



Fact Sheet

Elementary Schools

The health, safety and well-being of students and staff is a top priority as schools are reopened.

Schools will continue to create a welcoming, respectful, inclusive, and supportive environment for all. They will educate students and staff about the importance of not stigmatizing those that may have been tested or exposed to the virus. Promotion of healthy coping strategies and pathways to help within the school and community will be a priority.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Superior-Greenstone District School Board will not be offering the past virtual school model next year. We know however, that some families continue to be affected by COVID-19, and options for programming will be available for those families through home school educator teams. Parents are to confirm with their school Principals by June 4. School Principals will be contacting these families for confirmation prior to the start of school.

DELIVERY MODELS

We will be utilizing the first two of the bulleted models for learning that draws on two key aspects of health advice: “distancing” and “cohorting”. Being able to shift to at-home learning will still be required should positive cases appear in schools.

- ✓ Normal school day routine with enhanced public health protocols.
- ✓ At-home learning supported by the student’s home school.

PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF STUDENTS

- ✓ Parents are asked to remain in their vehicles when picking up and dropping off students in the morning and at the end of the day.
- ✓ Parents and visitors will not be able to access the school unless a meeting has been previously scheduled and the covid-19 screen has been completed prior to entry. Medical masks must be worn inside the school. Otherwise unscheduled pick-ups will be asked to remain outside in vehicles and to phone the school.
- ✓ Early notification will allow the school to ensure safety and timely communication.
- ✓ Schools may assign separate doors for students of certain grades to enter to better facilitate social distancing on entry and leaving.



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PERSONAL BELONGINGS

- ✓ Students are asked to limit the number of personal belongings in the school and ensure that the items brought in are not shared with others including but not limited to (clothing, writing tools, manipulatives, food etc.)
- ✓ Personal items should be labelled with the student's name for easy identification.

MASKS

- ✓ Students in Grades 1 to 8 will be required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways, during classes, and on school busses. Outdoor times like recess can be used as opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks within their cohorts.
- ✓ Students in Kindergarten will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in indoor spaces and on school busses.
- ✓ Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Students may wear their own non-medical masks, and non-medical masks will also be made available for students. Reasonable exceptions on the requirement to wear masks will apply.
- ✓ Medical masks and eye protection (i.e. face shield) will be provided for all teachers and other staff of school boards. All school-based staff will be required to wear masks, with reasonable exceptions for medical conditions.
- ✓ School-based staff who are regularly in close contact with students will be provided with all appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

RITUALIZED HAND WASHING

- ✓ Hand washing should become a ritualized activity practiced by all students and staff. Please see the Hand Washing Fact Sheet for more detailed information. All staff and students should wash their hand before and after an activity, before and after using the washroom, before and after lunch, and before and after outdoor activity. Done together with explicit instructions will help students ritualize this important preventative measure.



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RECESS

- ✓ Students should at least have two sessions or organized outdoor activity during the day, which is imperative for their mental health and well-being.
- ✓ The first session should be teacher led, as part of classroom instructional time and will be connected to the curriculum. These sessions will have to take place in designated parts of the school grounds and may have to be scheduled as part of the overall school timetable.
- ✓ The second session will be part of the lunch hour and will be supervised by school staff in a designated area of the school at a specific designated time, dependent on the size of the school. It is recommended that the outdoor activity be structured using games of low organization or some other guide. Students can be part of choosing the activities, and schools/classrooms may use these games to develop friendly competition.
- ✓ Activities may have to be adapted to maintain safety protocols. The following link may be helpful, and is only an example of some possibilities:
http://kumu.brocku.ca/gamesofloworganization/Main_Page

LUNCH

- ✓ Lunch protocols will be established by individual schools based on social distancing and limiting contact measures.
- ✓ Students will eat lunch in the classroom with their teacher, after which they will go outside for 40 minutes of supervised, organized activity.
- ✓ To facilitate social distancing and to limit the number of contacts during the day, students will remain with their class in a designated area of the playground. While cohorts may mix during lunch and recess, social distancing is required to limit close contact. As such, separating cohorts as much as possible will remain a best practice. Depending on the size of the school, lunch will take place in up to 3 blocks to allow all students and staff a lunch break within the safe protocols.
- ✓ An example of a possible schedule: Group 1 (3 classes) will eat lunch from 11:15 – 11:35 and have outdoor activity from 11:35 – 12:15. Group 2 (3 classes) will eat lunch from 11:55 – 12:15 and have outdoor activity from 12:15 – 12:55. Group 3 (3 classes) will eat lunch from 12:35 – 12:55 and have outdoor activity from 12:55 – 1:35.

