

Wâhkôhtowin School

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School Reopening Communication Plan

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SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Glenn Sagance

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

Ms. Donna Banks

SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Ken Okanee

Administrative Message:

Tansi and welcome,

I hope everyone is enjoying the last few days of summer with family and friends. This has certainly been an unprecedented time and year that has brought its challenges. As we plan for a school opening, unlike any other we've seen in the past, our focus will still be to ensure that every student is Known, Valued and Believed in.

This past spring has certainly challenged us and our students to find a new normal for learning and connecting from afar. I have certainly appreciated how much our staff and families have come together to support one another at Wâhkôhtowin School. Our staff has shown their unwavering dedication by continually working from home, attending professional development and developing their own technological skills to create online platforms and making them accessible to families and students. We will be taking the lessons we've learned, as well as our newly acquired skills to reimagine how best to support our families and students for the upcoming school year.

While many procedures and routines of our school operations have changed, our staff commitment to student safety, wellness, and learning are still our top priority. Our staff are looking forward to seeing our students face to face and safely reconnecting with our families, which is the heart of our work and our passion.

As we move into this new way of learning and working together, we know that all our returning and new families will be welcomed to Wâhkôhtowin School.

Pete Chief

Wâhkôhtowin School
Nehiyawaywin Program
306-683-7180



**Growing confident leaders who are motivated
to learn and communicate through diverse languages.
Developing empowered citizens, who take positive action in their
communities to make them better.
We practice respect, responsibility and positive leadership.
At Confederation Park Community School
we all belong.**

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.

The following information represents our school specific plan for a safe return to school at Wâhkôhtowin 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.

Safety Precautions

We are committed to working with families to ensure the safety and wellness of our students, staff, and families. Safety precautions that have been updated and implemented for this school year are as follows:

- Children with any illness or symptoms will need to be kept at home. Caregivers can log their child's absence using school messenger or by calling the front office by 8:30am.
- All visitors, including families and caregivers are asked to book an appointment with the front office by telephone to enter the school.
- All school visitors, including families and caregivers, are required to wear a mask inside the building, sanitize when entering the building, and have a completed health check form. Health forms can be accessed using the QR code posted at the front doors, and there will be paper forms provided in the school foyer.
- We will also have an isolated space for students who are presenting any symptoms of illness. Families will be contacted by school administration when a student is placed in the supervised isolation space. When contacted families need to arrange an immediate pick up of their child.

School Day Schedule

Our School day will begin at 8:50 and will conclude at 3:20. More information regarding bus pick up and drop off times will be communicated to families in the following days to discuss staggered start, and bussing drop off and pick up times.

Schedule 1

8:45- Warning Bell
8:50 - classes begin
9:40 – Recess
11:35 – Lunch
1:25 – Recess
3:20 – Dismissal

Schedule 2

8:45 - Warning Bell
8:50 - Classes Begin
10:30 - Recess
11:35 - Lunch
2:15 - Recess
3:20 - Dismissal

More information regarding your child's recess schedule will be communicated to families in the following days.

Recess

We will be reducing student contact by creating a staggered recess with class cohorts. We will operate on two schedules (see school day schedule) based on our cohorts. We have also assigned play zones to have consistent supervisors working with consistent cohorts that ensure social distancing. Students will need to sanitize at their assigned bathrooms before AND after recess.

Students will have an assigned muster point at the end of each recess where they will line up and wait for their classroom teacher to transition them back to the classroom.

Lunch

We will be having a staggered lunch. We ask that students go home for the entire lunch hour when possible. However, students who stay at the school will be eating lunch in their classrooms in their assigned spots. There will be no sharing food. Students whose classes are on schedule 1 will go out for lunch at 11:35 and then will come to eat their lunch in their classrooms at 12:00. Students on Schedule 2 will eat their lunch in their classroom at 11:35 and will go out for recess at 12:05. Lunch recess will follow the same procedures and cohorts as the other recesses.

