

March 12, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we head into the break, it's hard not to reflect on the past 12 months. As we're sure you remember, it was during Spring Break last year that the B.C. Government suspended in-class instruction at all schools in B.C. in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our educators and other staff rallied to find alternative ways to deliver learning opportunities and get everything organized and in place as quickly as possible. We set up online learning, and distributed laptops and food hampers to families that needed some extra assistance. Thankfully, students were able to return to in-class instruction part-time starting in June.

Although we were thrilled to welcome children back into our schools full-time in September, it has been anything but business as usual since then. We think it is safe to say we are all tired and frustrated living with the challenges and restrictions that COVID-19 brings. Like you, we can't wait for the time when COVID-19 restrictions can be lifted. With the COVID-19 immunization plan in place, hopefully that day is not too far away now.

We all hope that with vaccinations and warmer weather we will see infection rates decline. Unfortunately, rates of transmission in the Fraser Health region remain high. In order to keep our community as safe as possible and be able to return safely to school after Spring Break, we encourage you to "think small, think local" this holiday.

Now more than ever, we need everyone to do their part and follow the current [Public Health Orders](#) so that we can keep our schools and our communities safe. Yesterday, Dr. Bonnie Henry announced changes to the health orders to allow outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people. You are asked to keep your contacts to the same 10 people and continue with safety measures like mask wearing and physical distancing. This change means that your children can meet up with their friends outdoors over Spring Break. We encourage any outdoor gatherings to be with friends from their current cohort/learning group. The [travel advisory](#) states that all non-essential travel should be avoided at this time, including trips out of province and between regions of the province. This includes not travelling for a vacation.

In spite of these restrictions, we hope you and your children are able to relax and participate in activities that lift your spirits and bring you happiness this Spring Break. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank your children for their resilience, and thank you for your continued understanding, patience, support and the commitment that you have shown to your children and to your school communities.

Take care and stay safe,



Doug Sheppard  
Superintendent of Schools



Val Windsor  
Board Chair