



NORTHERN LIGHTS SCHOOL DIVISION No. 113

Bag Service #6500

La Ronge, Saskatchewan

SOJ 1L0

Telephone: (306) 425-3302

Fax: (306) 425-3377

August 22, 2020

Dear families and community members,

We know that everyone values the education of every child in the province. Their safety and well-being, as well as that of our educators and school staff, is paramount as we continue to navigate the impacts on education from the COVID-19 pandemic.

To ensure preparedness, there are four scenarios that may be activated regionally or provincially based on the advice of our Chief Medical Health Officer, they include:

- **Level 1:** Return to school, as close to normal as possible, with additional health measures and precautions.
- **Level 2:** Mask usage as determined by the Chief Medical Health Officer. These masks are being purchased centrally by the ministry of education and distributed to school divisions.
- **Level 3:** In the event it becomes necessary, school capacity will be reduced. This may include establishing cohorts and hybrid learning models as considerations.
- **Level 4:** Implementing learning continuity plans, which means transitioning to mandatory remote learning.

Northern Lights School Division #113 will be at **Level 3** at the opening of school. The school division supports increased protective measures. The Director of Education or designate, in consultation with the Medical Health Officer, will determine reduced school capacity and other measures, when recommended, based on supporting physical distancing and reducing congestion in individual schools to ensure the safety of staff and students.

Northern Lights School Division #113 is fully supportive of mask wearing as a step taken to reduce the risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus;

- We are **mandating** that all staff and students from grades 4-12, wear a non-medical mask when two meters of physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- We are **not mandating** students in PreK to grade 3 to wear a mask; however, they may, if their families so choose. There will be some who are unable to wear masks, and these requests will be considered on a case by case basis.
- All visitors to our schools will be required to wear masks.

Our top priority continues to be the health and well-being of our children and communities. We can assure you Northern Lights School Division #113, the Ministry of Education and the Chief Medical Health Officer are working diligently to ensure that the return to the classroom this fall will occur in a safe yet comfortable environment for both students and school staff.

Thank you for your patience during this extraordinary time.

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Jason Young
Director of Education