



## Peace Regional Outreach Campus Newsletter



### September 2020

#### Staff:

**Clyde Green**—Principal  
**Terry Dashcavich**—Teacher (Social Studies)  
**Donna Krammer**—Teacher (ELA)  
**Lynn Munden**—Teacher (Math / Science)  
**Candace Loughlin** – Office Manager  
**Dave Matilpi**— Indigenous Support Worker  
**Jody Still** – Educational Assistant  
**Lisa Yakemchuk**—Educational Assistant / LAN Tech  
**Lorena Coombes**—Counsellor  
**Linda Stevens**—Counsellor  
**Agnes Gagne**—Daycare Supervisor  
**Yolanda Mora-Fallas**—Daycare Worker



#### Important Dates:

**Sept 8**—First Day of Classes

**Sept 21**— Teacher PD—No classes for students

**Sept 30**— Orange Shirt Day

**Oct 1st**—Register for November Diplomas

#### COVID-19 Protocols

Alberta Health Services has provided recommendations for a safe return to school for students and staff.

1. Complete the Daily Checklist for symptoms.
2. Self-isolate if you experience any symptoms.
3. Wear a mask when you cannot social distance.
4. Wash or sanitize hands frequently.



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# COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST

## Overview

This tool has been developed to support activity organizers, employers, businesses and facility operators in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees/staff. The tool is meant to be used to assist with assessing attendees who may be symptomatic, or who may have been exposed to someone who is ill or has confirmed COVID-19.

Attendees should fill out this checklist prior to participating in the activity or program. If an individual answers **YES** to any of the questions, they **must not** be allowed to attend or participate in the activity or program. Children and youth will need a parent to assist them to complete this screening tool.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, this screening tool will be updated as required.

## Screening Questions

		CIRCLE ONE	
1.	Does the attendee have any new onset (or worsening) of any of the following symptoms:		
	• Fever	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of Breath / Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
	• Sore throat	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Runny Nose / Nasal Congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / Fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / Vomiting / Diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle/ Joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
	• Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
2.	Has the attendee travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3.	Has the attendee had close contact* with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
4.	Has the attendee had close contact with a symptomatic** close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?	YES	NO

\* Face-to-face contact within 2 metres. A health care worker in a occupational setting wearing the recommended personal protective equipment is not considered to be a close contact.

\*\* 'ill/symptomatic' means someone with COVID-19 symptoms on the list above.

# PEACE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

## Scenario 1 School Re-entry

### QUICK GUIDE for Families

#### What precautions will be taken at school?

##### Symptom Screening and Stay at Home Policy



Every day, students, staff, and visitors must self-screen for symptoms. Any students or staff showing symptoms, even those resembling a cold, must stay home. Visitors showing symptoms will not be allowed in the school. The Daily Screening Checklist is available on our website under "Covid-19 update" at [prsd.ab.ca](http://prsd.ab.ca).

##### Physical Distancing



Desks will be spaced at the largest distance possible and will not face each other. Physical distancing will also be followed during drop-offs and pick-ups. When physical distancing is not possible, extra focus will be given to hand washing, sanitizing and mask use.

##### Mask Use



Staff, including bus drivers, students in grades 4 through 12, and visitors must wear a mask in common areas (such as hallways and buses). Masks for students in Kindergarten through grade 3 are optional. Every student and staff will be provided with 2 reusable face masks and every staff member will be provided with a face shield.

##### Foot Traffic



Flow of foot traffic through entrances and hallways may be guided by visual markers on floors, pylons, or physical barriers.

##### Meal Times



Lunch and snack breaks may be staggered to support physical distancing. No food may be shared between students or staff. Water fountains will remain open; students are encouraged to use refillable bottles.

##### Hand Hygiene



Students, staff and visitors must sanitize their hands when entering and exiting the school. Regular hand hygiene will also be practiced throughout the day as needed (before and after eating, and after using the washroom, etc.)

##### Cohorting



Students will be cohorted by class and teachers will move from class to class where possible.

