



School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

# Parkcrest Elementary School

2170 Parkcrest Ave., Kamloops, BC V2B 4Y1

Ph: (250) 554-2368 · Fax: (250) 377-2224

November 29, 2021

Dear Parkcrest Parents and Guardians,

I know that many of you have been wondering about what has been happening at Parkcrest Elementary with reports of COVID being reported within the school.

We are complying with all the directives that Interior Health deems necessary. It is Interior Health's responsibility to determine what should be shared at both the school and District levels.

When a school staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19, Interior Health determines if anyone is a [close contact](#) to notify any staff and students who need to take a specific action, such as self-monitoring or isolation, as a result of a COVID-19 exposure.

Interior Health will post [exposure notifications](#) when a staff member or student attended school while infectious and there is a possible risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Please understand that we are unable to share any specific details due to the personal privacy of individual students and families, but be assured that we are helping IH in any way we can with contact tracing and notification to families.

In order to help you to better understand our processes, I would like to point you toward the following link:

<https://www.sd73.bc.ca/en/community-parents-and-students/communicable-disease-prevention-plan.aspx>. There is also a comprehensive FAQ for answers to COVID related questions.

I would also like to ask for your assistance at this time, in the following ways to keep the messaging the same at home and at school. Please talk to your children about:

- **Masks:** explain your expectations of them wearing masks at school and ensure that they are coming to school with a mask every day. If the mask is reusable they should be bringing a clean one daily, and if they are disposable they need a new one each day.
- **Hand washing:** consistent reminders of proper hand washing techniques and expectations from home would help us to then be able to be doing the same at school.

•**Staying Home if Sick:** Ensure that you are consulting the SD#73 student health check everyday to make sure that your child is not symptomatic. You can also download the Ministry of British Columbia's K-12 Health Check App on your phone by accessing this site: <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

The staff at Parkcrest are working hard every day in difficult circumstances, and I know our families are facing the same challenges. Please reach out to your children's teachers if you have specific educational questions or concerns.

I know we're all looking forward to getting back to what is more normal, but until we are there, we need to support each other in dealing with this particular reality.

Thank you for being partners in the education of your children.

Sincerely,

Cath Gorman and Joanne Leggett

Principal and Vice Principal