



Wild Rose School Division

4912-43 Street, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1P4
Ph: 1-800-771-0537 | (403) 845-3376 | Fax: (403) 845-4287
www.wrsd.ca | Facebook.com/WRSD.ca | @WildRoseSchools

March 14, 2020 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

WRSD continues to have student and staff safety as our priority in this unique global situation. Our schools remain open with regular programming. With this, we have heightened our focus on wellness.

This morning, school authorities had the opportunity to receive greater clarification from and ask questions of Dr. Deena Hinshaw, the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Alberta. With this further information, as well as the release last night of the [Alberta Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs](#), we provide the following information.

The biggest piece of the message that has been conveyed to us is that all recommendations are intended to limit the transmission of the coronavirus, which is responsible for COVID-19. This means that schools should have a zero tolerance for illness. If students or staff are exhibiting any symptoms, they are **not** to be at school.

Students will be sent home if they have symptoms consistent with [COVID-19 symptoms](#) and are asked to follow the advice of Alberta Health Services, particularly if they have travelled outside the country.

As a school division, we are echoing Alberta Health Services' advice to everyone in Alberta to not travel outside the country at this time, because it is no longer possible to assess health risks for the duration of trips and it puts others at risk upon return.

- For students / staff who have travelled outside of Canada and returned before March 12, they should self monitor for 14 days. This means that they can attend school as normal, but monitor for any symptoms of COVID-19. If they develop any symptoms (eg. cough, fever or difficulty breathing), they are to stay home and call [Health Link 811](#) for assessment and testing.
- For students / staff returning from out of country travel after March 12, they must [self-isolate](#) for 14 days and monitor for symptoms. Health officials are not requiring staff or families who are living with someone who has traveled outside the country, to self-isolate unless the person who traveled begins to exhibit symptoms.

There are many situations where there are outside visitors to our schools. These include parent volunteers and presenters. **All visitors** to the school will be required to report to the office.

Visitors will be required to identify if they have any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever or difficulty breathing) and assessed by office staff if they are showing any symptoms. If any of the symptoms are shown or they express that they are experiencing symptoms, they will not be granted permission to visit the school. If they are clear, they are to be asked to proceed to the nearest washroom to wash their hands with soap and water and are welcome.

We have suspended community usage of our facilities as a precaution to minimize chances of transmission and for our custodial staff to focus on ensuring safe learning spaces for our staff and students. We are shifting our custodial service to daytime as much as possible, to allow for more cleaning of touch-points throughout the day.

Most field trips have been cancelled until after spring break, in an effort to minimize transmission of the virus. We know this is disappointing for many, but we feel it is in the best interest of students at this time.

We continue to have staff encourage and work with students to ensure that they are practicing proper hand washing techniques and doing so often.

Further updates will be available on our website and we encourage you to check regularly for current information relative to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We will continue to take our guidance from the experts at Alberta Health Services and the Government of Alberta.



Greg Wedman
Deputy Superintendent

