



March 11, 2022

Dear Caregiver(s) and Staff:

Almost two years ago to the day, we found ourselves entering the pandemic. Yesterday's announcement from Minister Dix and Dr. Henry was a clear indicator that, although we may still yet deal with lingering effects of the pandemic, we are in a position to begin the return to pre-pandemic life.

The implications of the key elements of the announcement for School District #27 specify that beginning after Spring Break:

- Masks will no longer be required in schools
 - Students or staff may choose to wear them
- No requirement of physical distancing
- Return to regular/routine sign in/sign out practices



For more information, please review the [summary of changes](#).

As of Friday, March 11th, 2022, BC's indoor public mask policy is also being lifted. Further restrictions are expected to be lifted as of April 8th.

Our communities, and specifically our education community, have pulled together remarkably over these past two years. The challenges have been constant, and people are tired. From our bus drivers who begin the school day, to everyone in the schools who make it welcoming and productive, and the custodians who get sites ready for the next day (and everyone in between)...Thank you! Thank you all for the effort that has got us to this point and made it possible to return to near 'normal'.



I hope staff are able to find time to re-charge and reflect on the tremendous work that has gotten us here and that we continue to help and support each other, across our communities, as we overcome past differences of opinion.

I look forward to seeing more faces, and with them, lots more smiles. Smiles have a way of being contagious.

Take care,

Chris van der Mark
Superintendent of Schools