



# Vermilion

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Re-entry Plan

2020-2021



*#BTPSTogether*

*Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.*

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## Family's/Guardian's Role

### What do I need to buy for my student before school starts?

- Our School Supply lists are available at <http://ves.btps.ca/Supply%20Lists.php>
- Each student will be provided 2 re-usable masks. You may wish to purchase other masks and masks need to be approved by the school administration.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at each school entrance and classroom. You may wish to purchase other sanitizer but it needs to be approved by the school administration.

### What will the first day of school be like?

- We will stagger the return of students over two days. Staggered entry will look as follows:
  - Students in grades 1 – 6 with last names starting with A – K will come to school on September 1<sup>st</sup> for their staggered entry.
  - Students in grades 1 – 6 with last names starting with L – Z will come to school on September 2<sup>nd</sup> for their staggered entry.
  - All students will come to school on September 3, 2020 and thereafter.
  - Kindergarten staggered entry will be shared with kindergarten parents separately and will take place through the first week.
- Grades 4-12 students and staff will wear masks when they enter the school, in hallways, common areas, classrooms and bathrooms when 2 m of physical distancing is not able to be maintained.

### Will I be able to enter the school as a parent/guardian?

- On the first day of school, if one parent/guardian needs to enter the school with a student, they need to fill in the self-assessment screening tool (link found below). We ask that parents/guardians do not remain in the school for a long period of time to visit so we limit the number of people within the school. We understand that students often have lots of materials that they wish to bring but these can also be brought to the school over various days as well.
- As you enter the building through the main entrance **ONLY**, you will follow the visitor protocol outlined here: complete the BTPS COVID-19 app on the ipad provided or use your own device to complete the app using the QR code below, sanitize your hands with the provided sanitizer, sanitize the ipad with the provided wipes and wear a mask at all times in the school. Please maintain physical distance of 2m from others where possible.



**This needs to be completed just prior to you entering the building.**

- On a day to day basis, Parents, caregivers, volunteers, partners and other visitors entering schools should be minimized.
- Parents/guardians should remain outside the school to pick-up and drop off their children. If entry to the school is required they will go through the visitor protocol.
- Parents/guardians can pick up their student at designated spots on the attached map (page 9). We encourage students to social distance as they are waiting to be picked up and to go directly to their pick up spot. We discourage any loitering in the pickup area.
- It is imperative that vehicles DO NOT drive through the school parking lot and the playground area to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Please drop off and pick up in the designated areas only!

#### What is required before I send my child to school?

- Each morning you will need to have your student complete the [Self-Assessment](#). If your student is able to answer “NO” to each question he or she are allowed to attend school for the day. We are depending on families to be honest about their self-assessments and to make this part of their new morning routine.
- If any students or staff show symptoms they will be isolated and asked to go home. Families will need to be prepared to leave work or make alternate arrangements for pick-up.

#### Lunch

- Student lunch breaks will be staggered. Kindergarten to grade 3 students will eat lunch from 11:45 – 12:10 and will go outside for recess at 12:10 – 12:30. Grade 4 to 6 students will have recess from 11:45 – 12:05 and will come in and eat from 12:10 - 12:30.
- For September there will not be any microwaves. Please do not send lunches that require heating. This will be re-evaluated as guidelines change.
- Hot lunch will be suspended until we establish protocol around the safe operation of the program.

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### Will the buses run?

Yes, buses will run and students in Grades 4-12 and the bus driver will be required to wear a mask.

### How can I support my student before school starts?

You may wish to discuss the following:

#### Handwashing

Student hand-washing requirements:

- Before leaving home, on arrival at school, and before leaving school. This is critical for all students.
- After using the toilet.
- Before and after any transitions within the school setting (e.g. to another classroom, indoor-outdoor transitions, etc.).
- After sneezing or coughing.
- Before and after breaks and sporting activities.
- Before and after eating any food, including snacks.
- Before touching face (nose, eyes or mouth).
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty.

#### Masks

- Masks will be provided to each student. You may wish to purchase other masks, but they need to be approved by the school administration. All masks need to be labelled by with the child's first and last name.

#### Telling staff if they feel sick

- Students exhibiting signs of illness will be moved to a supervised, designated infirmary in the school.
- When the parent picks up the child they will be encouraged to seek medical advice.

#### Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing of 2 m will be maintained when possible.

#### Sitting in Assigned Seating

- On the bus and in classrooms, students will be assigned seats.

#### Movement in Building

- Signs and directional arrows on walls and/or floors will guide movement in common areas and hallways.
- Our students will have designated doors to exit and enter the building. The exits will be as follows:
  - Kindergarten students will be ready to pick up at the warning bell. They will exit/enter west door (toward the playground) in the south portable if they are being picked up and the east door (toward the parking lot) in the south portable if they are riding the bus.

