



Park West School Division

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Stephen David
Superintendent/CEO

Dorelle Fulton
Secretary-Treasurer

Date: Friday, September 11, 2020

Topic: **Update to parents, guardians, and staff**

Parent meeting:

Our next parent meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 pm.

Topic: Meeting for parents and guardians

Time: Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99806374442?pwd=YStjcExzdWFwU0twenpqd0toM2R0UT09>

Meeting ID: 998 0637 4442

Passcode: 692764

COVID-19 resources:

Health Canada has produced several short videos about COVID-19. They may be found at

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/health/video.html>

High school planning:

The majority of our high school students have started the year attending school on alternate days. This is due to the existing public health orders for schools. We must have students 2 metres apart unless they are in cohorts which allow for 1 metre spacing. Cohorts involve having the same group of students together all day. That is not possible for most high school students given the varied courses that they take. Consequently, the only way to adhere to the public health guideline is to ensure that all high school classes allow for 2 metre distancing. Therefore lower class sizes are required.

This requirement for lower class sizes is why the province has allowed for hybrid models of attendance for high school students. In fact, Manitoba Education only requires that high school students attend school in person once every three days. Our current model of alternate days exceeds that standard.

We have been discussing how we might increase high school student attendance if it is safe and reasonable to do so. Additionally, we are examining ways to maximize the engagement of students while they are learning at home. The immediate priority however is the health and safety of our students and staff. We want to ensure that we have a handle on things to start the school year prior to making any significant changes in the structure of our classes. All schools have an administrative day on September 28. That would be an opportunity for individual high schools to make a determination on whether increasing student attendance is viable and safe based upon what they observed during the first 14 days of school.