



# Buena Vista School

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**Reopening Newsletter**  
September 2020

School Day

9:00 a.m. - First Bell

10:45 a.m. - Recess

11:50 a.m. - Lunch begins

12:45 p.m. - Lunch ends

2:25 p.m. - Recess

3:30 p.m. - Dismissal

Dear BV Families,

Dear BV Families, we are thrilled to welcome you back to school at BV. We know that it has been a strange summer for everyone and want to assure you that the wellbeing of your child is our number one priority. This plan has been thoughtfully prepared by the entire staff with guidance from the school division and province to provide a safe and joyful learning environment for students and staff as we navigate the reality of COVID -19. We sincerely hope that our plan answers your questions and helps to put your mind at ease about your child returning to school. If anything is unclear or you have unanswered questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school 306-683-7140 or [buonavistaschool@spsd.sk.ca](mailto:buonavistaschool@spsd.sk.ca).

With warm personal regards,

The Entire BV Team

**Making a Difference Today!**

*Celebrating 100 Years of  
Learning*

# **Saskatoon Public Schools Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook**

Please refer to the [Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook](#) for general information on Saskatoon Public Schools reopening plan. This parent handbook provides detailed information on many important topics including:

- Safety Precautions
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Support Services
- Food and nutrition programs
- Facilities
- Students

The guidelines of the Parent Handbook will be adhered to by our school along with elements specific to our school.

## **Buena Vista School Details**

The following information represents our school specific plan for a safe return to school at Buena Vista School. Please note that the plan is subject to change at any time based on direction from Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer. Changes will be communicated as they occur.

## **Wellness, Mental Health and Social-Emotional Supports**

- Well-being of students is a top priority. We are committed to ensuring that a joyful and fun environment that promotes wellness and learning permeates BV.
- All classrooms will begin each day with a meeting to check-in and promote connection, relationships and wellness.
- We will be incorporating a greater emphasis on outdoor learning
- Physical Education will continue with a focus on outdoor activities limiting physical contact and shared materials.
- Arts education will continue to be offered. Band has been put on pause to be reviewed at the end of December.
- Libraries are closed for browsing but books can be provided through classroom libraries for take home reading. Library books will be distributed to classroom libraries.
- As always, students who need additional support for their well-being may receive support from the school counsellor. Parents who believe this support may be necessary can reach out to their teacher, administrator or directly to the school counsellor to discuss. The counsellor will work with the team to determine appropriate supports, which may include direct support and/or assisting students and families to access other services in the community.

## Safety precautions

- If a student is experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, headaches, aches and pains, sore throat, chills, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing), they **must not attend school**. Parents/caregivers should contact HealthLine 811 for direction. Please notify the school if your child is sick by phone at (306) 682-7140 or text us at (306) 683-4560. You can also email us at [buenavistaschool@spsd.sk.ca](mailto:buenavistaschool@spsd.sk.ca). Please note that all teachers will maintain an online platform (google classroom or class dojo) to provide continuity when kids are home due to illness.
- If a student is showing symptoms while at school, they will be removed from their classroom, provided with a mask and supervised in a private space in the library until they can be picked up. The supervising staff member will wear a mask and face shield. The student's parents or caregivers will be contacted and must pick up the student immediately. Upon arrival at the school please call (306) 683-7140 or text (306) 683-4560 and we will bring your child to the main entrance. If it is necessary for you to enter the school please follow the precautions in this plan for parent/caregiver access to school.

## Mask usage

- Grade 4-12 students are required to wear masks when appropriate physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Masks are recommended for prekindergarten to Grade 3 students.
- Staff are required to wear masks at all times when distancing cannot be maintained.
- When physical distancing is achievable, mask breaks may occur (i.e. outdoor learning).
- All students are required to wear masks while riding the bus.
- All visitors must wear masks.
- Saskatoon Public Schools will provide one reusable mask for each student. Additional disposable masks will be made available to students when needed and required.
- Students are welcome to bring their own masks.
- In some situations, wearing a mask may not be possible for a student. In these instances, school staff members will work with parents/caregivers to consider accommodations. More information can be found on the [CDC website](#).
- Staff members will be provided with a reusable mask and face shield for use as needed. Staff members may also choose to use their own mask.
- More information about the proper usage of masks or face coverings is available from the [Public Health Agency of Canada](#)

## Hygiene

- Classroom teachers will be communicating their plans for teaching, encouraging and promoting good hygiene.

