



Bringing Learning to Life!

Vancouver Island North School District No. 85

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March 17, 2022

Dear Families, Staff and Students:

As our annual Spring Break approaches, I personally would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude, appreciation and thanks, to **all** of you: staff, students and families, for your hard work, dedication, flexibility, and tireless efforts during this school year. It is through our collective efforts that students in our district continue to receive in person learning, and I know this has not been easy. I sincerely hope that everyone is able to take some time to rejuvenate, rest, relax and enjoy a well-deserved holiday over the two week break. Thank you for continuing to make SD85 a fantastic place to work and learn!

When students and staff return from Spring Break this year, there will be some changes to schools' communicable disease procedures. These changes are in alignment with the updated guidelines from the Ministry of Education and the BC Centre for Disease Control. Some of the changes that will occur as of Monday, April 4 are:

- Masks in schools will be a personal choice for students and staff
- Masks will be a personal choice on school buses
- Schools can return to usual sign in/sign out procedures
- Class and/or school configurations can return to those that best meet learner needs and/or preferred educational approaches
- Visitors are permitted into schools; appointments are still recommended
- Community Use of Schools will open for application

Some of the things that will stay the same are:

- Use of signage or floor markings to direct traffic to prevent overcrowding
- Access to handwashing stations
- Daily Health Checks, including staying home if you are ill
- Maintaining of additional custodial time until the end of the school year
- Following of public health recommendations for isolation and testing
- Capacity limits for inter-school events (or those with visitors) until the rescinding of the PHO Gatherings and Events order

When we return, please remember to continue to be kind and thoughtful, as we recognize that everyone will move at their own pace and comfort level as restrictions are lifted.

If you have further questions on the implementation of the updated measures, please contact your school administrator or visit our [SD85 Website](#) for further information.

Gilakas'la,

C. MacDonald
Christina MacDonald

Superintendent of Schools, SD85
