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February 10, 2022

Dear Prairie Spirit families:

The purpose of this letter is to provide information for families regarding the Premier's announcement earlier this week and the impact on school operations.

<u>Saskatchewan Ending Proof Of Vaccination Requirement | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan</u>

Proof of vaccination/testing requirement

Earlier this week, the provincial government announced that the provincial requirement to provide proof of vaccination or negative tests will end February 13, 2022.

As a result, Prairie Spirit's administrative procedure regarding COVID-19 vaccination and testing will also end at that time. The provincial government continues to strongly recommend vaccination.

Masking mandate

As part of the provincial announcement, the Premier said the Public Health Order regarding indoor masking will remain in effect until Monday, February 28. Prairie Spirit students and staff members will continue to wear masks indoors in schools up to and including February 28.

As of March 1, we will support all students and staff members in their personal decision regarding mask wearing. We encourage parents to talk to their children about respecting the personal choices of students and staff.

Prairie Spirit schools and offices will continue to be a "mask-friendly" environment for those families and staff who prefer to continue to wear masks. We will continue to make masks available to students and staff until the end of the school year.

Commitment to providing a safe environment for students and staff

Our ongoing commitment is to provide a safe environment for students and staff. Prairie Spirit will continue to follow the advice of our local Medical Health Officer and the Chief Medical Health Officer as we support safe learning environments in our schools. We continue to follow enhanced cleaning and disinfection protocols at schools.

We encourage students and staff to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and other illnesses. We expect students and staff members to stay home if they are unwell.

The provincial government encourages individuals to continue to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including wearing the best mask, taking advantage of free rapid testing, regular handwashing, staying home when ill and getting vaccinated, including the third/booster dose as soon as eligible.

Public Health continues to recommend that individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate for five days. If symptoms persist beyond five days, individuals (whether tested or not) should stay home until their symptoms have been improving for 48 hours.

I want to express my appreciation to all Prairie Spirit families as we continue on this journey. I am thankful for your support of teachers and school staff, especially as we are currently celebrating Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. Our teachers and school staff have done an amazing job of continuing to focus on student learning during these challenging months.

We will continue to provide regular updates to families.

Sincerely,

Darryl[®]B⁄azylak

Director of Education