and AHS guidelines, schools will now be notified of positive covid cases and contact tracing will occur. Today, we were informed that an individual associated with the **grade 5 class at WES** has tested positive with COVID-19. The individual was last at school on Friday, October 29. Therefore, anyone who was affiliated with the grade 5 class on October 29 would be considered a close contact.

What do I do if I'm a close contact (NOT a household contact)?

For the 14 days following your last close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case:

- *Monitor for symptoms. If you develop symptoms, isolate and get tested immediately.*
- *Follow provincial public health restrictions and any local municipal restrictions.*
- *Take additional precautions such as physical distancing, wearing a mask and washing or sanitizing hands often.* ● *If you are not fully immunized, you are also recommended to:*
  - *avoid public places such as restaurants, sports and recreation activities, social events or other public gatherings (attendance at school or daycare is permitted as long as you do not have symptoms)* ○ *avoid contact with vulnerable persons such as seniors, immunocompromised individuals and those with chronic health conditions,*
  - *avoid non-essential visits to hospitals or continuing care facilities.*
  - *check with your employer regarding any work restrictions*

When we are notified of a COVID-19 case, we do inform the family that the close contacts in the same household need to remain at home, as indicated in our Back To School Plan. This helps ensure that we are minimizing the risk of transmission.

As per our Back to School Plan, **mandatory masking for all students from grades K-6 will be in place up to and including November 5, 2021.**

It is extremely important that students and staff stay home when they are sick or have symptoms on the AHS checklist. We want to thank each of you for your continued care, support and patience.

Sincerely,