



Chad Erickson
Superintendent of Schools Designate
Re-entry Update 3

June 24, 2020

Dear families,

I'm Chad Erickson, and I am pleased to be the incoming Superintendent of Red Deer Public Schools when Stu Henry, our current superintendent, retires on August 4 following a very successful career. I joined Red Deer Public Schools in 2005 and my current position is Associate Superintendent of Student Services, a role I've had for the last five years. I look forward to continuing a tradition of excellence across the division.

As you know, the Alberta Government has provided us with relaunch plans for the 2020/2021 school year. As part of the Senior Administration team, I have been heavily involved in all of the school re-entry planning that has taken place so far. No matter what scenario the government opts for, we want to assure you that the upcoming school year will be a safe and caring one, filled with teaching and learning.

In looking at the scenarios we have before us, **the Minister of Education stated that it is extremely likely that we will return to school under Scenario 1, near normal operations, with some restrictions. The key element to this scenario is that students will be back to attending our schools daily!**

The government has provided guidance and directives for each of the scenarios we may face in September which include:

- **Scenario 1** - In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures)
- **Scenario 2** - In-school classes partially resume (with additional health measures)
- **Scenario 3** - At-home learning continues (in-school classes are suspended/cancelled)

A determination as to which scenario we will operate under will be made **by August 1** for each region of the province by the government, not by school jurisdictions. Last week, the government released a comprehensive document that will allow us to plan in more detail for each potential scenario.

We will be well prepared. Our Senior Administration has been working closely with our school principals, going over each scenario in detail as our top priority is the health and safety of our students and staff.

We appreciate your continued support, patience and understanding as we move forward with our plans for re-entry and the 2020/2021 school year.

As we reflect on the last few months, I want to thank our families for supporting Red Deer Public and our schools as we have navigated through these challenging times. It wasn't the school year we had hoped for, but your patience, understanding and willingness has helped tremendously as we transitioned to at-home learning in March following the government's decision to temporarily close schools.



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We have said this before, and it still rings true - there has never been a higher level of cooperation and teamwork between families and schools. We truly couldn't have done this without you.

On behalf of staff across Red Deer Public Schools, please know that we are thinking about you and your children. We hope you have a restful summer and we look forward to a great school year together starting in the fall as things hopefully return to normal.

We will be in touch in the early part of August with more details as we move forward with our plans. We will also be seeking confirmation from you and your family on your intentions for the year ahead.

Together, we've got this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Erickson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chad Erickson
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