## **Staggered Registration**

-All families will be contacted by phone to welcome you and provide information about staggered registration. If you have not heard from the school, please contact us.

## **Staggered start grades 1-8**

- Sept 8-11 will be 4 days of staggered start to allow for students to see the space and learn routines alongside a smaller group of students. Groups will be no larger than 15 students on staggered start days
- Students in grades 1-8 will attend alternating days (T/TH or W/F) with half the class on T/Th and other half attending W/F, students will attend for full days
- Busses will be running during staggered start
- Classroom teachers will be contacting families next week with their staggered start dates. Regular classes begin on Sept 14

## **Kindergarten specific information**

-Kindergarten students will attend one half day on Tuesday September 8 or Thursday September 10. Regular classes and bussing will begin Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **School Day Schedule**

-The start and end times of the day have remained the same. School begins at 9:05 and ends at 3:30. Changes to lunch and recess are described below.

## **Storage of student materials**

- Students will have lockers. Teachers will have a system to stagger access to lockers.
- Classroom teachers will communicate materials required for class on an ongoing basis.

## Recess

- In order to limit the contact between students will be place in groups of two for outdoor activities (outdoor cohort). These groups will remain consistent for the year. Students will be grouped by floor (3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, main)
- Outdoor area is divided into two zones (east and west). The east zone contains the field and rink. The west zone includes the hill, playground and tarmac. Each area will accommodate one outdoor cohort at a time. Students will have opportunities for recess in both zones.
- AM Recess #1 10:15-10:30 (main floor cohort) AM Recess #2 10:35-10:50 (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor cohorts)
- PM Recess #1 2:05-2:20 (main floor cohort) PM Recess #2 2:25-2:40 (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor cohorts)
- Playground Equipment is not sanitized. Students will wash or sanitize their hands on their way out for recess and on their way in from recess

## Lunch

- We encourage that whenever possible students go home for lunch and return at 12:45.
- Lunch #1 11:50-12:10 main floor cohort is outside for lunch recess. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in their classrooms for lunch.
- Lunch #2 12:15 – 12:45 main floor in their classrooms for lunch. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor outside for lunch recess
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after eating along with on their way out for recess and on their way in from recess

## Plans for inclement weather and indoor recess

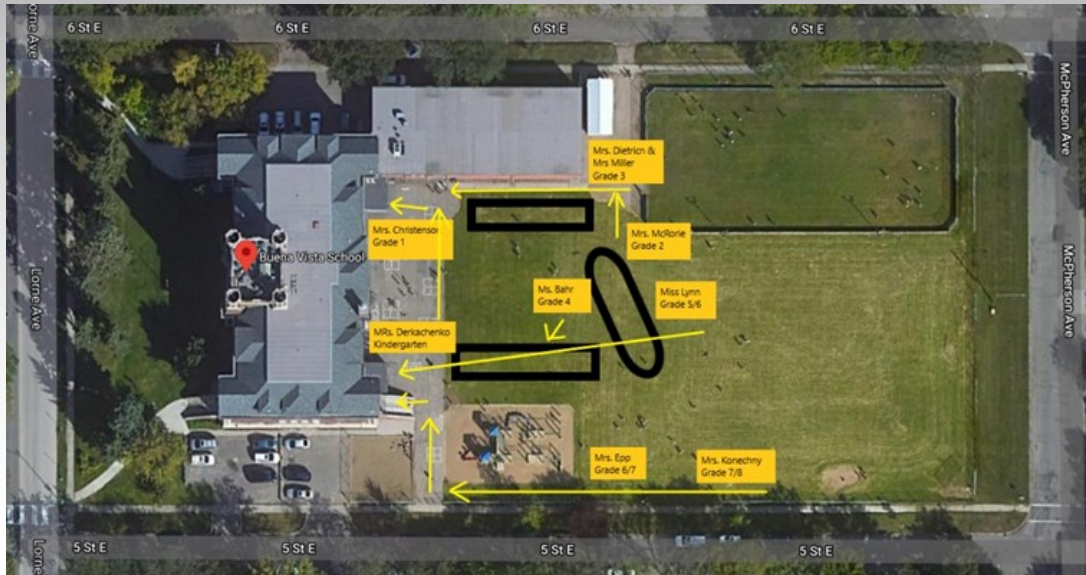
- Plans are forthcoming
- Parents are encouraged to ensure students are dressed appropriately for being outdoors in all types of weather

