

Canadian Rockies School Division 618 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Canmore, AB T1W 2H5

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January 14, 2022

Dear CRPS Families,

A heartfelt thank you to our students and families for supporting the temporarily strengthened protocols. Principals, school staff and bus drivers have noted that students are wearing their masks at all times, social distancing and staying home when sick. Students of all ages have communicated their understanding that the enhanced measures are temporary and for the benefit of everyone's safety; and necessary for our schools to remain open for in-person learning.

Families have been very helpful in communicating absence reasons to our schools. Although Alberta Health Services is no longer sending out notifications regarding positive cases within the schools, Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) has been able to continue notifying parents of cases. This is due to the diligence of parents in reporting cases to schools.

The CRPS team met this morning to review our COVID-19 protocols. We are aware that COVID-19 numbers across the Bow Valley remain amongst the highest in the province. Recent announcements from the province indicate a 40% positivity rate for laboratory-confirmed cases. We are also awaiting the last few deliveries of rapid tests and masks, and subsequent distribution. Therefore, the strengthened protocols will remain in place for another week.

These strengthened safety protocols will again be reviewed by the CRPS team on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>January 20, 2022</u>. Another update will be shared with all families at that time. If our school division maintains or improves its current attendance rates for staff and students, and our community spread continues to decrease, we are hopeful that we will be able to relax some of the current protocols at that time.

The safety of the Canadian Rockies Public Schools' staff and students continues to be our top priority. Thank you for your ongoing understanding as we work through these challenging times.

Sincerely,

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Christopher MacPhee Superintendent of Schools