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ABJ COVID Protocols For Return To In-Person Instruction

Dear ABJ Community,

We are excited to have you return to in-person instruction starting January 11th. Our staff have been diligently working to provide effective online instruction but there is truly no substitute for having students back in our school.

Our district COVID-19 protocols remain the same as those of November 30th and this letter is reiterating the procedures we have previously had in place. As we return to in-person instruction on January 11th, it is important that our ABJ staff and students diligently adhere to the protocols laid out by the province as well as the Re-Entry plan set out by Elk Island Catholic Schools.

Mask use is mandatory for staff and teachers in all settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained. If students are all seated and the teacher is in a designated area at the front of the class with at least two metres of physical distance from the closest student, the teacher may remove their mask to teach. The teacher should be open with students about why they are able to remove the mask to reinforce/model behaviours. Teachers should continue to physically distance as much as possible even when wearing a mask.

Please refer to the EICS 2020-2021 Re-Entry Handbook for Parents

• Masks are mandatory for all grade 4 - 12 students. Grade 4 - 12 students will be required to wear masks in all shared and common areas such as hallways and on buses. Students are strongly encouraged to wear masks when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

 Guidelines and standards on the use of non-medical face masks is accessible at the following webpage: <u>https://www.alberta.ca/masks.aspx</u>

Within a cohort, the following will be expected:

- hand hygiene expectations when entering and exiting the school and classrooms, before and after eating;
- continual reminders of the importance of respiratory etiquette (e.g. cover coughs and sneezes, avoid touching the face and disposal of used tissues promptly, followed by hand hygiene);
- a no sharing policy, all students should have their own supplies.
- where sharing of equipment is required, the equipment should be cleaned

between uses.

- guiding foot traffic flow through entrances and hallways by using markers on the floor or pylons/barriers.
- school assemblies or other large gatherings (e.g. concerts or dances) are prohibited.

Staff are requested to remain up to date with developments related to <u>COVID-19</u> as well as <u>workplace guidelines for businesses</u>.

All students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12 (including high school students over 18) must complete the <u>Alberta Health Daily Checklist for Children</u> <u>under 18</u>.

Specific COVID-19 Protocols to ABJ

- Students will continue to enter and exit the school at designated times according to the <u>School Map with Designated Entrances and Exits</u>
- Students will remain in their classroom cohorts for AM and PM classes
- Students may eat lunch in their AM classrooms if they are not leaving the school. Students will also move to their PM classes 30 mins before the class begins (11:50 am). Students who choose to leave the school will not be permitted entry before 11:50, as the doors will be locked. Upon entry, the students must go directly to their afternoon class.
- Outside food will be permitted in the school providing garbage is disposed of properly.
- Students should not gather in cars or other vehicles during out of school time.
- Students should not eat lunch at the houses of others who are not in their cohort.
- Staff and students will maintain seating plans at all times and ensure these are clear for substitute teachers.
- Hallway traffic must follow the lane dividers and arrows throughout the school.

Thank you and we look forward to your return!

Archbishop Jordan Administration