



December 14, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

RE: COVID-19 Notification Over Christmas Break

As Christmas approaches, we want to update you on the process we will be following for notifications of positive COVID-19 cases during the Christmas break.

From the evening of Friday, December 18 until end of day Saturday, January 2, the Edmonton Catholic School Division will not notify families regarding any new COVID-19 cases in your school community. Our current well-defined process engages many staff, both at the school and central office levels, to ensure that all identification of close contacts is thorough and that all involved individuals are made aware of a positive COVID-19 case. Alberta Health Services (AHS) will continue with their procedures throughout the holiday season. Alberta Education recognizes that all staff will be on Christmas break and has authorized this temporary interruption in the provision of close contact information by the school authority to AHS.

However, we are asking parents and guardians to inform their child's school principal by email if their child tests positive for COVID-19 during the Christmas break. As a Division we will continue to document all cases involving staff or students within our schools and sites. Following the break, the information will be reviewed and addressed accordingly, which may involve notifying schools of students requiring isolation upon our return to instruction. If someone in your family tests positive or is identified as a close contact of a positive individual, please follow all isolation requirements from Alberta Health Services; visit www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans for more information.

Important information when classes resume on January 4:

- We look forward to welcoming all Kindergarten to Grade 12 students back to online learning Monday, January 4 and to in-person learning on Monday, January 11.
- If your child is currently attending a Program of Choice such as 100 Voices, Generations, CDFL – St. Gabriel (PBS, Personal Pathways, GIST), these programs will return to in-person learning January 4 for all students in the program. However, students in these programs do have the option to move to online learning for that week.
- Students who have been learning online before November 30 will continue to do so after the Christmas break.

Rest assured that we will inform all families should there be changes or new information in January. Thank you for your support as we work together to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

Although we will all be connecting with our loved ones in different ways this Christmas, we wish you great peace and love as you experience a safe time together with your family celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Robert Martin
Chief Superintendent