

March 13, 2020

Families and Staff of Canadian Rockies Public Schools,

Re: Canadian Rockies Public Schools - COVID-19 Update

In light of the most recent announcements regarding COVID-19, CRPS has taken further precautionary steps and has suspended all community use of our facilities. Please note this does not include before and after-school care. The primary purpose of our school buildings is for the education of our students and we will continue to take measures necessary to keep our staff and students safe. We stress that these measures are precautionary only and CRPS will continue to update as we receive further information.

Please note the updated travel advisory from the Government of Canada that has expanded to more countries.

- China
- France
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Spain

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 <u>AHS self-isolation</u> <u>information sheet</u>.

CRPS is asking students and staff returning from affected regions 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.

All travellers should be aware that the situation may escalate quickly in any country.

Link to Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health March 12 Update:

https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx#toc-9

Key points from update:

- All large gatherings or international events in the province are to be cancelled. Mass gathering means any mass gatherings of more than 250 people. This includes large sporting events, conferences and community events. It does not extend to places of worship, grocery stores, airports or shopping centres.
- Any event that has more than 50 attendees and expects to have international participants, or involves critical infrastructure staff, seniors, or other high-risk populations should also be cancelled.
- At this time, schools and daycares can remain open but steps should be taken to ensure that no more than 250 individuals are in the same room at any given time.
- Dr. Hinshaw stated in her address that cases of COVID-19 in children are typically mild. Children also do not make up a large proportion of cases that have been documented to date.
- Any travel outside of the country is not recommended at this time.
- It's recommended that Albertans who are currently outside the country self isolate on their return for 14 days after they leave the country that they were visiting. That is independent of which location they were in.
- Under the Public Health Act, these expectations can be enforced through legal measures

Additional Updates from CRPS:

- All school field trips outside of the school community scheduled between now and the end of spring break are suspended.
- The CRPS Science Fair will be postponed until a later date.
- All community use of CRPS facilities are suspended until further notice.
- Information will be forthcoming regarding parent/student/teacher conferences and parent information nights.
- All co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will be reviewed on an individual basis as the situation arises.
- School Messenger and CRPS website postings will communicate up-to-date information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

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Christopher MacPhee Superintendent of Schools