

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of BTPS Students,

In our June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 letter, we shared the latest information regarding our return to school in the fall of 2020. As a part of that communication we discussed two possible return scenarios. Scenario 1 was a return to normal operation with some preventative health measures. Scenario 2 was a return with more significant health measures like social distancing, limited class size, etc. At that time we understood that the Government of Alberta was sharing their school reentry plan on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

As you may be aware, on July 21<sup>st</sup>, Premier Kenney and Minister LaGrange announced the return to school plan for Alberta. The announcement was to return under Scenario 1, effective September 2020. BTPS was anticipating this direction from government and our planning over the last two months has been focused on what that will look like in BTPS. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be working with our BTPS Reentry Committee and the Board on a detailed plan for our return. We are considering every aspect of our operation and how we can ensure that we are doing everything we can to support the safe return of our students and staff. Along with principals, we will be communicating with parents and staff to provide very detailed information regarding the safe return of students and staff at the start of the school year. As always, BTPS puts the safety of students and staff as the number one priority in their decision making.

We know that one of the big questions for parents is around the necessity to provide masks as a form of personal protective equipment. According to Dr. Hinshaw, when a two meter distance cannot be maintained, a mask is the next best alternative. There may be times in the school day when a mask could be used. To allow parents as much notice as possible, we are suggesting that they purchase two reusable masks as a part of their child's school supplies. This will allow for one to be cleaned at home while the other is in use. In terms of hand sanitization, we will be providing it for students and staff to ensure that the product is safe for school use. It is not necessary to purchase hand sanitizer for your child to use at school.

We understand that for many parents, this is a very stressful time. Now that an announcement has been made, we know that many parents have questions about how they can best prepare for the return of their children to school. Please click [here](#) to view the document provided by the Province of Alberta, which provides general advice for parents about school reentry.

Take care,



Bob Allen  
Superintendent



Lanie Parr  
Board Chair