

December 4, 2020

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians of Argyle,

With <u>province-wide restrictions</u> in place to reduce COVID-19 transmission related to social interactions, and Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister of Health Adrian Dix on a daily basis asking all of us not to gather socially, Principals across the North Vancouver School District are reaching out to our school communities to remind everyone of the importance of keeping each other safe from COVID-19.

Now, more than ever, we need your help with limiting social interactions, maintaining safe distancing and wearing a mask when required. Wearing a mask when outside, in the vicinity of others, on or near school grounds, is also appreciated and encouraged.

The vast majority of the Argyle community is practicing the behaviours that will help to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. However, we must remember to remain vigilant and continue to follow the directives and guidance of our public health officials. Specifically, we are asking students not to gather in groups, large or small:

- On school grounds, before and after school
- While waiting for public transportation
- When walking from school, whether on break or after school, to local business establishments

We are also asking parents/guardians to model safe behaviours by not gathering in groups or lingering on school grounds.

To reinforce these measures, you will soon see new signage placed around all school properties, which encourages physical distancing and mask wearing while on school grounds.

While at school, I am proud to share that our students continue to follow the health and safety measures that maintain schools as safe and healthy learning environments. When out in the community, our students--role models and Argyle ambassadors—are asked to continue to demonstrate the same level of vigilance to show the wider community that they are following the measures designed to keep others safe. When students are seen in the community gathering in groups and not wearing masks, members of the community assume that students are engaging in behaviours that put others at risk and sometimes, report this to the school or local media.

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Parents and guardians, please help reinforce this message with your children. Please remind them of these important safety measures; explain that this is not forever, but needed while cases are high in the community; and model this behaviour for them.

I am deeply grateful for your ongoing support. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at kjonat@sd44.ca.

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Sincerely,

Kim Jonat, Principal