



# West Central Public School Re-Entry Plan:



***NOTE: Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division's Return to School Plan and School Specific Plans will evolve as required by emerging health risk assessments***

Hello West Central Public School Community,

## **Introduction**

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education have provided guidelines for the return to school that provide a framework for Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) to support schools in the development of their local school plans.

The purpose of this plan is to provide information regarding operations and procedures at West Central Public School that align with the guidelines provided in [SRPSD Return to School Plan](#) and the [Re-Open Saskatchewan Primary and Secondary Educational Institution Guidelines](#).

West Central Public School is committed to work with Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division, provincial authorities and our families to support the health and safety of students, staff and all stakeholders with the resumption of classes.

This plan will be updated whenever new guidelines or directives are enacted by the school division or the province. All revisions of the plan will be communicated to parents and made available on the school's website.

Details on the school's processes and procedures are provided in each of the following sections:

1. Social-Emotional Supports for Staff and Students
2. Student Supports and Safety
3. Early Learning (Prekindergarten and Kindergarten)
4. Curriculum and Instruction
5. Supporting Students with Intensive Needs
6. Extracurricular activities
7. Access to School Facilities and External Services
8. Caretaking & Maintenance
9. Transportation
10. Parent Engagement & Support

## 1. **Social-Emotional Supports for Students**

- a. We are excited to welcome back all of our students and have been working hard to create a safe and joyful return to school for your child. The relationships we have with our West Central families are the foundation of education and the key to student learning and engagement. Our homeroom teachers will be reaching out to each of you before school starts by phone or email.
- b. We will be using our mental health personnel when a child needs supports.
- c. We will have a staggered start to the school year as a “soft-landing” for our students. Students are divided into Group A and Group B. We will have the same family groups coming on the same day. The groups will be provided no later than August 31.
  1. Group A will attend school on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>
  2. Group B will attend on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.
  3. Kindergarten students will only come once, either Tuesday or Thursday of this week.ALL students will attend beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>.

## 2. **Student Support & Safety**

- a. All staff, students in Grade 3 and up, and visitors are required to wear masks upon entering the building. Students, from K-2, can wear a mask during the day if they choose to do so. Students will bring their own Health Canada Recommended mask. If a student does not have a mask at school, we will provide them with a disposable one. Health Canada recommends that non-medical face masks or face coverings should:
  - i. allow for easy breathing
  - ii. fit securely to the head with ties or ear loops
  - iii. maintain their shape after washing and drying
  - iv. be changed as soon as possible if damp or dirty
  - v. be comfortable and not require frequent adjustment
  - vi. be made of at least 2 layers of tightly woven material fabric (such as cotton or linen)
  - vii. be large enough to completely and comfortably cover the nose and mouth without gaping
  - viii. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-wear-non-medical-mask-face-covering-properly.html>
- b. Proper hand hygiene practices are recommended instead of gloves. Each time an employee or student enters a classroom, it is expected that hand sanitizer will be used to sanitize the employee and students hands. There are a number of hand sanitizing stations placed around the school building.
- c. We have spread the students out to use different entrances around the school. If students are not travelling by bus, please try and arrive at school as close to 8:50 a.m. as possible.
- d. Lunch will be staggered so that there will be less student contact. Students in Kindergarten, Grade 3-4 and Grade 7-8 will go for noon recess first, then eat their lunch. Grade 1-2 and Grade 5-6 will eat their lunch first and then go out for recess.

- Students are asked to bring their own lunch and not share food with classmates. We have increased our noon hour supervisors to accommodate our lunch period change.
- e. Only bring what you require for school such as back pack and lunch kit. Leave all unnecessary items (toys, stuffies, mini sticks, etc. at home.) At this time, we would ask that your child brings only necessary school supplies.
  - f. Students with [COVID-19 symptoms](#) are to remain home (you can refer to monitor and self isolate scenarios STUDENTS in SRPSD Return to School Plan @ [www.srsd119.ca](http://www.srsd119.ca) )
  - g. We have a room ready to isolate students who are displaying COVID-19 related symptoms. Student would be required to wear PPE and will be supervised by a member of the staff until the student is picked up by a parent/caregiver.
  - h. Water fountains are disabled except for the water bottle fill stations. Please bring a reusable, unbreakable water bottle from home.
  - i. We will increase supervision at recesses.
  - j. Staff will provide instructions on mask use, hand hygiene, and limiting physical contact for all students in the first week of school. The guidelines will be reviewed regularly.
  - k. Lockers and cubicles will be provided and staff will direct the flow of students to these areas using physical distancing as much as possible.
  - l. Teachers will arrange for the safe handling of learning resources (Appendix E: Exchange of Materials Guidelines, in SRPSD return to school plan)
  - m. Students will be able to sign out library materials and follow the guidelines for library use (Appendix I: Guidelines for Library Use, in SRPSD return to school plan)
  - n. Teachers will arrange their learning environments to be front-facing as directed by the Chief Medical Health Officer.

### 3. **Early Learning (Kindergarten)**

- a. School staff will phone each family before school starts to confirm staggered starts, groupings and dates.
- b. The Kindergarten classroom is a unique learning environment based on play and exploration. We are taking every precaution to keep students safe in the classroom such as:
  - i. Ensuring healthy hygiene behaviours and practices are established through teaching protocols and procedures to students (handwashing; covering coughs and sneezes; avoiding touching the face).
  - ii. Supporting students with limiting physical contact (hugs and handshakes etc.) and instead encouraging “air high fives”, waves, winks, saying hello in sign language, giving the peace sign etc. Remember that young children are by nature physical and social beings.
  - iii. Handwashing should occur before entering each play area.
  - iv. Utilizing outdoor play spaces as much as possible.
  - v. Utilizing materials that delineate individual spaces to sit. (i.e. carpet squares, hoola hoops, tape on the floor, assigned chairs etc.)

