



Rainy River

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

June 25, 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

On June 19th, the Premier and Education Minister announced the Government of Ontario's guidelines for the return to school in September. School boards across Ontario have been asked to prepare for three possible scenarios for the return to school in the fall:

- A regular school day routine with enhanced public health protocols, with students going to school every day.
- An adapted school day routine, allowing for physical distancing and cohorts of students. Under this model, school boards are asked to maintain a limit of 15 students in a typical classroom at one time and adopt timetabling that would allow for students to remain in contact only with their classmates and a single teacher for as much of the school day as possible. Please note that this model looks to alternate day or alternate week delivery to a segment of the class at one time.
- Distance learning, which is dependent on the school closure period being extended into the new school year, with students attending distance synchronous learning sessions, whether whole-class, smaller groups of students, or one-to-one instruction.

We have been working to explore many scenarios for the reopening our schools. Thank you for participating in our ThoughtExchange, which had over 700 participants, 765 thoughts shared, and almost 17,000 thoughts rated. The themes from this feedback indicate the importance of enhanced cleaning of our schools and buildings, communicating expectations for when students and staff are sick, and ensuring supports for our students' mental health when they return in the fall. This important feedback, as well as our continued work with the Northwestern Health Unit, will help guide our work as we finalize the plans for September.

Please note that the scenario for beginning school in the fall is dependent on the public health situation at the time and will be determined at the provincial level. School boards have been asked to submit their plans to the Ministry of Education by August 4, 2020, and we are committed to sharing these plans with you once finalized. As part of our planning, we will be reaching out to you in the summer to confirm your child/children's attendance next year.

To ensure that all students and their families are well-prepared and know what to expect when returning to school in the fall, we ask that you continue to check the Rainy River District School Board website for more information: <https://www.rrdsb.com/>

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DIRECTOR

Heather Campbell

Thank you for your support, patience, and understanding during this unprecedented time of teaching and learning. As we end the 2019-20 school year, I want to wish you and your family a safe and happy summer!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather Campbell,
Director of Education