



January 7, 2022

Hello Argyle Families,

We are excited to have students back next week for full-time, in person instruction. A lot has changed in the last few weeks with the emergence and spread of the Omicron variant. Our focus remains the health and safety of our school community.

This week staff reviewed and enhanced safety practices, and created continuity of learning plans should they become ill, if students are away ill, or as a last resort if we need to move online due to a functional or health closure. Our goal is to keep students learning in-person face to face here at school.

Below are a number of information items we ask that you read through and review with your student prior to Monday.

Thank you for your continued support and kindness as we navigate these new challenges. It is hard to believe but this past week also marks the one year anniversary of the opening of the new Argyle school building. A lot has happened in that time and we appreciate your support!

Warm regards,

Kim Jonat, Principal

John Crowley, Vice Principal

Laura Stewart, Vice Principal



## 1. January 2022 COVID Protocols

Health and safety remain a top priority this year. Please ensure you have read Superintendent Pearmain's January 7<sup>th</sup> update.

Most importantly:

- ✓ Students and staff must complete a [daily health check](#) and **stay home if they have any symptoms of illness.**
- ✓ Limiting visitors and volunteers to those who are essential to supporting activities that are of direct benefit to student learning and well-being.
- ✓ No spectators at events including athletic games.
- ✓ A well fitted mask is required in all indoor spaces except when eating/drinking, and when engaging in high-intensity physical activity. Masks must be worn over the nose and chin.
- ✓ If unable to wear a mask due to an exception, (as listed [HERE](#), starting on page 20), please consider one of the alternatives shared [HERE](#) by the BCCDC.)
- ✓ Frequent handwashing
- ✓ Physical distancing is encouraged.
- ✓ Students should not share food or drink.
- ✓ Get vaccinated if eligible to do so.



Additionally:

- ✓ Students will be asked to use designated entrances & exits closest to their classroom.
- ✓ We have many sinks in the new school. Students need to hand wash upon arrival at school and frequently throughout the day. We have also put hand sanitizer in classrooms and at the front entrance.
- ✓ Breaks will be staggered by learning community.
- ✓ Lunch:
  - Students with a study block before or after lunch are asked not to be at school during lunch.
  - Students are encouraged to eat outside or to go home for lunch where possible.
  - Students staying at school need to spread out as much as possible.
  - In addition to the usual areas students eat lunch we have opened 20 classrooms where students can eat. Classrooms have a max 50% capacity during lunch. Furniture has been reduced and reorganized in some common areas to reduce crowding. The cafeteria is standing tables only at this time.
  - Students need to keep their masks on except for when putting food/drink in their mouth.



- ✓ End of day
  - Students are asked to leave school immediately upon completion of classes unless staying for an activity after school.
- ✓ Argyle's ventilation system includes MERV-13 filters, and 100% outside air intake. Air intake is at maximum levels and operations have been extended by 2 hours both pre and post occupancy.

### **If your student develops symptoms while at school**

Your child needs to:

1. Tell their teacher they feel unwell
2. Come to the office and contact a parent/guardian
3. Isolate at home

### **If your student is at home ill**

If your student is symptomatic or isolating but is well enough to do some schoolwork at home they should:

- Check Teams for notes/assignments/class messages
- Contact their teacher on Teams

### **If your student forgets a mask**

Your student should report to the front entrance where a supervision aide will provide a mask. They should not enter the school until they have a mask. If a supervision aide is not there they can come into the office to pick up a mask.

## **2. Pickup & Drop off**

As part of our goal to minimize crowding we are asking students to exit the building through a variety of doorways with very few students actually exiting through the front doors. To assist us we respectfully ask parents to pick up their child in other locations in the neighborhood. Please note that our new upper parking lot and community entrance is now accessible and many students will be exiting the building from that area.



### 3. Attendance

Please report student absences by email: [argyle@sd44.ca](mailto:argyle@sd44.ca). Please ensure the word “absence” appears in the subject line and please put your student’s full name and grade in the body of the email. You can also notify the school of a students’ late arrival or early dismissal. Students who are late should go directly to their class not the office.

Parents may also leave a message at 604-903-3314 to report a student absence, late arrival or early dismissal. Students cannot call in their own absence; only messages from parents and legal guardians are accepted. We prefer email whenever possible.

### 4. Tech Access: Chromebooks for Students

Through a generous donation from a community member we have several Chromebooks available to loan to students in financial need. Please contact an administrator to request one. These will be issued on a first come first served basis. There are also laptops available for day-time student use in the library.

### 5. Winter Weather

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for winter conditions and allow extra time to get to school. All NVSD schools will remain OPEN, if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 6:30 a.m. and announced through the media, placed on the school district website and schools’ websites, shared with parents/guardians via [SchoolMessenger](#) (email and/or text) and emailed to staff. For more information, please visit the [Severe Weather Information](#) web page.

### 6. Upcoming Dates

Mon. Jan. 10	School reopens for all students
Jan. 17 to 21	French literacy 12 graduation assessment – oral component (Semester 1 FRAL 12 students only)
Wed. Jan. 19	PAC meeting, 7pm, Zoom
Jan. 24 to 28	Graduation literacy 10 assessment
Tues. Jan. 25	Gr. 12 French literacy graduation assessment – written component (Semester 1 FRAL 12 students only)
Tues. Jan. 25	Virtual DMA information night, 7pm



**École Argyle Secondary**

Wednesday, Jan. 26	Virtual gr. 10-11 post-secondary info for students & parents, 7pm
Thursday, Jan. 27	Last day of semester 1 classes
Friday, Jan. 28	Semester 1 review & completion day (classes not in session)
Friday, Jan. 28	Grade 12 Argyle scholarship application due by 3pm
Saturday, Jan. 29	Virtual DMA youth expo
Monday, Jan. 31	Semester turnaround day (classes not in session)
Tuesday, Feb. 1	First day of semester 2