##### No Sharing Policy



Students will not be allowed to share items of any kind, including school supplies and snacks. Use of shared equipment will be avoided. Equipment that must be shared will be cleaned after each use.

##### Restricted Activities



Field trips; activities requiring group transportation; in-person singing, cheering, or shouting; playing wind instruments; school assemblies; concerts and dances are postponed.

##### Enhanced Cleaning



There will be daily cleaning of all areas of the school. Washrooms and high touch-surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day.

##### School Bus Transportation



The school bus note requirement has been suspended. Students will not be able to be dropped off at alternate locations due to Covid-19 tracing requirements.



**Peace River School Division**

Learning Together - Success for All

PRSD's Scenario 1 School Relaunch Plan is based on guidance from Alberta Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health. It is subject to change as the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic changes. View PRSD's detailed School Relaunch Plans at [www.prsd.ab.ca](http://www.prsd.ab.ca).



## Responding to Illness at School

**The following steps will be taken if a student develops symptoms at school:**

- The student will be asked to wear a non-medical mask if they are able to.
- The student will be isolated in a separate room. If one is not available, the student will be kept at least 2 metres away from other students and staff.
- A parent or guardian will be notified to pick up the student from school immediately. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be notified.
- Staff will care for students who need it until they are picked up from school. Staff will wear non-medical masks and protective face shields when in close contact with a symptomatic student.
- All items the student touches while isolated will be cleaned and disinfected or, where this is not possible, stored in a sealed container for at least 10 days.
- Parents will be required to have their child (ren) tested for Covid-19.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Are masks required at school?**

Staff, students in grades 4 through 12, and visitors must wear masks in common areas (such as hallways and buses). Masks are optional for students in Kindergarten to grade 3.

### **Are parents allowed in the school?**

Parents may visit the school if previous arrangements have been made with the school office. Schools will ask parents to self-screen for symptoms and keep a record of visitors.

### **Will playgrounds be closed to students at recess?**

Playground structures will remain open. Schools will assign cohort classes to different playground areas at recess. Students should also practice physical distancing and must hand sanitize when leaving the school for recess and re-entering the school. Students will be taught to avoid touching their face.

### **Will schools provide safety supplies?**

Schools will provide safety supplies such as hand sanitizer and wipes. The Government of Alberta will provide every student with two reusable masks. Disposable masks will be available for students who forget to bring their masks to school.

## Superintendent's Message

Welcome Back

It is my pleasure to welcome you all back for the 2020-21 school year. I hope you had a great summer.

This certainly is not a typical start to the school year and I would like to thank our students, parents and staff for their support, adaptability and patience as we coordinate the re-opening of schools. I have had the great pleasure of speaking with many families over the past month to discuss school re-entry and hear their concerns. These conversations have provided us with a better understanding of the complexities that school re-entry has in the lives of our families. Thank you for your time and openness in sharing. I am humbled by, and not surprised by the level of care, support and understanding especially during this uncertain time. Please know that it is our highest commitment to ensure the safety of our students and we will continue to honor their well-being as we start this new, and different, school year.

As you are aware, we are starting the year in Scenario 1 (in-school classes resume, near-normal operations with health measures) as directed by the Alberta Government. Please view the [PRSD Quick Guide for Families](#) that provides key points from the PRSD Scenario 1 Re-entry Plan.

Please be advised that things may shift and change depending on the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. This could mean that we shift to Scenario 2 (in-school classes partially resume with additional health measures) or Scenario 3 (at-home learning continues, in-school classes are cancelled). All three Scenario Relaunch Plans are available on our website at [prsd.ab.ca](http://prsd.ab.ca). Please note that these decisions are and will be mandated by the Alberta Government upon the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

I would like to take a moment to thank our staff for their dedication and tireless work in preparing our schools for re-entry. The level of determination and care demonstrated by our staff is noticed and very much appreciated. This school year will certainly look different, and preparing for re-entry has been challenging, but I can honestly say the positive attitude and mindset of our staff clearly demonstrates our mission statement "learning together, success for all."

