

December 16, 2020

Dear Principal/Administrator of Vermilion Elementary School;

Two or more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed at **Vermilion Elementary School**, 4837 44 St, Vermilion, AB T9X 1G3. As a result, the Medical Officer of Health has declared a COVID-19 outbreak at **Vermilion Elementary School**.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Public Health will work with your school to determine who may have been exposed to COVID-19 during their infectious period, that is those who are close contacts of the case. This includes:

- all staff and students that may have been exposed within a 2 metre distance of the case for 15 minutes or longer, or
- anyone having close physical contact for any duration of time, or
- anyone exposed to infectious body fluids (e.g., was coughed on, sneezed on, shared food/drinks) from the case, or
- those who shared the same classroom for 15 minutes or longer.

All individuals identified as close contacts are legally required to self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to this case to prevent the risk of spread to others. The COVID-19 case(s) last attended your school on December 7th and 10th, 2020 and the Kindergarten K-A cannot attend the school from December 11th, 2020- December 24th, 2020 inclusive.

It is also recommended that all staff and students identified as close contacts be tested for COVID-19 as a result of this exposure. The letter from Alberta Health Services will need to be provided to staff and parents/guardians that reviews the requirements for self isolation and the recommendation for testing. To book an appointment for testing, they can go to <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx> or call 811 toll-free. **NOTE:** A negative test result does not mean that the staff or students who are close contacts can come back to school, because they are required to self-isolate for 14 days.

As part of outbreak management, you may be contacted by Environmental Public Health to review the COVID-19 control measures in the school as per the *COVID-19 Information - guidance for school re-entry scenario 1 (August 20, 2020)*. This document can be accessed online at:

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-guidance-school-re-entry-scenario-1>

It is the responsibility of School Administration to distribute the attached letter to all staff and students at your school. We ask you continue to monitor and report any new illness in your facility as per usual process.

For further information regarding COVID-19, please visit: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/default.aspx> the AHS website for COVID-19 or call Health Link at 811 if there are any questions.

When you are booking your test, please provide EI # 7501

Thank you.

Public Health,
Communicable Disease Control