

March 11, 2020

Families and Staff of Canadian Rockies Public Schools,

The health and safety of our students and staff in Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) is our number one priority. Even though Alberta Health Services (AHS) currently rates the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in Alberta as low, our custodial, maintenance and central office staff have been making preparations to address this issue for the past month. The situation is rapidly evolving, and we will continue to adjust our response plan as necessary.

We do have concerns surrounding our schools that are within a highly visited tourist destination as well as community members, families and staff who will be travelling extensively in the next few months, and specifically during our April break. Please review the letter from <u>Alberta Health Services</u>.

If you or someone you've been in contact with has travelled outside of Canada, Alberta Health Services advises you to watch for symptoms like fever, cough or shortness of breath in yourself or family members, and call Health Link 811 at the first sign of these symptoms.

If you or a member of your family/household has been advised by Alberta Health/HealthLink to self-isolate and obtain COVID-19 testing, remain at home, do not come to our schools and follow the AHS self-isolation information sheet.

CRPS is asking students and staff returning from affected regions (see below) to self-isolate away from schools until they have been back in Canada and symptom-free for 14 days. Those affected are asked to contact their principals and other relevant contacts as soon as possible and arrange to self-isolate. Individuals who are symptom-free after the 14-day isolation are welcome to come back to our schools. Medical documentation is not required to return. Also, at the February 26,2020 Public School Board Meeting an information item was brought forward by senior management to postpone International Summer Groups which have typically come from China and Japan.

While Alberta Health Services (AHS) lists only Hubei Province, Iran and the Grand Princess cruise at this time, Canadian Rockies is following the broadened scope of self-isolation designated by the University of Calgary which includes the following locations:

- China
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- · Iran
- · Italy
- · South Korea
- Singapore

As the situation changes, additional regions may be added to this list and we will continue to update through school messenger and our <u>Website</u>. All travellers should be aware that the situation may escalate quickly in any country.

Canadian Rockies Public Schools Preparation to Date:

- Last week we added additional custodial time to clean as many flat services as possible.
- We have purchased a bulk of cleaning supplies to support the additional cleaning protocols.
- Additional time has been given to our bus drivers to clean our buses on a daily basis.
- Additional Hand Washing signage has been placed throughout our schools.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in high traffic areas of our schools to support additional hand cleanliness beyond the AHS recommendation for regular hand washing.
- CRPS staff are sharing with our students the importance of regular hand washing.

Additional resources:

We are doing our best to keep the CRPS community informed as further details and instructions become available, but reliable and up-to-date information for Albertans is available on the <u>AHS website</u>. More information is also available on the <u>Town of Canmore website</u>.

Refer to **CRPS Website** for updates.

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Thank you for your support as our community navigates this ongoing situation.

Sincerely,

Christopher MacPhee

Superintendent of Schools

Canadian Rockies Public Schools