



# CAMPBELL RIVER

## School District 72

October 5, 2020

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION: COVID Notification Protocol**

Dear parents/guardians,

With the news of confirmed COVID-19 cases in other school districts, we understand that you may have questions and concerns about when and how you may be notified if there is a case at your child's school.

All school districts act under the guidance of the Ministries of Health and Education in the management of illness and confirmed cases, and the protocols we follow. Communication protocols are already in place should there be a case in one of our schools and this letter explains these protocols.

#### **FOLLOWING A CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 IN A SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

- Island Health will interview the person who tested positive to start contact tracing.
- Through the interview process, Island Health will identify and notify close contacts. Only Island Health can determine who is a close contact.
- If COVID-19 is identified in a student or staff member and it is determined that they were not at school when they were infectious, no public notification will be provided because there is no exposure to report.
- Island Health will decide what steps close contacts should take. This may include self-isolating and monitoring symptoms for 14 days.

Island Health will directly contact anyone who may have been exposed by phone call or letter. If you are contacted by Island Health, please follow their advice carefully. If you do not receive a phone call or letter from Island Health, your child should continue to go to school.

Regional health authorities are also posting school exposure information online. Island Health will post school exposures at [www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/covid-19/exposures-schools](http://www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/covid-19/exposures-schools) and the school district will notify the school community. It's important to understand though that if there is an exposure notice for your child's school, it does not necessarily mean that your child has been exposed – Island Health will contact you directly if your child is impacted.

#### **WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS A RUMOUR OF A COVID CASE AT THE SCHOOL**

We understand that there may be rumours about possible COVID cases. We wish to assure you that if a member of the school community were to test positive for COVID-19, Island Health will follow up directly with anyone who may have been exposed and will work closely with the school district to provide students and parents with timely information. Please know though that communication will always respect individual privacy rights; the school and school district will not provide details on suspected or confirmed cases.

As a reminder, please continue daily health checks to monitor your child for symptoms of illness. Students and staff need to stay home if they are sick. The [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) is a great resource for anyone that develops symptoms to help determine if they need further assessment or testing.

We appreciate your ongoing understanding and support. Stay healthy.

Dr. Jeremy Morrow  
Superintendent of Schools