

ANNIEVILLE NEWS

Meeting the needs of all our students

Important Dates

Tuesday, Jan. 18

PAC Zoom Meeting
@7:00

Friday, Jan 28

Professional Day- No
School for Students

Monday, Jan. 31

District Review of COVID
Protocols for Schools

**Friday, Feb 4, 11, 25 &
March 4**

*Tentative Ski/Snowboard
Program

Wednesday, Feb. 9

*Tentative Hot Lunch

Tuesday, Feb 15

PAC Zoom Meeting
@7:00

Friday, Feb 18

Professional Day- No
School for Students

Monday, Feb 21

Family Day-No School

Friday, March, 11

Last Day Before Spring
Break

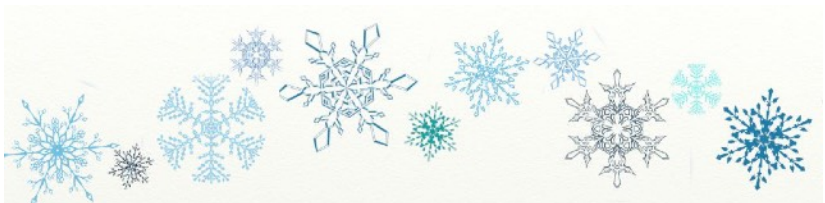


A Safe Return

Firstly, I want to wish you all a Happy New Year and thank you for being patient last week as the staff worked through our plans for making the school a safe and healthy place for your children to learn. The entire staff is really looking forward to having the kids back in classes to reconnect and get back to the fun stuff- the learning!

This newsletter includes information about some of the safety routines we have brought back and some new, enhanced routines for inside the school, in classrooms, in common spaces and for our outside play spaces. I have also included specifics on the support we need from families, as well as what it may look like in the event that we have to close the school or one or more classrooms.

Uncertainty for how things may go might feel stressful so I'm going to work hard to keep families as up-to-date as possible.





The Importance of Masks

I don't think any of us ever wanted to be in this place where masks needed to be worn by young and old, but here we are. After almost two years of this pandemic we have learned that masks are the best way for us to keep everyone as safe as possible.

The children have done a great job with remembering to put their masks on and to wear them properly. This is in many ways thanks to your support at home.

More than ever, because of how highly transmissible the Omicron variant is, we again need your support. As the children return on Monday, we will be asking them to be vigilant with wearing masks and doing lots of reminders.

Last term, we sometimes noticed that children would remove their masks for recess snack or lunch and forget to put them back on, or they would leave their masks in the classroom and when they came in from recess or lunch, they wouldn't have their masks on as they walked in the hallways.

We want everyone to be safe, stay healthy and we know that masks are the number one way we can try to prevent the spread of this virus.

Health Guidelines & Routines

Some of these routines are familiar and some will be new, or require a more stringent approach. These will be reviewed and possibly adjusted or removed by Jan. 31st.

- * Do the Daily Health Check. Do not send your child to school if they have one or more cold or flu-like symptoms.
- * We will call home for any child who develops symptoms at school and ask that you or someone pick them up as soon as possible.
- * Hands will continue to be sanitized before entering the school.
- * Masks must be worn, and worn properly over the nose and under the chin. **The best mask is a tight fitting mask.**
- * We have a supply of cloth masks for students who forget their mask. **It would be greatly appreciated if kids could have extra masks in their backpacks.**
- * Exits for Div 1, 3, & 4 will be changing to avoid close contact and gathering of students. Div. 1&3 will exit out the gym door and Div 4 will be exiting out the middle intermediate door.
- * Primary Classes have plexiglass dividers for tables.
- * Intermediate Classes have rearranged desks to avoid prolonged, face-to-face exposure.
- * Groups & the Playground schedule has **temporarily** been re-established to reduce the number of children in different spaces
- * Parent meetings will be virtual or by phone
- * We will continue to restrict access to the building, except in circumstances important for students' learning.

Other Important Information

Communication

As I'm sure you've heard in the news, the Omicron variant is very different from the other variants both in how long it takes to develop symptoms and in how long people are contagious. This means that it is not possible for Fraser Health to do contact tracing, reporting exposures, or communicating with people who may have come in contact with the virus. Communication will definitely look differently from what we have seen during the first year of the pandemic.

Functional & Health-related Closures

This is when the school must close for one of three reasons. If there are not enough staff members able to come to school, due to illness the school may be closed. If we have 40 or more students absent due to illness the school may have to close. Lastly, if in one class there are 25% or more students away due to absence then that class may have to move to online learning.

I will do my best to communicate with you about any functional closures as quickly as possible. Please watch your email as this will be the best way for me to quickly communicate with families. **You can help by reporting your child's absence and providing the reason for their absence, 604-588-1204.**

Vaccinations

More than 96% of teachers are fully vaccinated in BC and many have either already received their booster or have an appointment to get one. We know that families are also doing their part, with adults in our region having the highest rates of vaccination in all of the Fraser Health Region. In Delta just over 50% of children ages 5-12 have received their first dose (South Delta-52%, North Delta-37%.) We want to encourage you to do your part to help get us through this by booking appointments to have your children vaccinated as soon as possible.

Follow [this link](#) to the Fraser Health webpage for booking an appointment.

Keep Up to Date with the Right Source

The science and information is constantly changing as we learn more and more about COVID-19. The best source for current information on COVID-19 is the BC Centre for Disease Control. Here is the link for [BCCDC](#).

The Delta School Website also can help you stay informed on how the pandemic is impacting our school and district. The District sends updates out to all families, but if you miss any you can always check back [here](#). This section also contains information on ventilation systems in schools and any communications from Fraser Health and the Ministry.