



## **Rosedale Traditional Community School September 2021-22 Opening Plans for Students and Parents**

*The well-being and safety of our school community is our top priority. Please take time to review this information about what we are doing to minimize our risk.*

### **RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN:**

Our plan is to have a multi-layered approach to minimize the transmission of COVID-19. This is a shared responsibility between RTCS Staff, School District #33, Fraser Health, families and students. By collectively implementing this plan and working together, our schools will be safe for our students, staff and our school community.

### **KEY UPDATES:**

- Regional Differences:
  - Local Public Health Orders may be placed in response to localized COVID-19 events. Measures may include:
    - Limits on gatherings and events
    - Reconfiguration of room arrangements and reducing face to face contact.
    - Limiting visitors
    - Recommending increased mask use.
- Student Transportation :
  - Carpooling Recommendations:
    - Spread out vehicle occupants as much as possible
    - Travel with the same people whenever possible
    - Set ventilation to bring in fresh outside air, and do no re-circulate the air.
    - Open windows when weather allows
    - Practice hand hygiene and clean high touch surfaces
- Extra-Curricular Activities:
  - Activities including sports, clubs, and music can occur in alignment with the guidelines in [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#)
  - Outside settings are preferred for sports and practices when possible.



### **HEALTH MEASURES:**

- ⇒ All staff and students must stay home and seek assessment by a health-care provider if they experience any symptoms of common cold, influenza, or COVID-19.
- ⇒ Parents or caregivers must assess themselves and their children daily for symptoms. See the following documents to help you assess yourself and your child daily.
  - [Daily Health Check](#)
  - [BC COVID-19 App](#)
- ⇒ If a student presents symptoms while at school, they will be caringly escorted by an administrator to an isolated, supervised area then sent home as soon as possible; please make sure that the RTCS office staff has updated contact information.
- ⇒ Hand Hygiene
  - Teachers will teach students about proper hand washing etiquette.
  - Hand washing will become part of daily class routines.
  - Students are expected to wash hands upon arrival at school, when entering a new space, transitioning between activities, and at the end of day.
- ⇒ Respiratory Etiquette
  - Teachers will teach students about proper respiratory etiquette such as coughing into one's elbow.

### **EXTRA CLEANING:**

- ⇒ Desks and tables will be cleaned at least every 24 hours.
- ⇒ Frequently-touched surfaces will be cleaned at least every 24 hours.
  - These include door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, tables, desks and chairs used by multiple students, keyboards and equipment.
- ⇒ Any surface that is visibly dirty will be cleaned.
- ⇒ Spray bottles of appropriate cleaner will be in each classroom.
- ⇒ There is no evidence that COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, books, and paper- based products so no additional cleaning requirements are called for.

### **MASKS:**

- ⇒ All students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask indoors and on school buses.
- ⇒ Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors and on the bus, but are not required to.
- ⇒ Students with medical complexities, immune suppression, and/or receiving delegated care, and the staff working closely with them, will be planned for individually according to their IEP.



- ⇒ RTCS will have non-medical masks available for staff and students, including anyone who becomes sick while at school.

### **LOCKERS:**

- ⇒ Students bring belongings into Core Classrooms in the morning.
- ⇒ During the first few minutes of the day, Teachers will allow small numbers of students to place their belongings.
- ⇒ Locker locations are organized based on CORE groupings.
- ⇒ Please consider not bringing valuables to school.

### **HANDWASHING/WASHROOMS:**

- ⇒ Elementary students will enter the school through their classroom's exterior door.
- ⇒ Every morning, break and lunch, Middle Grade students will enter through the Front entrance and head out back until 7:55am during good weather. During inclement weather, they will head directly to their CORE classroom.
- ⇒ Gr. 6 will enter through the doors by the foyer
- ⇒ Gr. 7 will enter through the doors by the Art Room
- ⇒ Gr. 8 will enter through the doors by the Shop.
- ⇒ Doors will be open and labelled with signs indicating which Grade should use those doors.
- ⇒ Upon entering, staff and students will use the appropriate hand washing stations to wash their hands thoroughly then wait in Core classrooms.
- ⇒ Students are not permitted to use lockers before school – they will be guided to their lockers by their teachers in small, spaced-out groups.
- ⇒ Students will be led to various locations in the school such as the Library, Gym, and Exploratory classes by their teachers and within their cohort.
- ⇒ Teachers will teach students about always walking on right hand side of hallway.
- ⇒ General student traffic and congregating in hallways will not be permitted.
- ⇒ Students and staff may only use the washrooms in their wing of the school.

