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August 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of BTPS Students,

Since the last communication on July 29, 2020, Alberta Education has added additional information to school re-entry in Scenario 1 that we would like to share with our students, parents/guardians and caregivers. On August 4, 2020, it was made mandatory for all staff and Grades 4-12 students to wear masks where physical distancing cannot be maintained in all BTPS facilities and buses. The use of masks for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students is optional. See the guidelines on the Alberta Education [website](#) for additional information.

Alberta Education and Buffalo Trail Public Schools will be providing two re-usable masks per student and staff. Once we receive the masks, we will distribute them to schools with information on cleaning them at home.

We continue to work on our re-entry plan for our schools since the announcement was made for students to return to school. We have had meetings internally and with provincial partners. Central office senior leadership will be meeting with school administrators and our re-entry committee to provide updates and direction for next steps.

Here are some highlights and/or updates of our work. Much of this work has focused on health and safety measures as that is a critical priority.

- **PPE** - Each staff member and each student will receive two reusable face masks. The masks are optional for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3.
- **Hand Sanitizer and Wipes** - Hand sanitizers will be located at each school entryway. Wipes will be available throughout the school.
- **Classroom Hand Hygiene** - Hand sanitizers will be located in all classrooms.
- **Enhanced Cleaning** - A custodian will be working in the school throughout the day to ensure high touch areas are cleaned multiple times.
- **Signage** - Common signage for school entry, washrooms, proper hygiene procedures, etc. will be shared with schools.
- **Re-Entry Plan** - We are developing a plan with a Re-entry Committee, which comprises of Board members, Administrators, Department Heads and Senior Administration, which will capture the key components of Alberta Education's School Re-Entry Plan. As we work to complete this plan, we will continually update, refine and communicate as we prepare for school start-up.
- **Transportation** - We are currently determining bus safety measures and procedures for our students and staff.

As always, we are committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.

Take care,

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Rhae-Ann Holoien
Superintendent

Lanie Parr
Board Chair