

Dec. 30, 2021

Dear Staff and Families,

On Wednesday, December 29, 2021, Doctor Bonnie Henry announced a Provincial Health Order, which delays the beginning of school for K-12 students until Monday, January 10, 2022. Accommodations will be made for children of essential workers similar to the beginning of the pandemic. Principals will reach out to families of essential workers over the next few days to clarify how your children will be supported at school.

Administration, teaching and support staff will be returning to work on January 3 to work on up-to-date guidelines and safety plans to maximize the safety of our students and staff (<u>Addendum to the Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K–12 Settings</u>). Public Health has also released new guidelines that we will be reviewing <a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0079-002460">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0079-002460</a>.

The new Omicron variant presents unique challenges to managing in-person learning in our schools. However, we agree with our public health officers that the best place for our students is to be back in school.

We will be providing you with updated information over the next few days about what our school restart plan will look like.

Until then, please be safe and have a Happy New Year!

Yours truly,

Balan Moorthy

Superintendent of Schools

School District 78 (Fraser-Cascade)