



CAMPBELL RIVER

School District 72

September 14, 2021

Re: COVID-19 Notifications

Dear parents/guardians,

We have had a wonderful start to the school year and our classrooms are once again filled with the enthusiastic sights and sounds of learning. Thank you for your contribution to this successful start-up. We know that September and getting children ready for back-to-school is a busy time for households and we appreciate all that families do to send their children back-to-school ready and eager to learn.

As we all settle into the school year, we are writing to clarify when and how you may be notified if there is a COVID exposure in your child's classroom.

Schools and school districts are required to take direction on all public health matters from our regional health authority and they determine if, when and how information is communicated out regarding an exposure in a school community.

In the event of a school exposure, Island Health completes contact tracing to identify any staff or students that need to self-monitor or self-isolate as contacts. You will only be notified if your child has been identified as a contact and you will receive direction from public health as to what you need to do. This will be sent to the email address you have on file with the school. You may wish to give the school a personal email address instead of a work email address as these notifications can be sent over evenings and weekends.

Individual students, staff or classes will not be identified as personal privacy rights and confidentiality is required to be maintained for anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

General notifications to the entire school community will only be used when public health deems them necessary to support contact tracing or outbreak management as people at school, who have not been identified as contacts by public health, are not at an increased risk and do not need to take any additional actions beyond continuing to follow general public health recommendations.

It is important to remember that although you may hear of someone testing positive for COVID, it does not mean that they attended school while they were infectious or that your child was in contact with them. Public health makes those determinations through their investigation and only notifies the school if the person attended school while they were infectious. The district will not share information on a possible exposure unless it is confirmed, and we are directed to do so, by public health.

Unless you are contacted by public health or your child exhibits symptoms of illness, your child should continue to attend school.

Again, we ask parents to continue to ensure that your child does a daily health check each day before they enter the school and stay home if they are feeling unwell or displaying symptoms.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeremy Morrow
Superintendent of Schools