In closing, I would like to thank our students, parents, families, staff, community members and organizations for your support and involvement in education. Together we are able to provide students with safe and caring learning environments that foster student success and well-being. Your involvement makes a significant difference in the overall operation and atmosphere of our schools as it also translates to a strong sense of community and support.

From all of us at Peace River School Division, we wish you a great 2020-2021 school year.

Paul Bennett,  
PRSD Superintendent  
Peace River School Division No. 10



# Spotlight on Health & Safety



## Safety message – PRSD safety protocols and communication

Schools are considered to be the safest places in our communities. However, in reality, an emergency can happen anywhere at any time. It is imperative that our families are informed of various safety protocols and how we will communicate if and when an emergency occurs. This year we have a new challenge to overcome, however we must still meet legislated requirements. To complete our drills we will maintain social distancing and mask requirements to keep our students and staff safe.

### Evacuation

There is a possible danger **INSIDE** the school. Examples can include fire, chemical spill or gas leak.

Students will be escorted by staff to a safe location away from the school

If required, students will be transported to predetermined evacuation centres. Students will be released using student release procedures.

No one will re-enter the school until the school is safe for re-entry.

### Shelter in Place

There is an **ENVIRONMENTAL** emergency in close proximity to the school, outside the school on school grounds and/or unrelated to the school. Examples can include; dangerous goods spill, wildlife on the playground or tornado. If the threat is immediate, students and staff will be gathered in to safer spaces, such as away from walls and large vented areas.

Access to and from the school will depend on the environmental emergency.

### Hold and Secure

There is an emergency situation in close proximity to the school, **OUTSIDE** the school on school grounds/and or unrelated to the school.

All exterior doors to the school are locked.

The school operates as normal inside the school walls. Any outdoor activities, field trips are cancelled.

As the incident is occurring outside, access to and from the school is restricted and carefully monitored.

### Lock Down

A lock-down protocol is initiated when there is an immediate threat of violence to the students and staff inside the building.

The main objective of a lock-down is to protect the maximum number of people by getting behind locked doors.

In a lock-down situation, students and staff will be locked in secure areas and the school will **NOT** operate as normal. No one will be allowed in or out of the school.

### Communication during an emergency

During an emergency, we will make every effort to contact parents directly. Depending on the emergency, it may not be possible to send out information until after the incident has ended. Once it is safe to do so, parents will be contacted through direct phone calls, electronic messages, radio alerts, and website and social media updates. We strongly encourage parents not to come to the school during an emergency unless directed to do so. Although your natural instincts in an emergency may be to go to the school to safeguard your child, please understand that doing so could impede the response to the situation. During any emergency, our first priority is the safety of our students and staff and we work closely with emergency personnel and the appropriate agencies to keep our students and staff safe. Parents and guardians can assist with our emergency planning by ensuring your child's emergency contact information is up to date with the school and transportation office. We also encourage families to follow the PRSD and local school Facebook pages where updates may be posted depending on the emergency.

### Joint Worksite Health & Safety Committee



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# Principal's Message



I moved here from Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador in March, 2018 and began teaching in Alberta at Red Earth Creek School. I have a 24-year old daughter who is a nurse and twin 20-year old sons, one is an aircraft maintenance technician and one is an instrumentation engineer. Growing up, my favourite sport was hockey and I played goal at the varsity university level and junior level in Newfoundland. All my children also played hockey. I have also coached hockey, volleyball and badminton. I have done a fair bit of travelling and have visited about 12 countries, including France, Cuba, Greece and Australia. I spent almost a year studying French in Quebec City and in Saint Pierre.



I am very much looking forward to this upcoming year. There will be some changes for sure but we will all get used to the protocols around wearing masks and sanitizing and washing hands frequently to keep everyone safe. We will all need to be understanding and supportive. Over the first few weeks, there will be lots of daily reminders.

For returning students, the routine will be very similar to what you are used to. We have added some plexiglass dividers on the work tables and have restricted access to the kitchen area. Your teachers and educational assistants will still be here ready to help you succeed.

For students new to the Outreach Campus, welcome. Be sure to ask lots of questions and make the most of your time here. Staff will guide you through the daily routines. Enjoy your experience here with us.



Clyde Green



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