



March 15, 2020

RE: CLARIFYING / FURTHER INFORMATION - COVID-19

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have been fielding a common question from parents/guardians. I wish to provide an answer as well as a request.

Question: My son/daughter was first symptomatic last Wednesday. Do they need to stay away from school Monday?

Answer: Yes. The Chief Medical Officer has provided clarification that students who are sick should stay away from school for 14 days. With that said, the 14 days begins from the day symptoms first appeared. In this example, the student's 14 days starts on the Wednesday they first showed symptoms.

Staff will be following the same guideline so please be patient as we will have additional substitute teachers in our schools.

Request

While we have these heightened measures and procedures, we would like to remind parents and guardians who may be visiting the school for a parent/teacher conference, as volunteers, or in other capacities, to not do so if you are ill and experiencing symptoms of illness. As a Division we are taking measures to keep our schools as illness free as possible. Your assistance in helping us, by not coming into the school, if ill is greatly appreciated.

Should you have specific questions regarding your children and implications related to your school, you are asked to please contact your school's principal.

Detailed information on COVID-19, the province's approach and regular updates can be found at Albertahealthservices.ca.

As we have observed in recent days, the province's approach to management of COVID-19 changes regularly and rapidly. We have been advised that this is the current strategy and that it may change at any time. I will endeavor to keep you apprised of significant changes as they arise.

As we navigate through this challenging time we anticipate and appreciate your patience and cooperation. These are not easy times for our province and society. Together we can and will get through this.

Let us continue to pray for all of those impacted by COVID-19 and the health professionals who are caring for them.

Sincerely,

Charlie Bouchard
Superintendent of Schools