COHORT TRACKING

- ✓ Daily cohort tracking will occur to ensure safe arrival as well as the ability to quickly communicate contact tracing information to TBDHU.
- ✓ To help support contact management, schools will keep daily records of anyone entering the school setting (name, contact info, time of arrival/departure, screening completed).
- ✓ Students will be assigned seats in classrooms to the extent possible.



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BREAKS AND WASHROOM ACCESS

- ✓ Cohorts will have designated washrooms and each school will provide orientation to all staff and students with regards to access and sanitization.
- ✓ Each class will have a designated stall/stalls in the washroom allowing for safety guidelines to be followed.

ATTENDANCE

- ✓ Attendance procedures will be established at each school to ensure that students are present either virtually or face to face.

STUDENTS LEAVING THE SCHOOL PREMISES

- ✓ We encourage students to remain on the school premises during the school day unless travelling home for lunch.
- ✓ Should someone leave the school property, entry hygiene routines would be required.

CLASSES

- ✓ The primary focus of instruction will be on the achievement of overall expectations across all subjects and grades. Support will be provided for all students as usual despite the model required by the Ministry of Education.
- ✓ September will allow staff and students to establish routines and procedures while performing important diagnostics to best understand the needs of all students. We will ensure that the slow relational approach is taken to meet the diverse needs of all learners returning to school.
- ✓ Students across the world will have experienced learning gaps due to covid-19. Our staff will work hard to be responsive to the learning needs of everyone.

SHARED MATERIALS

- ✓ Shared materials are important for learning (for example, toys for imaginative play in kindergarten, manipulatives for math, computers and other tech materials, books, art supplies, indoor physical education equipment and shared outdoor equipment). The use of shared materials is permitted. The risk associated with transmission with shared objects is low. The focus should be on regular hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette to reduce the risk of infection related to shared equipment, particularly when regular cleaning of shared objects is not feasible.



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HEALTH AND PHYS ED

- ✓ The use of gymnasiums, change rooms, indoor physical education equipment and shared outdoor equipment are permitted with distancing.
- ✓ High and low-contact activities are permitted indoors and outdoors.
- ✓ Masking is not required when playing high or low contact activities outdoors.
- ✓ Masking is encouraged for indoor sports where they can be worn safely based on the activity.
- ✓ Windows should be opened when feasible to increase ventilation.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Clubs, activities, sports teams, bands (without wind instruments) and extra-curriculars are permitted when in cohorts.
- ✓ Cohorts may interact outdoors with physical distancing encouraged, and indoors with masking and appropriate physical distancing.
- ✓ High-contact activities are only permitted outdoors. Masking is not required when outdoors.
- ✓ Low contact activities are also permitted outdoors with no masking.
- ✓ Low contact activities are permitted indoors and masking is encouraged if two meter distancing cannot be maintained with people outside of the cohort.

LIBRARY

- ✓ Libraries can be visited by classrooms during the day with all protocols being followed.

CONVENTIONAL MODEL WITH SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- ✓ All students in grades JK-8 will attend school every day classes are in sessions.
- ✓ Specialized teachers, like French, Ojibwe, and other Prep teachers, will still be able to go into classrooms to provide the full breadth of programming for students

This Fact Sheet has been designed to provide information for school communities considering the changes required by COVID-19. For any questions, concerns, or accommodations, please contact your child's school principal.

***** Adapted from the Ministry of Education "COvid-19:Health, safety and operational guidance for schools (2021-2022)"***



Fact Sheet

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