

School District No. 74 (Gold Trail)

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August 30, 2021

Dear Education Coordinators/Managers,

We are excited to welcome you and your child(ren) back to school on September 7th. On August 24th the [Ministry of Education](#) and [BC Center for Disease Control](#) released the health and safety guidelines by which BC's K-12 schools will open this year. From these guidelines, Gold Trail has established a Communicable Disease Plan which outlines the steps that will be taken each day to keep students, staff and visitors safe and healthy. Please review this document on the [district](#) or school webpage.

Here is a brief summary of what is the same and what is different from June last year:

Same
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily health checks required for all staff and students• Students, staff and visitors must stay home if they are demonstrating symptoms of illness• A student or staff member who shows symptoms of illness during the day will be isolated and required to go home• Personal hygiene will be a priority• Regular cleaning and disinfecting of the school• All staff and visitors are required to wear masks*• All students Grades 4 to 12 are required to wear masks inside school and on buses*• No sharing of food or drink• Schools will have systems to manage traffic flow to minimize congestion• Schools will track student and staff attendance and visitor information in the event that Interior Health requires it for contact tracing• Schools will not be open for community user groups• Students will be provided with an orientation on the guidelines and will be reminded of how to maintain them• Ventilation systems will be regularly maintained <p>* There are conditions by which an individual will be exempt to mask requirements</p>

Gold Trail respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we gather is the unceded and traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux, St'at'imc and Secwépemc First Peoples.

Different
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will no longer be in learning groups/cohorts: students will be able to learn, interact and play with all their peers• Students and staff will manage personal space; physical distancing is not a requirement• Students will be able to use cubbies and lockers to store their personal belongings• Buses will not have seating plans• Schools and classrooms can have furniture, play materials and manipulatives as part of the learning environment• Extracurricular activities can occur• Local field trips can occur• Interior Health can implement restrictions based on local events• Visitors are welcome inside schools

While we had all hoped to return to a “normal” school year, we are confident that if we continue to work together and keep the health and safety of ourselves, our homes and our communities our priority we will be able to have another successful school year in spite of COVID-19.

Yours truly,



TERESA DOWNS
Superintendent of Schools



NICKY MINNABARRIET
District Principal of Indigenous Education:
Reconciliation and Inclusion