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- Grade 1 and 5 students will exit/enter the west portable door. Grade 1 students will use the north door in the boot room. Grade 5 students will use the south door in the boot room. Students will travel down the sidewalk on the north side of the school to the front of the school to board the bus if they are riding the bus.
  - Grade 2 and 3 students will exit/enter the west door (toward the playground) in the south portable if they are being picked up and the east door (toward the parking lot) in the south portable if they are riding the bus.
  - Grade 4 and 6 students will exit/enter the east door on the front of the school (by the parking lot). Those being picked up on the north side of the school will travel around the back of the school by the playground. Those being picked up in front of the school on 44 Street (beyond the crosswalk toward the mall) and those riding the bus will go directly to their location.
  - All visitors, including those coming for Vermilion Play Development and Before/After School care, **MUST** use the front entrance to enter the building and must follow the visitor instructions in the front entrance. Visitors will exit the building using the closest exit.
  - During high traffic times, people will be asked to not use the main door to exit the building to ensure social distancing measures. Students will not be using the main door to exit the school during these high traffic times.

### Shared Equipment

- Students will avoid sharing equipment where possible. If students have to share equipment, they must wash hands before and after use, and the equipment will be sanitized.
- Parents/guardians must not allow students to bring toys from home.

### Water Fountains/Water Coolers

- Please send your child to school with a full water bottle that can be refilled. Where possible water bottles should be refilled at a bottle filler station. We will be getting a touchless bottle filler station, but in the meantime we will be using our classroom water coolers.
- Classroom water coolers will be used in order to ensure students have access to water for their water bottles. An adult will assist with bottle filling at the water cooler periodically throughout the day to ensure safe protocols are followed. The cooler will be disinfected after each use.

### Resources to support discussion

- [Alberta Education's School Re-Entry Toolkit](#)

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## Daily Operations of Schools and Learning

### What will the day look like?

- The structure of the school day will look similar. We will stagger recess and lunch breaks to allow for physical distancing. When students arrive at school in the morning (8:30 – 8:48), we are asking that they remain in their classrooms to ensure that we are able to adhere to the cohorts and keep everyone as safe as possible. Staggered recesses will look as follows:
  - 10:50 – 11:05 Recess for K – 3
  - 12:10 – 12:30 Lunch recess for K – 3
  - 2:30 – 2:45 Recess for K – 3
  
  - 10:10 – 10:25 Recess for Gr. 4 - 6
  - 11:45 – 12:05 Lunch recess for Gr. 4 - 6
  - 1:50 – 2:05 Recess for Gr. 4 – 6
  
- Classroom learning will look similar to pre-COVID-19. Students will not have to sit in their desks all day.
- Physical Education will be modified but there are low contact sports and games that will be played.
- Optional classes will run with some modifications to meet the Alberta Health requirements. Music classes and Fit Friday classes will be split to have only one class at a time to limit the number of students in a classroom.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

- Most of these can continue with health measures in place. Each activity will be evaluated and all necessary health measures put in place to ensure staff and student safety.
- Alberta Education is working with partners such as Alberta Schools' Athletic Association on the possibility of running school sports and more information will be available shortly. Currently, all interschool athletic competitions have been suspended until further notice.

### Field Trips

- Trips requiring transportation cannot occur in the fall of 2020.
- Walking field trips can proceed as long as schools are able to ensure that guidelines for physical distancing, eating, equipment sharing, and hand washing can be adhered to.

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## What is the safety plan?

- Students and staff are required to perform hand hygiene when entering and exiting the school as well as before entering the classroom.
- Hand sanitizer in entrances, exits, classroom entrances, and by high-touch equipment.
- Area rugs and soft furnishings are removed.
- For September, there will be no use of microwaves and vending machines
- Enhanced cleaning of all high-touch surfaces
- Students will be in a bus seating plan and a classroom seating plans

## Bussing

### What will getting on a bus look like for my student?

- Busses will run in three waves and students will exit the building in the fashion outlined above (movement in the building) to board the buses. Students who are picked up by parents will be leaving the school on wave one and go directly to the pick-up zone to adhere to social distancing measures. Students who are walking home/going to after school care at the end of the day will leave on third wave and follow social distancing measures.
- All students will be social distanced in line ups to board the bus where possible.

## Visiting the School

### What does visiting the school look like?

- We value our partnerships with parents. Please understand that there may be limited opportunities to volunteer this school year as we work to keep everyone safe. If you need to enter the building, you will need to follow the visitor protocol as outline above.



Legend

|| - Exit / Entrance doors.

