



November 16th, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of BTPS Students,

I hope you are all doing well. Our weather certainly has changed in a short time. I have been able to spend some time outdoors shoveling (and repeating).

This long weekend, we had confirmation that two students tested positive for COVID-19 in a BTPS school. This is our third COVID-19 student case. When this occurs, we are not allowed to share student information with people out of respect and in accordance with Alberta Health Services privacy guidelines. We have procedures in place to complete enhanced and thorough cleaning of the school. As we continue to work together to minimize risk, AHS recommends that good hygiene is our best protection: wash hands regularly for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching face, cough or sneeze into an elbow or sleeve, and dispose of tissues appropriately.

If your student has tested positive for COVID-19, please contact the school administrator who is able to start the necessary processes.

Symptoms for children and adults:

Everyone in Alberta should monitor themselves for [symptoms](#).

- Adults over age 18 should stay home and get tested if they have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Children should refer to [the daily screening checklist](#) for instructions.
 - If a child has any of the core symptoms, they need to isolate for at least 10 days from the start of symptoms or until the symptoms are gone, whichever is longer, or until they test negative for COVID-19.
 - Core symptoms for children: cough, fever, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste or smell.

There are addiction and mental health confidential supports available:

The Mental Health Help Line at 1-877-303-2642 and the Addiction Help Line at 1-866-332-2322 operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- The Kids Help Phone is available 24-7 and offers professional counselling, information and referrals and volunteer-led, text-based support to young people by texting CONNECT to 686868.
- The Canadian Mental Health Association has resources at [mentalhealthweek.ca](#).
- [Online resources](#) provide advice on handling stressful situations and ways to talk with children.

Thank you for your continued support as we keep each other safe.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhae-Ann Holoien".

Rhae-Ann Holoien
Superintendent