



February 21, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Effective immediately, Fraser Health is rolling out a new streamlined process to communicate information to the school community in regards to COVID-19 early notification and exposure events. The new process will streamline letters from three different early notification letters into one notification letter and continue to use a self-monitoring letter and self-isolation letter as needed. The school bulletin will be discontinued.

The new streamlined process is as a result of feedback received from schools and families, and Fraser Health has worked in partnership with the school districts to streamline the notification process. The new process is designed to:

- Increase Fraser Health's response time in issuing the appropriate notifications,
- Decrease the number of emails sent to staff and families and
- Increase the accuracy of the notifications.

In summary, the revised process is as follows:

- When a case has been identified and includes an individual who attended school during their infectious period, the school and district will be provided with a **notification letter** to distribute to the school community.
- If the case is linked to one or more classes, a **self-monitoring letter** will be issued to the affected classes.
- Additional **self-monitoring letters** and/or **self-isolation letters** will be issued as identified during the course of case and contact management.
- Instead of a *school bulletin*, the **notification letter** has been updated to alert parents and staff that case and contact management will be completed within **48 hours**.
- School exposures will continue to be updated daily on Fraser Health's [school exposures](#) page.
- In the event of case identification or a COVID-19 exposure at a school, parents and staff can expect one or more letters, as described below:
 - **Notification letter:** this is a general letter to the entire school community that serves as a notification that someone within the school community has tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Self-monitoring letter:** This letter will be sent to classes or cohorts of the person who attended school while potentially infectious. The intent of the letter is to provide heightened awareness, beyond that of the daily health check, around monitoring for symptoms.
 - **Self-isolation letter:** Individuals or groups who are identified through contact tracing as being at higher risk due to proximity to the case or the nature of the exposure, will receive a self-isolation letter. The letter advises those individuals to self-isolate, which means that they should remain isolated at home.

It is key to note that COVID-19 cases at our schools are a direct reflection of community transmissions in Chilliwack. Therefore, it is important that we all follow Public Health advice on reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19 in our community.

The safety and well-being of our students, families, and staff remain our highest priority. Please be reassured that our school district will continue to implement the strict health and safety protocols we have in place so that our children and staff can continue to attend school as safely as possible. Thank you for your continued support and diligence in keeping our community safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arul-pragasam". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rohan Arul-pragasam
Interim School Superintendent