

Ben Calf Robe Elementary Junior High School Re-Entry Plan – August 2020

We welcome our students and families back into our beautiful school community; we will continue to adjust and do all that we can to keep our students and staff safe and happy as we learn together.

Choice of At-School or At-Home Learning

- Our school division has sent emails to each family asking parents to indicate on PowerSchool or by calling our school at 780-471-2360 to confirm your choice for the learning of our children for the first 8 weeks of school.
- Please let us know of your decision as soon as you can, as with this information we can arrange for teachers for our students both at school and online at-home.
- Parents will be able to choose again, at-school or at-home after 8 weeks.

School Begins

- School for students who will be attending our site begins Wednesday, September 2 for a full day (8:35am-3:05pm) and Thursday, September 3 for the morning with a noon dismissal. Bussing begins these days; parents can check pick-up and drop-off times on PowerSchool or by calling our school, 780-471-2360. Students of all ages must wear a mask on the bus.
- For our kindergarten students, there will be an opportunity for a staggered entry where each student will be contacted to arrange for an hour on Wednesday, September 2 or Thursday, September 3 to come in for orientation. As visitors are limited to our classrooms, we ask that just one adult accompany our kindergarten student at this time.
- There is no school for any students on Friday, September 4 as staff will continue to plan for safety and learning and no school on Monday, September 7 as it is the Labor Day holiday.
- School for students who will be learning at home for the first 8 weeks begins on Tuesday, September 8 and continues for our at-school students.

Deep Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Our schools have been cleaned deeply this summer with rugs and soft seating stored away so that all surfaces can be easily wiped down.
- High touch surfaces, such as doorknobs and washrooms, will be cleaned throughout the day as well as a thorough cleaning each evening.
- Materials that are used by more than one student will be wiped down after use or stored away for 72 hours.
- All classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizer bottles and disinfectant wipes.
- Students will wash their hands before entering and leaving their classroom as well as before and after any transitions within the school setting, to the gym, lunchroom, or indoor-outdoor transitions.

Physical Distancing and Students in Cohorts

- Staff and students will work together in their classroom throughout the day to engage in learning with 2m/6ft physical distancing as much as possible.

- Students will stay with their class cohort in class, at lunch, in options, and on the way out to the bus. For physical activity at recesses and lunch, where there are two grade classes, those classes may join to be in the gym or courtyard together, for instance the two grade two classes may play together, with physical distancing in mind, however the grade 2 classes will not ever be mixed with another grade.
- There will be a seating plan for students in class and on the bus so that each child has their own space; on the bus, siblings will be seated near to each other.

Screening for Symptoms of COVID and Process if Symptoms are Noticed at School

- Parents are requested to screen their students in the morning for any signs of possible COVID symptoms (cough, fever, shortened breath, runny nose, sore throat) and to keep students at home if there are any symptoms. A screening checklist, from Alberta Health Services guidelines, is attached to this email for parent use. If parents answer yes to any questions, the student is not to come to school, or they will be sent right back home.
- Our bus drivers will also screen our students as will our school staff when students arrive.
- If staff notice that a child may be even mildly sick with symptoms, that student will be guided to a prepared quarantine space in one of our office rooms and parents will be called to arrange for pick up and follow up testing before their return. Teachers will prepare a work at home package for students who need to be away due to illness.
- Please be sure we have updated family and emergency contact numbers.

Entering and Exiting Our School Building

- Students will be met by staff at their bus; students will come off their bus, one bus at a time and will enter the north facing courtyard doors as our new school build has begun where our playground, field and east doors are. Students will walk directly to their classroom where they will meet their teacher at the door and hand sanitize before entering their class.
- Students who arrive walking or being dropped off will enter the front door at 8:35am and walk directly to their class where they will meet their teacher and hand sanitize before entering their classroom.
- Unfortunately, at this time, parents must remain outside of our school to drop off and pick up their children and will not be able to walk children to class, however our staff will lovingly settle our students in.
- Parents will need to call our school, 780-471-2360, to let us know if their children will be picked up and by whom at the end of the day. A staff member will be at the front door and will arrange for our students, who will be waiting in their classroom, to come to the front door to meet their family.
- We will be limiting access to visitors into our school and classrooms to keep our students safe.
- We will also be limiting field trips for our students to start, with the exception of a walk around the community field trip form that we will send home so that our teachers can take their students on walks to enjoy the fresh air and have a safe break from being in the same classroom all day.
- If parents, as our partners in educating our children, would like to meet with an administrator or staff member, please ring our doorbell and we will meet you at the door. If you can, please call

our school at 780-471-2360 to make an appointment ahead of time so that we are ready for you.

Wearing of Masks

- All staff will wear masks throughout the day.
- Students in grades 4-9 will wear masks throughout the day, the exception being possibly when outside or when engaging in physical activities in the gym in their class/grade cohort.
- Students in kindergarten-grade 3 are strongly encouraged to wear masks at school.
- All students, K-9, must wear masks on the school bus.
- Students will be provided with two washable masks from our school; they can wear these masks, after being washed at home, or a mask of their own.
- Please send your child to school with a mask on the first day.

Personal Possessions

- School lockers will not be in use; students will keep their backpacks with them in their class.

Lunchtime Procedures

- Depending on our numbers of students, lunch will be served in our cafeteria or in each homeroom classroom. Our cafeteria staff are extremely professional in following Alberta Health Services guidelines.
- If lunch is served in our cafeteria, students will be sitting at tables with their homeroom classmates, where students are spaced apart on seats and classes are separated with a table in between, in one of our three sittings, K-2, 3-5 and 6-9. Tables and chairs will be wiped down in between groups.
- For breakfast in our classrooms, students will be offered individual servings of pre-packaged granola bars/yogurt or homemade muffins, distributed by the teacher.

Thank you for your partnership. Please call us, 780-471-2360, to update your contact phone numbers, to confirm whether your child will be learning at-school or online at-home during the first 8 weeks of school and with any questions you may have.