

Vermilion Outreach School Re-entry

2020-2021



#BTPSTogether

Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.

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Temporary Space

Where We Will Be To Start The Year

We are getting more and more excited about our new building as construction comes closer to completion. We truly believe that it will be something that will amaze you, and was made and designed for you! Carrie, Tina, myself, Facilities, and the contractor, sat down back in May, and together, we have created a space unique for our students and staff. Believe it or not, the design company actually requested a visit to our old school site, to see 'what it felt like and why'. They did this to help them understand what makes us so unique. We then put together a design that was new and fresh, non-traditional and created around the 'feeling' we had in the old site. I don't know of many/any, classrooms that have a fireplace, or open concept kitchen/classroom with a 2 meter island - and so much more.

So, this will be our home for many years to come, but first we need to make sure it is move-in ready. We want everything to be perfect for you and to support your learning. As such, we need to hold off for just a little while as construction is being completed. I am not going to say exactly when, because it is construction, and sometimes unforeseeable circumstances arise. However, I can promise you we will be in the new building no later than September 30th. I give you this date with the absolute hope that if all goes as planned, the move-in date could be considerably sooner. I believe it is better to be surprised than disappointed.

So for however far into September this results in, we will be temporarily housed in the East Wing of JR Robson - known as the North Training Center. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the location of this room, please first note that it has its own separate entrance apart from the rest of the building. The room is located in the East Wing of JR Robson across from the Art Room and just before the Construction Lab. This room is located next to two washrooms and it has a private entrance on the South side of the room. This entrance is located where the busses are loaded, and on the North side of the courtyard, outside of the Common Area (Lunch/eating).

This means we will need a Re-entry plan for this temporary school site, and then as we move closer to moving into our permanent site, we will send out a second re-entry plan. For now, please note that we will be sending out a more detailed communication just before the start of the school year with information on dates, times and processes that you will be following in the temporary facility on the first day. Then, as we move closer to moving into our permanent site, we will again be sending out new information on dates, times and the processes that will be put in place in our new building. Always know that our students are our first priority. If you have any questions or concerns, please call us and we will do

whatever we can to address any of these concerns, AND, suggestions are always encouraged!

Following is our Re-entry plan for our TEMPORARY BUILDING SITE.

Family's/Guardian's Role

What do I need to buy for my student before school starts?

- Supplies are dependent on the courses requested.
- Each student will be provided 2 re-usable masks. You may wish to purchase other masks and masks need to be approved by the school administration.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at each school entrance and classroom. You may wish to purchase other sanitizer but it needs to be approved by the school administration.

What will the first day of school be like?

- School will start as normal. We are planning to have our Temporary facility set up to accommodate a normal start-up.
- Students and staff will wear masks when they enter the school, in hallways, common areas, classrooms and bathrooms when 2 m of physical distancing is not able to be maintained.
- **Masks will not be distributed before the first day of school, students will need to provide their own mask for the first day. Please label the masks with your child's name to ease potential confusion**

Will I be able to enter the school as a parent/guardian?

- On the first day of school, if one parent/guardian needs to enter the school with a student, they need to fill in the self-assessment screening tool. We ask that parents/guardians do not remain in the school for a long period of time to visit so we limit the number of people within the school. We understand that students often have lots of materials that they wish to bring but these can also be brought to the school over various days as well.
- On a day to day basis, Parents, caregivers, volunteers, partners and other visitors entering schools should be minimized.
- Parents/guardians should remain outside the school to pick-up and drop off their children. If entry to the school is required they will go through the visitor protocol.
- Parents/guardians can drop off and pick up their student at the south door to our site - bus loading area - from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. This area is off limits to vehicle traffic from 8:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. to allow for bus delivery and pickup.

What is required before I send my child to school?

- Each morning all students will be required to complete the [Self-Assessment](#) app located at our entrance. If your student is able to answer "NO" to each question he or she will be allowed to attend school for the day. We are depending on

families to be honest about their self-assessments and to make this part of their new morning routine.

- If any students or staff show symptoms they will be isolated and asked to go home. Families will need to be prepared to leave work or make alternate arrangements for pick-up.

Lunch

- Student lunch breaks may be staggered.
- For September there will not be any microwaves or vending machines.

Will the buses run?

Yes, buses will run and students in Grades 4-12 and the bus driver will be required to wear a mask.

How can I support my student before school starts?

You may wish to discuss the following:

Handwashing

Student hand-washing requirements:

- Before leaving home, on arrival at school, and before leaving school. This is critical for all students.
- After using the toilet.
- Before and after any transitions within the school setting (e.g. to another classroom, indoor-outdoor transitions, etc.).
- After sneezing or coughing.
- Before and after breaks and sporting activities.
- Before and after eating any food, including snacks.
- Before touching face (nose, eyes or mouth).
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty.

Masks

- Masks will be provided to each student. You may wish to purchase other masks, but they need to be approved by the school administration.

Telling staff if they feel sick

- Students exhibiting signs of illness will be moved to a supervised, designated infirmary in the school.
- When the parent picks up the child they will be encouraged to seek medical advice.

Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing of 2 m will be maintained when possible.

Sitting in Assigned Seating

- On the bus and in classrooms, students will be assigned seats.

Movement in Building

- Signs and directional arrows on walls and/or floors will guide movement in common areas and hallways.
- Students will follow directional arrows within the hallways to promote social distancing.

Shared Equipment

- Students who shared equipment must wash hands before and after use.
- Parents/guardians must not allow students to bring toys from home.

Water Fountains

- Please send their child to school with a full water bottle that can be refilled. Where possible water bottles should be refilled at a bottle filler station.

Resources to support discussion

- [Alberta Education's School Re-Entry Toolkit](#)

Daily Operations of Schools and Learning

What will the day look like?

- The structure of the school day will look similar.
- Classroom learning will look similar to pre-COVID-19. Students will not have to sit in their desks all day.
- Physical Education will be modified. Our Phys. Ed programs are individually based and will be adapted for each student and their needs, while staying within the prescribed curriculums.
- Optional classes will run with some modifications to meet the Alberta Health requirements.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Most of these can continue with health measures in place.
- Alberta Education is working with partners such as Alberta Schools' Athletic Association on the possibility of running school sports and more information will be available shortly.

Field Trips

- Trips requiring transportation cannot occur in the fall of 2020.
- Walking field trips can proceed as long as schools are able to ensure that guidelines for physical distancing, eating, equipment sharing, and hand washing can be adhered to.

Work Experience

- Work experience may proceed as long as the risk of infection is mitigated for all participants. If the work experience placement is in a workplace, the student

is expected to follow health rules set out by the workplace which should comply with the [Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#).

What is the safety plan?

- Students and staff are required to perform hand hygiene when entering and exiting the school as well as before entering the classroom.
- Hand sanitizer in entrances, exits, classroom entrances, and by high-touch equipment.
- Area rugs and soft furnishings are removed.
- For September, there will be no use of microwaves and vending machines
- Enhanced cleaning of all high-touch surfaces
- Students will be in a bus seating plan and a classroom seating plans

Bussing

Please refer to the Buffalo Trail Public Schools Re-entry Document Transportation Section for details and procedures regarding bussing.

<http://www.btps.ca/documents/general/BTPS%20Re-Entry%20Plan.pdf>

Visiting the School

What does visiting the school look like?

- We value our partnerships with parents. Please understand that there may be limited opportunities to volunteer this school year as we work to keep everyone safe. If you need to enter the building you will need to fill in the Screening App, Wear a Mask, sanitize your hands and sign in at the office.