## Bussing

- Refer to the parent guide for detailed bussing protocols
- When students are dropped off at BV they will immediately go to their designated gathering place.
- Students will line up at bus pick up in order of back of the bus to front.
- We are second on a double loop at the end of the day so buses may be delayed for sanitizing.

## Entering the school

- Each time students enter the school including before school and after each recess they will follow the procedure outlined below.
- Each classroom will have a clearly marked muster point. Teachers will meet the students at the muster point and bring the class into the school and up to their classroom.
- In order to limit student contact there will be staggered entry beginning with the youngest classes moving up to our senior class.
- Each floor is assigned a door that is used each time they enter/exit the building:



**Students will wash or sanitize their hands after they enter the school**

## Exiting the school

- Prior to recess students will be walked to their assigned exit door and directed to their recess zone.
- At the end of the day, each classroom will return to their clearly marked gathering point along the interior of the fence. Teachers will walk with their students to the gathering point and remain until all students have dismissed or have been picked up. Students are encouraged to leave the premises as soon as possible.
- In order to limit the student contact there will be staggered exit times at the end of each day:
  - the third floor at 3:20;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at 3:25; and
  - main floor at 3:30.

Older students will be able to pick up their siblings at their designated gathering place. Students will wash or sanitize their hands prior to exiting the school



## Parking and student drop-off/pick-up

- When students are dropped off in the morning at 9:00, they are to proceed to their designated gathering place. Parents who remain with their children at their gathering place must wear a face mask and ensure social distancing from other students and parents is maintained
- Students who arrive late (after 9:05 am) will enter through the main entrance and check in at the office as usual.
- Students will be picked up after school outside at their designated gathering place

## Flow of traffic through the school

- Our school will have clearly marked patterns for movement throughout the school. All staircases have been designated up or down and in other areas traffic keeps to the right.
- In some areas such as front office or library floor decals will be placed to encourage social distancing.
- Each classroom has a designated washroom. T
  - main floor classes will use basement bathrooms;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor classes will use the gym washrooms.; and
  - 3rd floor classes will use the washrooms on the third floor.

## Parent/Caregiver access to school

- Parents/caregivers are encouraged to contact the main office to make an appointment if they need to come to the school. At this point, we request that this occur only if necessary.
- All parents/caregivers entering the school will be required to fill out a health questionnaire. The form can be filled out by using a smartphone to scan the QR code posted at the main entrance of the school, which will go directly to the questionnaire site. Paper copies will be made available in the main office as needed.
- All parents/caregivers entering the school will be required **to wear a mask and use hand sanitizer** upon entering the school. We encourage you to wear your own mask however disposable masks are available in the main office.
- The entire school will be connected using the Classroom Dojo app (<https://www.classdojo.com/>). Your classroom teacher will share a plan for the best mode of contacting them. In case of emergency please call the office at (306) 683-7140.

## Boys and Girls Club Before and After School Program

- Families registered with the program will be contacted by the Boys and Girls Club with pick-up and drop off procedures as well as other safety precautions.
- Students will proceed from the before school program to their designated outdoor space.
- Students will be picked up from their classroom or designated outdoor gathering place.