

## Students Return To In-Person Learning On Monday, January 10, 2022

January 6, 2022

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As you may be aware, the Alberta government has announced a [return to in-person learning](#) on Monday, January 10th.

The Alberta government has assured us that by the end of next week the promised at-home rapid tests and additional masks for students will be available. Your school will provide you with information on distribution once their shipment has arrived. Details on the current state of COVID-19 in Alberta are available on the [provincial government website](#).

Please ensure that your child is completing the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) prior to going to school, and remains at home if they are sick.

For parents choosing to volunteer in a classroom or school (this includes coaching extra-curricular activities) please revisit [AP 4-33](#) to ensure you are aware of the expectations to rapid test if you are not fully vaccinated.

Given the unpredictability of the latest wave of this pandemic, it is important that I make parents aware that we anticipate temporary situations where we might either have a shortage of staff and/or a significant number of students absent in a particular class, a particular grade, or a particular school. As a result, we are encouraging all families to be prepared for their child's class, grade level, or school to temporarily be shifted to online learning at home. We will give as much notice as possible. These decisions are typically communicated the day before, however, in some rare cases, we may be forced to communicate the morning of.

We would also like to make our parents aware that the Alberta government has canceled January 2022 diploma exams across the province.

During high school exam week, in courses that require a final exam, Chinook's Edge School Division will be employing a 'hold harmless' approach where a final assessment may be used to improve a student's grade, but the mark will be exempted if detrimental to the student's grade. Additionally, high school teachers will be focused on ensuring every opportunity to complete course curriculum in support of student success, despite any disruption that may occur as a result of student or staff absenteeism.

We are excited to have your children back in our schools. We do our best work in a face-to-face learning environment whenever that is possible.

Thanks again for your patience as we make our way forward.

Yours truly,

Kurt Sacher  
Superintendent of Schools