



Chad Erickson
Superintendent of Schools
Re-entry Update 4

July 21, 2020

Dear families,

We are pleased to receive direction from the Minister of Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health on what school will look like in September. Schools and families have been eagerly anticipating the direction we will take and it is good to have that information today. If you missed today's announcement by the Government of Alberta, please [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

We look forward to welcoming students back to in-school classes in near normal conditions while also following necessary health measures. We know that students, parents and our staff look forward to coming back to school to safe and healthy surroundings. While our students did well online, we know many missed school and we missed having them. The best learning takes place in the classroom.

At the same time, we know there are concerns about ensuring the health and well-being of students and staff. By knowing that direction now, we are able to plan accordingly, building on the plans we've already been working on.

We will be taking all the steps necessary to keep our schools healthy, clean and safe. It is important to note that these decisions are made by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education. Red Deer Public Schools will follow all guidelines set out by these authorities.

We recognize that parents are the ultimate decision makers for their children. We will do our best to accommodate those families who have concerns about re-entry to school.

You will remember that we surveyed you in early June, asking for your intentions and what school might look like for you and your family. As we know, this pandemic continues to evolve. We will survey you again in early August to get a confirmation of your intentions to assist us in being well prepared to best meet the needs of your children and family this September. We will have further details at the beginning of August and will communicate those to families to assist in your decision making.

We also appreciate the valued and important role our staff will play in providing the best instruction possible.

Today's announcement reinforces the often heard line, we are in this together. This will not be easy, this will have its challenges and we will need to adapt as circumstances change. Students, parents and staff will need to ensure we are taking all necessary steps to minimize the Covid pandemic. This truly is a **team effort** and I applaud you for everything you do to make this a success!



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Most importantly, we get to bring things back to as normal as possible. We're excited for teaching and learning to continue in our classrooms.

Sincerely,

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

Chad Erickson
Superintendent of Schools