

February 3, 2022

Dear CRPS Families,

Since the return to in-person learning on January 10, 2022, Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) has been able to keep all classes and schools open to in-person learning. This is in stark contrast to the month prior to the break when numerous classes, as well as Alpenglow School, had to be closed. We thank our students and staff for their diligence in adhering to the temporarily strengthened protocols. CRPS is one of the few school divisions in the province who have not had to close any classes or schools since December.

The CRPS team met this morning to review our COVID-19 protocols. Based on our discussion this morning and the improving case counts, the reduced wastewater indicators, as well as improved attendance rates for students, we have updated the [2021-22 Re-entry Plan for CRPS Families](#). The updates are as follows (effective Friday, February 4th):

1. Mandatory masking is required for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 except when seated in classrooms and when not facing each other, when eating or drinking in designated areas, or during physical activity.
2. Practices for sports may resume. Coaches/trainers/supervisors of activities/practices must be masked and maintain physical distancing when not engaged in physical activity with athletes. Please see the re-entry plan for more details.
3. Grades 7-12 may go off-site over the lunch hour.
4. Singing and the playing of wind instruments will resume.

As outlined in our [January 7th](#) letter, the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. We have been monitoring a variety of data including absenteeism, the number of COVID-19 case counts, and wastewater indicators across the Bow Valley. On January 10th, the COVID-19 data was at the highest levels ever recorded throughout the pandemic. Based on this information, CRPS made the decision to temporarily strengthen our protocols as outlined in the attached January 7th correspondence to all CRPS families.

Safety protocols will continue to be reviewed by the CRPS team on a regular basis. We will continue to closely monitor rates of absenteeism for staff and students. Any changes will be promptly communicated with families. It is important to note that if cases of COVID-19 begin to increase again in our school community and negatively impact student and staff attendance, a strengthening of protocols may again be required. Please also be aware that further changes could be forthcoming as per Alberta Government announcements and decisions. We appreciate the continued efforts of our school community and will communicate any further changes to protocols as they arise.

Sincerely,



Christopher MacPhee
Superintendent of Schools