



Palliser School Division

Palliser Centre

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Dear Palliser School Division Families,

Cases of COVID-19 and respiratory illness are visible in our communities and have increased over the past few weeks. As Alberta Health Services (AHS) no longer notifies school divisions when a positive case is connected to a school, close contacts are no longer required to isolate, even in instances where there is a confirmed COVID-19 case in a student's classroom. We understand that families would appreciate receiving notice of reported cases of COVID-19 in our schools.

As such, starting on Tuesday, September 14, schools will begin providing notifications when families self-report an AHS-confirmed case of COVID-19 to their school. If a family reports a positive case to the school, you are providing consent for the school to send out a notice to specific classes associated with the self-reported case, as well as a general notice to the school community. We are not able to provide any additional information about positive cases to protect the privacy of individuals. If you have questions regarding contact tracing or reporting, we ask that you please connect with AHS.

Our Division is monitoring school attendance and reporting and will report to AHS should school-wide absence rates reach 10% or greater due to illness. Families and staff can assist in keeping transmission of COVID-19 low in our schools. Please keep your child home when they are sick.

You can learn more about COVID symptoms and testing from the Government of Alberta website:
<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-testing-in-alberta.aspx>

For additional information on AHS' response to COVID-19 in schools, please see:
<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/guidance-for-respiratory-illness-prevention-and-management-in-schools>

Let's work together to provide a great year of learning for our children!

Best,

Dave Driscoll
Superintendent
Palliser School Division