

Tel. (250) 635-4931 or 1-855-635-4931 • www.cmsd.bc.ca

September 20, 2020

Good Evening CMSD82 Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to provide clarification in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in one of our school communities. A confirmed case is defined as a person with laboratory confirmation of infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 performed at a community, hospital or reference laboratory.

At this point, while we have very reliable information to potential cases within the Witset First Nation located in Moricetown, we have not been officially notified by the Northern Health Authority. At this stage in the school district's protocols, we are mandated to allow the Northern Health Authority the time to complete their work. Northern Health will notify Coast Mountains School District should this impact our school communities.

At this time, we have not been officially notified by the local health authority regarding any student or staff being confirmed to have COVID-19. The local health authority will connect directly with any individuals who may have been exposed with further instructions.

We ask for your patience, and we will communicate out additional information as it becomes available.

The safety and well-being of our students, families and staff remains our highest priority. Please be assured that our schools will continue to implement the strict protocols and procedures we have in place so that children can continue to attend school as safely as possible.

We understand that families will do what they believe is in the best interests of their children as it relates to sending them to school or keeping them home. We respect your right to make this difficult decision. Please know that:

- 1. Children are welcome at school.
- 2. Students who are absent from school will continue to receive an educational program.
- 3. Students will be welcomed back to their school when their parents/guardians consider it appropriate for them to return.

The Northern Health Authority has been very clear about the steps that will be taken should there be a confirmed case in school or in the community. We will take our lead from Northern Health every time there is a confirmed case.

Your children are our priority. Should you require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your School Principal. Please stay safe and check in with us regularly on our website at <u>www.cmsd.bc.ca</u> or twitter @coastmtnsd.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Meyer Superintendent of Schools

"Coast Mountains School District: creating opportunities for learning, opportunities for life"