



January 13, 2021

Dear Families,

As you are most likely aware, there are new stay-at-home orders in Ontario. Despite these restrictions, schools in northern Ontario remain open to students and staff, following strict health and safety protocols. We are working in full partnership with our local health units and we continue to take direction from the Ministry of Education on all matters relating to the operational management of schools during the pandemic. Based on the information we receive and the expectations put on us, we are adjusting our operational guidelines as required.

One immediate change is the requirement for students in grades 1 to 12 to wear a face mask at school. In cases of Kindergarten-Grade 1 combined classes, our Kindergarten students will be required to wear a mask as well. At this time, it is not mandated that all Kindergarten students wear a mask, but we are strongly encouraging parents to have their Kindergarten student wear a face mask while at school – for their own health and safety and that of their classmates and our staff.

A reminder that all students (Kindergarten to Grade 12) are required to wear a face mask on a school bus.

As well, it is imperative that students and staff engage in a self-screening process every day before school. The screening tools can be found on our Board website at www.ncdsb.on.ca.

These are tough, uncertain times. We know how difficult this has been on you, on us, and our students. We appreciate your help in keeping our schools as healthy and safe as possible. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe, and continue to take good care of yourselves and each other.

Sincerely,

Tricia Stefanic Weltz
Director of Education