- vi. Reducing the number of toys available. Remove toys which are hard to sanitize or clean. This includes soft toys for example. Many materials and games can remain in use if children are instructed to wash their hands before and after use. Instruct children to avoid putting toys/ materials in their mouths.
- vii. Practicing physical distancing at snack and lunch times. Children are not allowed to participate in food preparation. Food from home must not be shared with other children.
- viii. Creating bins/baggies of supplies for each student. Markers, scissors, crayons, playdough etc. should all be individualized to one student and not shared between children.
- ix. Creating a cleaning schedule for the classroom to ensure that surfaces and toys are cleaned regularly.

#### 4. **Curriculum and Instruction**

- a. Short-term Absence Supports
  - i. In the event that a student will be absent from school for a determined, short, period of time, the school team and parents shall collaborate to support the student's continued growth during the absence in anticipation of the student's return to the classroom.
- b. At West Central School, we are committed to providing excellent and enriching educational experiences for every learner. There may be very real concerns about the potential loss of learning/slippage that may have occurred during the closure of schools. Please be assured that teachers will assess and gauge where your child is at and support them to grow as learners. This will guide teachers when making decisions about how much review of the previous years or prerequisite curriculum is required before introducing new curriculum outcomes.
- c. Teaching of safety routines and plans will be given priority especially in the first few weeks of school. Teachers will be devoting additional instructional time to the teaching of hand hygiene, mask wearing, routines, and strategies to support students in maintaining physical distancing. These routines will be reviewed regularly throughout the year.
- d. Check out the SRPSD return to school plan and guidelines for the safe instruction of music. (Appendix G)
- e. Staff will be using SeeSaw; as a tool to support in-class learning and for communication.

#### 5. **Supporting Students with Intensive Needs**

- a. Inclusion continues to be a core value at the school. Additional supports from the school team and the SRPSD Intensive Supports team will continue to be available to respond to student needs. As always, please communicate any concerns to the Educational Support Teacher or administration.
- b. Please refer to Appendix H Guidelines to Support Students with Intensive Needs, in SRPSD Return to school plan.)

- c. There may be situations where a student cannot safely attend school for medical reasons, two scenarios may be considered in an accommodation process.
  - i. Remote learning may be considered for students whose medical restrictions make it unsafe for them to attend classes in the school setting. Contact the principal to discuss the accommodation process and determine next steps.
  - ii. It may not be possible to support all students with intensive needs in person due to health and safety guidelines or with remote learning due to the nature of the student's educational program. In such cases [AP 154 - Temporary Exclusion of Students for Safety or Medical Reasons](#) shall be followed.

## 6. **Extracurricular Activities**

- a. Extra-curricular activities are on hold until further notice as per SRPSD Return to School Plan. Extracurricular activities will resume in compliance with the Saskatchewan: Sports and Activity Guidelines, guidance from the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Education and RPT, public health order directives as well as guidance from SHSAA return to sport protocols. .

## 7. **External Services - Access to School Facilities**

- a. Any non-partnership based community use of facility rentals are postponed until further notice
- b. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to phone or email the school instead of physically entering the school building. Parents and caregivers are expected to limit their physical presence in school to situations that are essential. If you are entering the school, please use the front doors of the school, wear a mask, and hand sanitize prior to reporting to the office.

## 8. **Caretaking & Maintenance**

- a. School Administration will communicate with Caretaking staff when disinfecting of an area in addition to their regular routine is required (ie students occupying an area they are not normally in.)
- b. All cleaning and disinfecting products are Health Canada approved.

## 9. **Transportation**

- a. Busses will be unloading one at a time.
- b. We will have extra supervision to help students find their way to the designated areas.
- c. If possible, we encourage parents to drive their child(ren) to and from school to minimize the exposure to viruses. The arrival time for these students should be near 8:50, the start of our day.
- d. There will be a designated drop off / pick up area for parents to park. Supervisors will direct the students to their designated area.
- e. A reminder to avoid entering the school when picking up or dropping off students.
- f. SRPSD Bus Information:
  - i. Busing will only be provided for the delivery of students to and from school.

- ii. No field trips or extra-curricular trips will be supported until the School Division grants permission.
- iii. No guest ridership will be permitted.
- iv. Bus drivers will create and enforce seating plans that group together students who live in the same household.
- v. Regular cleaning and sanitization of buses will occur in accordance with SRPSD transportation sanitization plans.
- vi. Masks or Face Shields will be worn by bus drivers
- vii. Masks are required for students in Grades 3-8 during bus transportation. Masks for students in K to Grade 2 are optional. Refer to SRPSD Return to School Plan for more details.

**10. Parent Engagement & Support**

- a. As mentioned before, we expect parents and caregivers to use email or phone calls rather than physically coming into the school building. Parent visits should be rare – please use the front entrance; hand sanitize; wear a mask, and stop by the front office.
- b. School communications channels and practices used to engage and connect with parents and families are to be established and consistently applied across the school. At West Central, we use School Messenger, social media platforms like our website (<https://wc.srsd119.ca/>), Instagram , and Facebook; monthly newsletters; and See Saw.
- c. We will be planning a virtual activity in September to meet our community.