### **BREAK TIME:**

- ⇒ Elementary students will take their recess at the same time, but will have designated cohort areas.
- ⇒ Grade 6 students will have a break earlier than the Gr. 7 and 8 students.
- ⇒ Unless severe inclement weather, students are asked to take their recess/break outside.
- ⇒ In severe inclement weather, students may remain in their classrooms.
- ⇒ Students must be taught to dress appropriately for any weather.
- ⇒ RTCS gyms will be closed at break time but may be open at lunch in the coming weeks for intramurals and/or practices.



### **LUNCH TIME:**

- ⇒ Students will eat their lunch in the classroom to facilitate hand washing before and after eating.
- ⇒ Most students will spend free lunch period outside; students must be taught to wear or bring clothing that is appropriate for the weather.
- ⇒ In severely inclement weather, students can remain in their classrooms.

### **SCHOOL GATHERINGS AND ASSEMBLIES:**

- ⇒ School gatherings can occur in line with local, regional, provincial and federal health orders, however RTCS will proceed with caution and apply a trauma-informed lens:
  - Respecting student and staff comfort levels regarding personal space.
  - Using available space to spread people out as much as possible.
  - Have gradual, responsive transition to larger gatherings, including starting with virtual or smaller in-person options.

### **BUSES:**

- ⇒ Grade 4-8 Students must wear mask in all indoor areas and on the bus. They are encouraged to wear them while lining up for the bus since crowding will occur.
- ⇒ K-3 students are not required to wear a mask but may do so if they choose.
- ⇒ Students will be reminded prior to the bell-- and staff will reinforce the message -- that bus students are to put on their masks and wash their hands.
- ⇒ Elementary students will be dismissed to their buses prior to the bell. Middle Grade students will be dismissed at the bell.

### **FOOD SERVICES:**

- ⇒ Cafeteria services open up on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> for Lunch only.
- ⇒ Families (Grades K-8) are encouraged to pre-order using [Munch-A-Lunch](#). Students (K-8) are also welcome to bring their money and order in to place in their classroom bins first thing in the morning. Please remember to include your student's name, division and teacher.
- ⇒ Students place order and money (if needed) in a clearly labelled bag then one runner takes the pre-order bag to the cafeteria.
- ⇒ Just before lunch (as per group schedule), a runner will pick up the pre-orders for their class.
- ⇒ Each homeroom will have snacks and fruit delivered by the PAC.
- ⇒ We expect our Bowls of Hope Lunch program to be up and running by the end of September.
- ⇒ Vending machines will not be used



## **MENTAL HEALTH**

We know that COVID-19 is continuing to cause uncertainty for students, staff and our school community. Mental health, well-being and reconnecting with our community will continue to be a focus for us. Every student will continue to have access to our Counseling Area (Ms. Jackson, counselor and Mr. DeHaan, CYCW).

To support students and families, the Ministry of Health has developed resources to ensure the mental health needs of students are being met:

- [Key Principles and Strategies for K-12 Mental Health Promotion in Schools](#)

Any families who are concerned about their child's well-being can also reach out to these community resources:

- Kid's Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 (professional counselor available 24hrs/day)
- [Chilliwack Youth Centre](#) – access virtual & in-person drop-in counseling (ages 12 and up)
- B.C. Parent – [Reduce Stress & Prepare for Back to School COVID-19 Resources](#)

## **MESSAGING AND HELP FROM HOME:**

- ⇒ RTCS staff will teach students some common expectations around COVID-19. Please support us by also consistently reminding your children of these expectations.
- Everyone enters and exits the school using their designated door.
  - Everyone goes directly to their hand washing station and washes their hands for at least 20 seconds when they enter the building.
  - Students must wait for their teacher before entering hallways or using lockers or washrooms.
  - Encourage students to respect the space of others.
  - Students in grades 4-8 must wear masks in all indoor settings and on the bus.
  - Avoid close greetings (e.g. high fives, hugs).
  - **Dress for outdoor breaks/lunches, outdoor learning, and physical activity every day. Dress for any weather conditions.**

***Thank you for staying on this journey with us.***

***We are confident that with our combined efforts, we can  
reduce our risk.***

***Be Calm, Be Kind and Be Safe RAVENS!***