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**VIA EMAIL**

May 27, 2020

**TO: TRUSTEES, SUPERINTENDENTS, and PRINCIPALS**

**FROM:** Reg Klassen  
Chief Superintendent

**RE: PHASE TWO**

### **RE-ENTRY PLAN FOR LIMITED USE OF SCHOOLS**

On May 21, 2020 the Province released their draft plan for Phase Two of “Restoring Safe Services; Manitoba’s Pandemic and Economic Roadmap for Recovery”. As part of the plan, the Province announced that schools will reopen June 1, and all teachers are expected to return to work for the remainder of the school year. Support staff will continue to be involved in meaningful work as determined by their immediate supervisor.

The purpose of the re-opening is to provide individual or small groups of students with specialized programming and services where needed. Regular programming and whole class instruction remains suspended for the remainder of the school year.

Frontier School Division will act in accordance with the Province’s directive as follows:

- Schools will open where feasible\* and teachers will be available to provide services for students with the most pressing needs;
- Teachers and students will meet on a prescheduled basis, by appointment only.

\*Please note that, in communities where lockdowns and school closures are still in effect, Frontier School Division continues to respect and adhere to the local Pandemic Plan.

Where teachers may experience undue hardship with a return to school and / or their community, case by case exceptions and accommodations will be considered and must be discussed with their immediate supervisor.

### **LEARNING PACKAGES / ON-LINE LEARNING / END OF SCHOOL YEAR**

Schools will continue to provide students with learning opportunities via on-line platforms and / or learning packages until June 15. At that time, these activities will discontinue to allow teachers time for assessment and report cards.

Final report cards will be completed by June 22.

June 23 to June 30 will be used for transition planning and other preparations for the return to classes in the fall.

All parents will be notified by their Principal regarding this and other pertinent information.

## **ACCESS TO SCHOOL**

As noted earlier, beginning June 1, 2020, school buildings can be accessed by teaching staff and students following Provincial health directives related to COVID-19.

Principals located in school/communities that are currently in lock-down or have community check-stop programs, must contact their Area Superintendent and work with the local Pandemic Planning Team to determine safety and security measures before considering opening the school.

We realize that all school communities are unique; therefore, before Principals contemplate opening up their school for student and staff access, direction must be received from the Area Superintendent.

In order to access supports from teacher(s) at the School, please be aware of the following:

- School staff will contact the Parent/Guardian to set up an appointment for reasons such as, but not limited to:
  - support for struggling readers in early or middle years,
  - course work completion for high school students to attain a high school credit,
  - provide opportunities to connect with school counsellors, Wellness Workers, school Elder where available, or others as appropriate.
- Parent/students can call the school to set up an appointment as outlined above.
- Students cannot be in the school without a scheduled appointment.
- Details on (entry/exit) including access to classroom and physical distancing procedures will be outlined for this student appointment.

See pages 9-10 of the Provincial document “Restoring Safe Services – Manitoba’s Pandemic and Economic Roadmap for Recovery; Phase 2 – COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Effective June 1, 2020” website: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/>

## **SELF-MONITORING / SYMPTOMS**

Schools must follow public health guidelines for use of school facilities to ensure the safety of all those involved. Some key guidelines include: occupancy limits, use of separate exits, staggered drop-off/pick-up schedules, food handling, self-screening at the start of each day using Shared Health’s online tool: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

Before entering the school (or office) facility, all students and staff are encouraged to self-assess for conditions of COVID-19. Access to the school will be denied to anyone who displays the following cold or flu-like symptoms: cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache.

All staff and students accessing schools are reminded to wash their hands frequently, maintain a physical distance of two meters, and avoid touching their face.

## **SCHOOL BUSES**

Where schools are open June 1, school buses may be made available for those parents who have scheduled appointments for their child(ren). Physical distancing guidelines on the school bus restrict numbers to 8 students per bus. Bus drivers must ensure that physical distancing is maintained. As well, regular disinfecting before and after each bus run must be completed.

## **PLAYGROUNDS**

School playground equipment has not been cleaned or sanitized, nor will sanitizer be provided. Therefore, community residents considering using the unsupervised playground equipment do so at their own risk. As with all other physical distancing measures, distances of two meters must be maintained.

## **GRADUATIONS**

See attached document regarding graduations.



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Reg Klassen  
Chief Superintendent

RK/dsl

attachment

## Manitoba Education Fact Sheet - Graduation Ceremonies

Updated: May 27, 2020

For schools wishing to host modified graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2020, the limits on gathering sizes outlined by Public Health need to be followed. Effective May 22, 2020 the limits on indoor gatherings increased to 25 and outdoor gatherings allow up to 50 people, where members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

For schools school divisions or schools contemplating outdoor **“Drive-In” graduation ceremonies** (without limitation on numbers), the following guidelines embedded in the Phase Two Restoring Safe Services plan should be observed.

### General

- Participants must maintain physical distancing of at least two meters at all times.
- Participants are required to stay home if they are feeling sick or symptomatic. There is no option for sick or symptomatic participants to stay in their vehicle during the entire ceremony.
- Participants must have access to soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Appropriate cleaner and disinfectants must also be accessible.

### Vehicles

- Vehicles must be separated by a minimum of two meters.
- Windows and sunroofs may be open, but doors and trunks are to remain closed.
- Only participants from the same household may occupy the same vehicle.
- Participants are to remain in their vehicles, or stand outside on the left side of their vehicle.
- Participants must maintain physical distancing of at least two meters when outside the vehicle.

### Washrooms

- The use of indoor facilities, such as washrooms, is limited to no more than 25 participants at any given time.
- Physical distancing of two meters must be maintained for those waiting for washroom facilities.
- Where washroom access is provided, frequent cleaning and disinfection must take place before, during and after the service.

### Other

- If contact is required with any equipment, the equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Food/concession services that are provide should follow applicable restaurant guidelines and payments should be accepted through contactless methods, where possible.
- All other services must be suspended, including picnic areas and play areas.

Source: Outdoor Drive-in Events

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/phase-two.html>