Changes to nutrition programs

Breakfast will be provided for students who need it. Breakfast will be individually bagged and delivered to classrooms and distributed to students at their assigned seating by their classroom teacher.

Snack will be delivered to classrooms in individual packages. Classroom teachers will then distribute snacks to their students at their assigned seats.

Our Emergency Lunch program will still be available for any students who are unable to go home or pack a lunch. To meet the needs of our students and to ensure safety precautions we have changes to address safety concerns. Firstly, we will be serving bagged lunches, to avoid any possible cross contamination. Food preparation will be done by assigned staff members. Bagged lunches will be served by an assigned staff member, directly to the students' assigned class seat.

Entering the school

Students will have an assigned point of entry and exit based on homerooms and cohorts. They will also have assigned muster points to exit and enter for recesses. There will also be assigned pick up and drop off points outside the school for parents at the beginning and end of the day. These assigned entrances, exits, muster points, and pick up and drop off locations will be communicated to families in the following days.

We will have supervisors ready to greet students and families as they arrive to drop off and pick up their children.

Bussing

To ensure social distancing and limit contact we will have 2 staggered bussing groups for pick up times at the end of the day. In the morning students will be dropped off at the front of the school. They will then head to their assigned recess muster points where they will be met by a supervisor and transitioned to their classroom.

Bussing group 1 students will be dismissed first, followed by bussing group 2

First Bus will contact families to confirm bus pick up and drop off times.

Parking and student drop-off / pick-up

Caregivers will meet their child(ren) at their designated muster points. Students who are being picked up will be dismissed at the same time as bussing group 1. Students who walk to and from school will be dismissed with bussing group 2.

Staggered start grades 1-8

We will begin our school wide staggered start Sept 8. We will have half the students attend Tuesday September 8 and Wednesday September 9 and have the second half of the students attending Thursday September 10, and Friday September 11. Families will be contacted Monday August 31 and September 1 by their child's teacher, regarding each child's staggered start date. This will allow for students to see the space and learn routines alongside a smaller group of students. Busses will be running during staggered start. Regular classes begin on Sept 14.

Pre-K and Kindergarten specific information

- Staggered starts will be the week of **September 8 to September 11**.
- No Transportation for Pre-K / Kindergarten Students from September 8th to September 11th.
- All Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten students will attend ONE half day staggered start day. Teachers will contact parents the week of August 31st to September 4th.
- Pre-Kindergarten regular programming begins **September 14**.
- Kindergarten Monday/Wednesday/alt Friday full day programs will start **September 14**.
- Kindergarten Tuesday/Thursday/ alt Friday full day programs will start on **September 15**

Storage of student materials

Students will be provided a space in the classroom to individually store their necessary classroom materials. All other belongings will be stored in assigned lockers. Please only send essential materials with your child.

Flow of traffic through the 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. Parents can call 306-683-7180 to book an appointment. All visitors will enter through the front doors and report to office staff.

Extended day program Confederation Park Child Care

Students who attend Confederation Park Child Care will be dropped off to their classroom at 8:45 by a staff member and then will be picked up from their classroom at the end of the day.

Hygiene

Our School classrooms will be categorized into 4 zones. Each zone will be assigned an entry exit point, muster point, and drop off and pick up location, as well as specific bathroom and water bottle fill stations.

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 always required to wear masks when appropriate 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](#).

Mental Health and Social-Emotional Supports

- In addition to the section in the Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook on supporting students we want to make sure that families are aware of that as always, students who need additional support for their well-being may receive support from our School Counsellor, Nadine Procyshyn at (306) 683-7180. Parents who believe this support may be necessary can reach out to their teacher or administrator 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.
- Well-being is one of our four student goals in our school division strategic plan. Opportunities to learn about and practice well-being exist across multiple curricular areas.
- Insert note specific to your school – and/or adjust the above to fit your school